



3rd January 2021

Happy Hopeful 2021



It's hard to believe that it's the third day of the new year. Unlike 2020 when the coronavirus pandemic was in its initial stages, we are now looking forward to curbing the virus with many countries rolling out vaccines.

Phase 3 is its first week with further relaxing of restrictions imposed on businesses and social gatherings. Although more zones of 50 persons are allowed for religious assemblies, singing is still not permitted and worships have to be as short as possible without fellowship after the service.

The Household of Faith will continue to live stream until it becomes more feasible for us to assemble.

2020 has affected all of us in so many ways. Praise God that we have survived the year and are stronger to meet the challenges of the coming year.

2021 will usher in the year of the ox. The Bible has many things to say about this animal, and I will be preaching a sermon on it in February. May we all be as strong as an ox this year.

I want to leave you with this Bible passage for the new year - Isaiah 54:1-5 *"Sing, barren woman, you who never bore a child; burst into song, shout for joy, you who were never in labour; because more are the children of the desolate woman than of her who has a husband," says the LORD.*

"Enlarge the place of your tent, stretch your tent curtains wide, do not hold back; lengthen your cords, strengthen your stakes. For you

will spread out to the right and to the left; your descendants will dispossess nations and settle in their desolate cities.

"Do not be afraid; you will not be put to shame. Do not fear disgrace; you will not be humiliated. You will forget the shame of your youth and remember no more the reproach of your widowhood. For your Maker is your husband — the LORD Almighty is his name — the Holy One of Israel is your Redeemer; He is called the God of all the earth."

God has promised to those who are desolated, barren and childless that He will bless us more than those who have all the advantages of life, so that we can burst into song, sing and shout for joy.

We can begin to do better by strengthening our stakes, stretch our curtains, lengthen our cords and enlarge our tents. We are told not to hold back, but our future is secured with the success of our descendants.

Whatever our status may be, whatever the reproaches, shame and disgrace; we will overcome and forget them as God will not allowed us to be humiliated or be afraid.

As God promised the Israelites in times past, He can do for us even more as we look forward to a happy and hopeful new year.



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Introduction

1. Forget 2020


It has been a bad year for most people

Lost business, jobs, income e.g. aviation, tourism industry

Thank God we have survived the onslaught

As long as there is life, we can do better

Philippians 3:13-14 *Forgetting the things which are behind, and stretching forward to the things which are before, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.*



Introduction

1. Forget 2020


2. Look at the Big Picture

Whether we understand it or not, God is in charge, and the Earth is spinning according to His will

Genesis 42:36 *Jacob, their father, said to them, "You have bereaved me of my children! Joseph is no more, Simeon is no more, and you want to take Benjamin away. All these things are against me."*

Genesis 45:7-8 *God sent me before you to preserve you a remnant in the earth, and to save you alive by a great deliverance. So now it wasn't you who sent me here, but God, and he has made me a father to Pharaoh, lord of all his house, and ruler over all the land of Egypt.*

Romans 8:28 *We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, to those who are called according to his purpose.*



Introduction

1. Forget 2020

2. Look at the Big Picture

3. Decide to do Better

How was your walk with God in 2020?

Could it have been better? Were you distracted?

Time to rededicate!

2 Corinthians 5:17 *Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old things have passed away. Behold, all things have become new.*

1 John 1:6-7 *If we say that we have fellowship with him and walk in the darkness, we lie, and don't tell the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ, his Son, cleanses us from all sin.*

All Things New

2 corinthians 5:17

Introduction

1. Forget 2020

2. Look at the Big Picture

3. Decide to Do Better

4. Take Baby Steps

1. Is He still your priority? How did you keep faith during the pandemic?

1. What cuts did you make last year – boy with 2 coins

1. Did you find opportunity to exercise your faith?

Doing good to others brings satisfaction to the soul!



All Things New

2 corinthians 5:17

Introduction

1. Forget 2020

2. Look at the Big Picture

3. Decide to Do Better

4. Take Baby Steps

5. Devote Yourself in Prayer

Do not do it yourself – work in partnership with God

James 5:16

The effective, earnest prayer of a righteous man is powerfully effective.

