



“And this is the commandment we have from Him, that the one who loves God should love his brother also.” 1 John 4: 21

Sunday – January 1, 2017

Heart to Heart...

Today begins our new year. It is amazing how quickly we have arrived at this point. Time marches forward but where are we heading? Time is taking each one of us somewhere but where? We look around and that little child we use to hold, teach and mold is now grown and working with their own children. We ask, “Where have the years gone? They move so quickly!” It is rather shocking to see how quickly we have arrived at our age and the things that have changed.

But where are you headed? Where is time taking you? *Out of time!* We are running out of time heading into a spiritual world that does not revolve around time. It is simply a world that always has existed and never comes under the influence of time. We claim we know that but when was the last time you sat down and gave real thought to where time is taking you? Let me point out something to meditate on as you start this new year.

Paul called Timothy to discipline himself for the purpose of godliness (I Timothy 4:7). As a child of God, we need to lead disciplined lives. The word “*discipline*” means to exercise, to train. It is used viewing the word “*godliness*.” We need to exercise our lives for godliness. How are we to do that? By being nourished on the words of the faith and sound doctrine (I Timothy 1:6). The words of the faith and the doctrine are to be our nourishment where we can train our lives toward godliness.

New Year’s resolutions are flying all around. If you pay close attention, the majority have something to do with the physical body. God is about godliness! The words of the faith from Scripture are to give us direction where to set our focus and priorities in life. The priority is not the body! The dust God created only houses the eternal soul. Bodily discipline is only of little profit (I Timothy 4:8). Godliness will carry us in time and out of time!! People get up extra early to exercise, and there is nothing wrong with that, but when our discipline of the body is greater than discipline of godliness, we have just exchanged the greater for the lessor. God’s word will give you the instruction to discipline your life to prepare each day as you are running out of time! And when time runs out, so does the body, but your life will continue. But when time runs out and you have disciplined, exercised, and trained your life toward godliness, our continued eternal state will be on-going in the presence of God, in the joy of Christ Jesus as our time-journey was spent well and honorable! Our priorities were in the right place. Without feeding and nourishing

on the words of the faith we will lose sight where we are headed, and the end will be eternal but not in the presence of God.

Where are you headed? Where has time taken you today? Where will it take you tomorrow? If you discipline yourself to get up early, what about nourishing on the Scriptures? Be wise. As the Scriptures speak: ***“It is a trustworthy statement deserving full acceptance.”*** (I Timothy 4:9) That’s not preacher talk. We are headed quickly to a timeless place that will have no more movement forward. It will be what it will be when you enter that state of being. Time is running out. Think about it!!!

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