



CAPITOL COMMISSION™

Finding Blessings In This New Year (Matthew 25:21)

JANUARY 7, 2013

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We go into this new-year with great anticipation! There are international threats, national crises, state challenges, and personal struggles. We can learn from others who faced calamities and reflect on our own future. For certain, God is Sovereign and able to provide for you in any situation.

INTRODUCTION

What uncertainties are you facing today or this year? The shepherd boy David, departed home to deliver a basket of food to his brothers on the battlefield. That day he faced a giant and began a journey that resulted in his becoming a world renowned king (1 Samuel, Chapter 17). A young Moabite widow named Ruth committed to follow her mother-in-law, walking back to Israel for a new start. There Ruth married a wealthy farmer, ultimately giving birth to Obed, the father of Jesse and grandfather of King David, in the ancestral line of Jesus (Ruth, Chapter 4). Teenager Daniel was taken captive as his country was conquered. He was pressed into service in the royal court of Babylon and through his faithfulness, rose to second in command of that world power (Daniel, Chapter 1). This reflective message is for you who are just stepping out in service or already serving in leadership.

BE FAITHFUL!

*Matthew 25:21 His master said to him: "Well done good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master."*¹

It is apparent that the international and national economy will be strained over the next decade, perhaps a generation or longer. Jobs and career opportunities in America will continue to be very competitive. Kansas and the Midwestern States have been faring better. However, your work ethic and talent may not be enough during these difficult times. Loyalty and faithfulness will be essential personal attributes. The Lord God displays this faithfulness to those who trust Him.

SECURITY IN THE LORD!

*Psalm 100:5 For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and His faithfulness to all generations.*²

Your yesterdays may have been difficult, even marked with lost opportunities. God may have allowed part of that strain to get your attention! Start new this year! Commit to leave the past with Him and step out of your own shallow security. Trust God, who is not encumbered by the economy or the decisions of world leaders. It takes tenacity to show your faithfulness in the marketplace. It takes love of God to show your trust in Him for tomorrow.

A PRAYER

Abba Father, Your Word states that the only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love (Galatians 5:6b). Help me to love those who You place in my life and strengthen my faith in Your daily provision for me, even as the lowly sparrow trusts You for the next speck of food. I ask this in the Name of Your Son, Jesus. Amen.

¹ The Holy Bible, English Standard Version. (Crossway Bibles) 2001.

² Ibid.

CAPITOL BIBLE STUDY/DISCUSSION

LEADERSHIP: WEDNESDAYS: 7: TO 7:50 AM, CAPITOL, ROOM 112 NORTH

STAFF/GUESTS: WEDNESDAYS: 12:05 TO 12:55 PM, GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE ROOM – CAPITOL 264WEST