1. Devote a season for prayer – one day, week or month

2. Do a prayer walk – at home or office

3. Make a prayer list – up to 7 petitions

4. Reach out to your family

5. Seek a prayer partner

All Things New

2 corinthians 5:17

Introduction

1. Forget 2020

2. Look at the Big Picture

3. Decide to Do Better

4. Take Baby Steps

5. Devote Yourself to Prayer

Conclusion

1. Forget 2020

2. Look at the Big Picture

3. Decide to Do Better

4. Take Baby Steps

5. Devote Yourself to Prayer





BIBLE VERSES ON THE NEW YEAR

1. "To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven" – Ecclesiastes 3:1
2. "Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland." Isaiah 43:18-19
3. "So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom." Psalm 90:12
4. "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11
5. "In his heart a man plans his course, but the Lord determines his steps." Proverbs 16:9
6. "Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus." Philippians 3:13-14
7. "You crown the year with your bounty, and your carts overflow with abundance." Psalm 65:11
8. "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!" 2 Corinthians 5:17
9. "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead." 1 Peter 1:3
10. "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight." Proverbs 3:5-6
11. "...but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint." Isaiah 40:31
12. "He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the hearts of men; yet they cannot fathom what God has done from beginning to end." Ecclesiastes 3:11



10th January 2021

Make 2021 The Year of Prayer



Last Sunday as I spoke on "Making All Things New", I concluded with an emphasis on prayer. Wishing one another a happy new year, does not automatically make it so. However, focusing on prayer and relying on God will make 2021 all it can be.

The year is only 10 days old. Like newly fallen snow, we have a clean slate to work on for 355 more days. Do not try to do it yourself; walk with God each day in partnership.

Prayer is effective according to James 5:16 - *The effective, earnest prayer of a righteous man is powerfully effective.* You summon the hand that created and moves the world.

Why not devote a season for prayer as you begin 2021? It could be just taking a day or night to talk to God, or a week or a month.

Do you have a prayer list? If not this year is a good year to start one. On one side, list the things that you would like to pray for yourself. It could be some health concerns or resolutions that you want to fulfil in 2021. Do not worry if it is just one or two petitions. Come back and add to the list as the year progresses.

On the other side, list the people that you want to cover in prayer this year on a regular basis. Start with your family and friends, add others as the Lord may lead you. Throughout the year, keep in touch through text, email, letters and cards. Start by sending each a new year greeting. As appropriate, take time for a cup of coffee or a meal together. Do not forget to tell them about our website and weekly live streaming worship.

One of the failures of many good intentions is that many run out of stamina soon after the new year. May I encourage you to find another Christian with whom you can share your prayer endeavours for 2021? Make a covenant to pray together regularly, at least once a month. This is best done together on a weekend, perhaps over breakfast, but it is also possible through Facetime, Skype or Zoom.

Let us make 2021 the year of prayer. As we recover from the pandemic and set our lives in order, reconnect with God and make prayer your priority.

Right from January, you will experience a difference in your mindset and expectations for the new year.

I leave you with the immortal words of the poet, Alfred Lord Tennyson:

More things are wrought by prayer
Than this world dreams of.
Wherefore, let thy voice
Rise like a fountain for me night and day.

For what are men better than sheep or goats
That nourish a blind life within the brain,
If, knowing God, they lift not hands of prayer
Both for themselves
and those who call them friend?



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Weekly Live Streaming

<https://tinyurl.com/HOFstream>

Every Sunday @6pm

Welcome to the Household of Faith!
10 January 2021






Introduction


People who make resolutions and keep them

People who make resolutions and don't keep them

People who don't make resolutions

Two opportunities







Introduction

1. Joshua

Joshua 24:15
*But if serving the LORD seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. **But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.***







Introduction
1 Joshua

2. David

Psalms 119:11
I have treasured Your Word in my heart so that I may not sin against You.







Introduction
1 Joshua
2 David

3. Micah

Micah 6:8
He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?







Introduction
1 Joshua
2 David
3 Micah

4. Peter

1 Peter 5:7
Casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.







Introduction
1 Joshua
2 David
3 Micah
4 Peter

5. Paul

Philippians 4:13
I can do all things through him who strengthens me.







Introduction
1 Joshua
2 David
3 Micah
4 Peter
5 Paul

6. James

James 4:13-17
Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit"— yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. Instead you ought to say, "If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that." As it is, you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil. So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.






Introduction
 1 Joshua
 2 David
 3 Micah
 4 Peter
 5 Paul
 6 James

Conclusion


Which of these will be included in your resolutions in 2021?

- Commitment to God of Joshua
- Devotion to Word of David
- Humble Walk of Micah
- Peace in God of Peter
- Trust in God of Paul
- God's Providence of James



Introduction
 1 Joshua
 2 David
 3 Micah
 4 Peter
 5 Paul
 6 James

Conclusion



Ephesians 5:20 Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.



