

Personal Study

Only Light • Week of December 29

1. If you could change or do-over one thing as we start a new year, what would it be?

Often we think, ‘things will be better when...’ while missing the now-moments around us. We either get so stuck in the past, or so fixated on the future, that we miss Jesus before us in the present. One day Jesus will ultimately make all things new. But His Recreation in you can start today. Our plain truth states: ‘*Today* Jesus is making all things new!’ Your life can become a glimpse of Christ’s resurrection power to those around you. While we cannot rewind the clock and do-over past mistakes and failures, we can learn from them. And in Christ we can start over and find the strength to press on, perhaps even find a new purpose.

In chapter twenty-one of Revelation, Jesus fulfills the words of the prophet of old: “Look! I am creating new heavens and a new earth, and no one will even think about the old ones anymore. Be glad; rejoice forever in my creation! And look! I will create Jerusalem as a place of happiness. Her people will be a source of joy. I will rejoice over Jerusalem and delight in my people. And the sound of weeping and crying will be heard in it no more” (Isaiah 65:17-19). Read what John saw, and ask the Lord to help you envision this new heaven and new earth.

Read Revelation 21:1-10

2. God’s plan is greater than your pain *and* your plan. In what ways do you find yourself minimalizing the LORD and His power? Why do you think you do this?

What helps you regain faith in the LORD and His promises?

The psalmist declares: “God’s way is perfect. All the LORD’s promises prove true” (Psalm 18:30a). God’s Word is real. Everything exists because God created it and all things serve His purpose and plan (Revelation 4:11, 17:17). As Christ-followers we must acknowledge that God’s plan is rooted in light, while man’s ways (world-systems) stem from darkness. Darkness does not have the final word. God does—His light, His glory will shine forever. “I (*John*) heard a loud shout from the throne, saying, ‘Look! God’s home is now among His people! He will live with them, and they will be His people. God Himself will be with them’” (Revelation 21:3).

3. God’s light in your life pushes back the darkness. New year. New plan. What ‘new plan’ do you want to live into this coming year? Pray—

Lord, I believe You are the light of the world and I need you to shine upon the dark areas of my life. I know that things won’t be perfect, but I do believe that even the worst days with You are better than the best days without You. Please forgive my past sins and help me press forward with new purpose in You today. I believe you have the power to make things new in my life today. Thank you that one day You will make all things new! Amen.

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**ONLY
LIGHT**

Text:
Revelation 21:1-7

PLAIN TRUTH:

_____ Jesus is _____
“all things _____”.

1. Recognize that God’s plan is _____
than your _____ and your _____.
2. God’s Plan is rooted in _____ while
Man’s is rooted in _____.
3. God’s _____ in your _____
_____ the darkness.

December 28 & 29, 2019

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