

December 2013

Christmas greetings!

It's the most wonderful time of the year! The precious birth of our Savior! "And His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Prince of Peace, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father!" May you and your families be blessed this Season.

We're once again enclosing the Read-the-Bible-through-in-a-year schedule. Many have stuck to this and can say they've read the entire Bible, so we hope it helps you to start the New Year out right by sticking to a schedule. "Thy word have I hid in my heart that I might not sin against thee".

Well, my brothers, I hope you're ready for a battle! And this battle is going to have to do with what you stand for and what you believe! "I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel - not that there is another one, but there are some who trouble you and want to distort the gospel of Christ." "If anyone is preaching to you a gospel contrary to the one you received, let him be accursed. For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man?" "If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ." (Galatians 1: 6, 7, 9, 10 ESV).

I've been listening to a lot of ministries today and it's amazing how good they've gotten at preaching their doctrines, which is <u>the most</u> important part of their spiel, and they'll tell you that. When they're spouting what they teach is right and everyone else is wrong, be careful! What's sad to me as that these usually are good men, well-intentioned, yet their love is hidden by their religious ideologies. Granted, they know how to sell their oil, unfortunately it's made out of snakes. I've recently even heard men who have Bibles with their names attached to them along with their study notes, preach over the air waves things that are so grievously in error that it's scary! But, what I love about that is, their hearts are being revealed and it shows that we truly are living in the last days. They have "a form of godliness - <u>but deny the power thereof."</u> What are we to do?

"From such turn away." (2 Timothy 3:5 ESV). And what is with everyone wanting to take credit for everything good happening around them? Let me tell you, as of late, I've never been more sickened by all of these "I did this, I did that, were responsible for this, this never would've happened without us" statements. Men truly building "their" ministries. And what's sad is you can see right through this stuff if you've been pursuing God and following the wind of the spirit, and my heart breaks for these guys who are supposed to be seasoned and walk in humility. "In the last days perilous times shall come - men shall be lovers of their own selves...." I just felt I had to warn you my brothers. Don't be enticed by flattering words. You should be able to detect true leaders from false by their godliness, unselfishness, faithfulness and humility. I would you were wise unto that which is good, and simple concerning evil. (Romans 16:19 KJV)

I pray that this last year has been a time of growth for you and that you realize any step forward is better than none. Yet, I must say, if you've fallen back, or stopped, or fell, C'mon! Get up again and keep at it. Don't give up or give in. Keep pressing forward. Read the word, it will wash you. Pray with understanding and pray fervently.

The following Nicene Creed is a wonderfully written statement of faith to which you can cling to as it is based on the Word of God. Search the Scriptures and find out; so when someone asks you what you believe, this is a good place to start!

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds; God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God; begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made.

Who, for us men for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again, with glory, to judge the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord and Giver of Life; who proceeds from the Father [and the Son]; who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe one holy apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

This is the season of Emmanuel - God With Us. But thank God we get to have Him with us every day. Do you? Or do you just pull Him down off the shelf when you need Him? More and more my brothers, get to know Him intimately. Spend time at His feet - worship Him. Jesus was made flesh for us, (John 1:14 ESV) made of a woman, (Galatians 4:4 ESV). He was made of the seed of David (Romans 1:3 ESV), made in the likeness of man (Philippians 2:7 ESV) and of no reputation, made lower than the angels (Hebrews 2:7 ESV), made under the law (Galatians 4:4 ESV), made a curse for us (Galatians 3:13 ESV) and made sin for us (2 Corinthians 5:21 ESV). He is the power of God, the wisdom of God, the righteousness of God, the holiness of God and the redemption of God to us (1Corinthians 1:30 ESV)

He chooses the foolish things to confound the wise, weak things to confound the mighty, base things to humble the exalted, despised things to humble the noble and powerless things to bring to defeat the things that are powerful. What a mighty God we serve!

Men, start letting go of the sin that so easily beset you. Those little foxes spoiling the vine are keeping you from your destiny. Get your eyes back on God and examine yourself instead of the microscope study you've got everyone else under. You're missing out on your own growth because you're distracted by everyone else's shortcomings and problems, which is right where the devil wants us. Think about it! Repent and get back in the game being effective for God's kingdom. Help build not destroy! Raise up not tear down! He wants us to be active for Him not our own glory. So as we close out this year, let's know that every day with the Lord is sweeter than the day before. Let's be about the Father's business.

I'm praying God's wisdom and discernment fall on all of you in a fresh way.

Be blessed and have a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!

Chief

If you want to know more about CHIEF Ministries or would like to be a part of this, please go to <u>www.chiefministries.com</u> and <u>www.chiefshouse.org</u>

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