Call to Worship
 Scripture Reading
 Opening Prayer
 Congregational Singing
 Communion & Giving
 Exhortation
 Invitation
 Announcements
 Closing Prayer



Praying for a Brighter New Year



BIBLE VERSES ENCOURAGING CHRISTIANS TO PRAY

1 John 5:14, 15 - This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us — whatever we ask — we know that we have what we asked of him.

1 Chronicles 16:11 - Look to the LORD and his strength; seek his face always.

2 Chronicles 7:14 - If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.

Ephesians 1:18 - I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people.

Jeremiah 29:12 - Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you.

Job 22:27 - You will pray to him, and he will hear you, and you will fulfill your vows.

James 5:13 - Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray.

Mark 11:24 - Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.

Matthew 26:41 - Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.

Psalms 17:6 - I call on you, my God, for you will answer me; turn your ear to me and hear my prayer.

Psalms 141:2 - May my prayer be set before you like incense; may the lifting up of my hands be like the evening sacrifice.

Psalms 145:18 - The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.

Matthew 7:11 - If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!

Luke 6:12 - One of those days Jesus went out to a mountainside to pray, and spent the night praying to God.

Luke 18:1 - Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up.



17th January 2021

How to Make Your Resolutions Successful



Although I was unable to find any statistics on the number of resolutions made which have been kept, my best guess would be that the percentage could be rather small. I have yet to be told by anyone that they have successfully achieved their resolution.

Here are seven tips that may help you in doing better in successfully keeping your resolutions this year.

1. Do not try to be too ambitious. The most anyone can discipline themselves to do are 5 resolutions. In fact, focus on just a couple.

2. Filter your resolutions through the J-O-Y test. Make sure that among your resolutions, you have touched on these 3 areas:

Jesus first
Others second
Yourself also.

3. Most resolutions are personal, this is why when we lose resolve, they withered and fade away. Get an accountability to come abroad and ask him or her to check on you each month. Chances are, you will try harder this way.

4. Do not give up no matter how much you falter along the way. Just keep trying every day. You would not have made those resolutions if you did not think that you could do it.

5. Give yourself a break every now and then. For example if your resolution is exercising every day, it is ok on your birthday or if you have been doing well for a few weeks to take a day off to reward yourself.

6. Do not just focus on the difficulty that you will have to endure, but highlight the positive outcomes of your resolutions. Create a mental picture of accomplishing the resolutions, results and benefits.

7. Count the days as you meet each day's target. Making a resolution is not a lifetime sentence. In 364 days, it will be over. Every day you are nearer to success if you do not give up.


The apostle Paul tells us in Galatians 6:9 *And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.*



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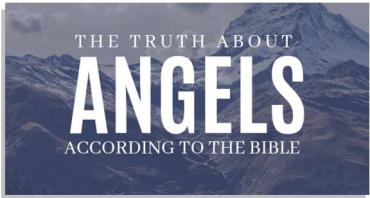
What do we really know about
ANGELS


Who are Angels?

Throughout the ages, there has always been much interest in angels.

The Bible does not leave us to second guess about these heavenly beings.

Our lesson tonight is to introduce what the Bible says, so we will not fall prey to myths and superstitions.





What do we really know about
ANGELS

Who are Angels

What Angels Look Like

Genesis 18:2-5 *He lifted up his eyes and looked, and saw that three men stood opposite him. When he saw them, he ran to meet them from the tent door, and bowed himself to the earth, and said, "My lord, if now I have found favor in your sight, please don't go away from your servant. Now let a little water be fetched, wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. I will get a morsel of bread so you can refresh your heart. After that you may go your way, now that you have come to your servant."*


Hebrews 13:2 *Don't forget to show hospitality to strangers, for in doing so, some have entertained angels without knowing it.*

Acts 1:10-11 *While they were looking steadfastly into the sky as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white clothing, who also said, "You men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into the sky? This Jesus, who was received up from you into the sky will come back in the same way as you saw him going into the sky."*

What do we really know about
ANGELS

Who are Angels

Daniel 10:5-7 *I lifted up my eyes, and looked, and, behold, a man clothed in linen, whose loins were girded with pure gold of Uphaz: his body also was like the beryl, and his face as the appearance of lightning, and his eyes as flaming torches, and his arms and his feet like burnished brass, and the voice of his words like the voice of a multitude. I, Daniel, alone saw the vision; for the men who were with me didn't see the vision; but a great quaking fell on them, and they fled to hide themselves.*



What do we really know about
ANGELS

Who are Angels
What Angels Look Like

Not Visible to All

Ephesians 1:17-19 *that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you a spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him; having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope of his calling, and what are the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, and what is the exceeding greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to that working of the strength of his might*

2 Kings 6:16-17 *He answered, Don't be afraid; for those who are with us are more than those who are with them. Elisha prayed, and said, Yahweh, Please open his eyes, that he may see.*

Yahweh opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw: and, behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha.

What do we really know about
ANGELS

Who are Angels
What Angels Look Like
Not Visible to All

What Can Angels Do?

Daniel 9:21-23 *Yes, while I was speaking in prayer, the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision at the beginning, being caused to fly swiftly, touched me about the time of the evening offering. He instructed me, and talked with me, and said, Daniel, I am now come forth to give you wisdom and understanding. At the beginning of your petitions the commandment went forth, and I am come to tell you; for you are greatly beloved: therefore consider the matter, and understand the vision.*

Acts 12:22-23 *The people shouted, "The voice of a god, and not of a man!" Immediately an angel of the Lord struck him, because he didn't give God the glory, and he was eaten by worms and died.*

Luke 15:10 *Even so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner repenting.*

What do we really know about
ANGELS

Who are Angels
What Angels Look Like
Not Visible to All
What Can Angels Do

Ministering Spirits

Hebrews 1:13-14 *But of which of the angels has he said at any time, "Sit at my right hand, Until I make your enemies the footstool of your feet?" Aren't they all ministering spirits, sent out to do service for the sake of those who will inherit salvation?*


Acts 12:6-10 *Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains. Guards in front of the door kept the prison. And behold, an angel of the Lord stood by him, and a light shone in the cell. He struck Peter on the side, and woke him up, saying, "Stand up quickly!" His chains fell off from his hands. The angel said to him, "Get dressed and put on your sandals." He did so. He said to him, "Put on your cloak, and follow me." And he went out and followed him. He didn't know that what was being done by the angel was real, but thought he saw a vision. When they were past the first and the second guard, they came to the iron gate that leads into the city, which opened to them by itself. They went out, and went down one street, and immediately the angel departed from him.*

What do we really know about
ANGELS

Who are Angels
What Angels Look Like
Not Visible to All
What Can Angels Do

Acts 27:22-25 *Now I exhort you to cheer up, for there will be no loss of life among you, but only of the ship. For there stood by me this night an angel, belonging to the God whose I am and whom I serve, saying, "Don't be afraid, Paul. You must stand before Caesar. Behold, God has granted you all those who sail with you." Therefore, sirs, cheer up! For I believe God, that it will be just as it has been spoken to me.*

Daniel 6:22 *My God has sent his angel, and has shut the lions' mouths, and they have not hurt me; because as before him innocence was found in me; and also before you, O king, have I done no hurt.*



What do we really know about
ANGELS

Who are Angels
What Angels Look Like
Not Visible to All
What Can Angels Do
Ministering Spirits

Existed Before Mankind

Job 38:6-7 *Whereupon were the foundations of it fastened? Or who laid its cornerstone, When the morning stars sang together, And all the sons of God shouted for joy?*

Psalms 148:2-5 *Praise him, all his angels! Praise him, all his host! ... Let them praise the name of Yahweh, For he commanded, and they were created.*

Isaiah 14:12-15 *How you have fallen from Heaven, morning star, son of the dawn! How you are cut down to the ground, who laid the nations low! You said in your heart, "I will ascend into heaven! I will exalt my throne above the stars of God! I will sit on the mountain of assembly, in the far north! I will ascend above the heights of the clouds! I will make myself like the Most High!" Yet you shall be brought down to Sheol, to the depths of the pit.*

What do we really know about

ANGELS

Who are Angels
What Angels Look Like
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What Can Angels Do
Ministering Spirits
Existed before Mankind

Angels in the Old Testament

Genesis 3:24 *So he drove out the man; and he placed Cherubs at the east of the garden of Eden, and the flame of a sword which turned every way, to guard the way to the tree of life.*

Genesis 16:11 *The angel of Yahweh said to her, "Behold, you are with child, and will bear a son. You shall call his name Ishmael, because Yahweh has heard your affliction.*

Genesis 19:1 *The two angels came to Sodom at evening. Lot sat in the gate of Sodom. Lot saw them, and rose up to meet them. He bowed himself with his face to the earth,*

Exodus 14:19 *The angel of God, who went before the camp of Israel, moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from before them, and stood behind them.*

What do we really know about

ANGELS


Who are Angels
What Angels Look Like
Not Visible to All
What Can Angels Do
Ministering Spirits
Existed before Mankind
Angels in the Old Testament

The Role of Angels Today

Matthew 18:10 *See that you don't despise one of these little ones, for I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven.*

Luke 16:22 *It happened that the beggar died, and that he was carried away by the angels to Abraham's bosom. The rich man also died, and was buried.*

Matthew 25:31 *"But when the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory.*





Call to Worship
Scripture Reading
Opening Prayer
Congregational Singing
Communion & Giving
Exhortation
Invitation
Announcements
Closing Prayer



in 2021



Read the Bible through in 2021

Early this year, we sent a 'Read the Bible in a Year' schedule to all members and supporters of the Household of Faith.

Below are a screenshot of over a month of the schedule. Anyone can join in any time, pick up, drop out, return and resume.

Like our cover story on resolutions, if reading the Bible through is one of your resolutions, check out the 7 tips that will help you to be successful.

Here is a bonus tip: the international new year may be over, but the lunar new year of the ox is almost a month away - enough time to make a new year resolution if you have not done so.

Day	Date	Old Testament	New Testament	Psalms & Proverbs
1	Friday, January 01, 2021	Genesis 1, Genesis 2:1-17	Matthew 1:1-25	Psalms 1:1-6
2	Saturday, January 02, 2021	Genesis 2:18-25, Genesis 3, Genesis 4:1-16	Matthew 2:1-18	Psalms 2:1-12
3	Sunday, January 03, 2021	Genesis 4:17-26, Genesis 5, Genesis 6	Matthew 2:19-23, Matthew 3	Psalms 3:1-8
4	Monday, January 04, 2021	Genesis 7, Genesis 8, Genesis 9:1-17	Matthew 4:1-22	Proverbs 1:1-7
5	Tuesday, January 05, 2021	Genesis 9:18-29, Genesis 10, Genesis 11:1-9	Matthew 4:23-25, Matthew 5:1-20	Psalms 4:1-8
6	Wednesday, January 06, 2021	Genesis 11:10-32, Genesis 12, Genesis 13	Matthew 5:21-42	Psalms 5:1-12
7	Thursday, January 07, 2021	Genesis 14, Genesis 15, Genesis 16	Matthew 5:43-48, Matthew 6:1-24	Psalms 6
8	Friday, January 08, 2021	Genesis 17, Genesis 18	Matthew 6:25-34, Matthew 7:1-23	Proverbs 1:8-19
9	Saturday, January 09, 2021	Genesis 19, Genesis 20:1-18	Matthew 7:24-29, Matthew 8:1-22	Psalms 7:1-9
10	Sunday, January 10, 2021	Genesis 21, Genesis 22, Genesis 23	Matthew 8:23-34, Matthew 9:1-13	Psalms 7:10-17
11	Monday, January 11, 2021	Genesis 24:1-67	Matthew 9:14-38	Psalms 8:1-9
12	Tuesday, January 12, 2021	Genesis 25, Genesis 26	Matthew 10:1-31	Proverbs 1:20-33
13	Wednesday, January 13, 2021	Genesis 27, Genesis 28:1-22	Matthew 10:32-42, Matthew 11:1-15	Psalms 9:1-6
14	Thursday, January 14, 2021	Genesis 29, Genesis 30	Matthew 11:16-30	Psalms 9:7-12
15	Friday, January 15, 2021	Genesis 31:1-55	Matthew 12:1-21	Psalms 9:13-20
16	Saturday, January 16, 2021	Genesis 32, Genesis 33	Matthew 12:22-45	Proverbs 2:1-11
17	Sunday, January 17, 2021	Genesis 34, Genesis 35	Matthew 12:46-50, Matthew 13:1-17	Psalms 10:1-11
18	Monday, January 18, 2021	Genesis 36, Genesis 37	Matthew 13:18-35	Psalms 10:12-18
19	Tuesday, January 19, 2021	Genesis 38, Genesis 39	Matthew 13:36-58	Psalms 11:1-7
20	Wednesday, January 20, 2021	Genesis 40, Genesis 41:1-40	Matthew 14:1-21	Proverbs 2:12-22
21	Thursday, January 21, 2021	Genesis 41:41-57, Genesis 42	Matthew 14:22-36, Matthew 15:1-9	Psalms 12:1-8
22	Friday, January 22, 2021	Genesis 43, Genesis 44	Matthew 15:10-39	Psalms 13:1-6
23	Saturday, January 23, 2021	Genesis 45, Genesis 46, Genesis 47:1-12	Matthew 16:1-20	Psalms 14:1-7
24	Sunday, January 24, 2021	Genesis 47:13-31, Genesis 48	Matthew 16:21-28, Matthew 17:1-13	Proverbs 3:1-10
25	Monday, January 25, 2021	Genesis 49, Genesis 50	Matthew 17:14-27, Matthew 18:1-9	Psalms 15:1-5
26	Tuesday, January 26, 2021	Job 1, Job 2, Job 3	Matthew 18:10-35	Psalms 16:1-11
27	Wednesday, January 27, 2021	Job 4, Job 5, Job 6, Job 7	Matthew 19:1-15	Psalms 17:1-5
28	Thursday, January 28, 2021	Job 8, Job 9, Job 10	Matthew 19:16-30	Proverbs 3:11-20
29	Friday, January 29, 2021	Job 11, Job 12, Job 13, Job 14	Matthew 20:1-19	Psalms 17:6-12
30	Saturday, January 30, 2021	Job 15, Job 16, Job 17, Job 18	Matthew 20:20-34	Psalms 17:13-15



Staying in touch is so important, especially during the pandemic when we cannot assemble together weekly. On the left column is how the Household of Faith keeps in touch with members; on the right is how you can keep in touch with us.

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We send a copy of <i>Fidelity</i> to every member or family (and those who have requested it) by Wednesday every week, via our postal system. 2. The Lord's Supper kit is sent or collected by members every two months. 3. We send the powerpoint of the sermon to members (and those who have requested it) via WhatsApp every Friday before the lesson is live streamed. 4. At 6pm every Sunday, a full worship service is live streamed from my office with a crew of 8 persons. More than 200 people from all over the world view the lesson which is posted on Facebook and our website. The live stream url is https://tinyurl.com/HOFstream. 5. Since April, we have retired our website at wordpress, and launched a brand new mobile-friendly website with its own domain name at www.hofsg.com - you can find photos, videos, presentations of our present and past activities at a touch of a button on your phone. On the website are videos of live streaming, tracts, lessons, daily devotionals, NIV Bible, links etc. It is like having all the resources of the church at your beck and call. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Whenever you have a question or need, our minister is only as far away as a phone call. All the contact information is listed on the frontcover of every issue of <i>Fidelity</i>. 2. Members and visitors frequently contact our minister through sms, WhatsApp or email. You will usually get a reply within a few hours, no more than 12 hours. 3. All members of the Household of Faith are either part of the Ladies or Men's Whatsapp group. These groups are quite active when there is an event, birthday or prayer request. 4. There is an active Household of Faith, Supporters and Friends group on Facebook with many updates each week. Members can post on this page or comment on some posting. There are almost a thousand who have signed up as members on this group. 5. For members and contributors only, there is a Facebook group where we post our monthly statement of accounts and missions contributions. This is to provide accountability and transparency in what we do. Those in the group are free to ask a question, comment or point out any errors. |
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Introduction

So many different views of God

Ancient times – deity to be appeased e.g. volcano god





Introduction

So many different views of God

Ancient times – deity to be appeased e.g. volcano god

A god to reach out to – e.g. 1,000 steps on your knees





Introduction

So many different views of God

Ancient times – deity to be appeased e.g. volcano god

A god to reach out to – e.g. 1,000 steps on your knees

Some – no god

Psalms 14:1-3 The fool has said in his heart, "There is no God." They are corrupt. They have done abominable works. There is none who does good.

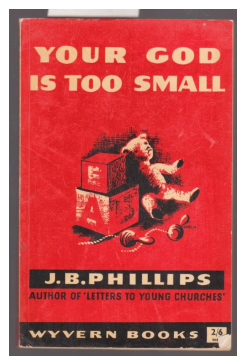
Yahweh looked down from heaven on the children of men, To see if there were any who did understand, Who did seek after God.

They have all gone aside. They have together become corrupt. There is none who does good, no, not one.



Introduction

View from our World





Introduction
View from our World

Views from our World

Old man in the sky
Policeman
God in a box
Not very helpful
Too small to meet our demands of the day



Introduction
View from our World

Views as We See It

To be hidden - Genesis 3:9-10 *Yahweh God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" The man said, "I heard your voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself."*

To be proven - John 20:27-28 *Then he said to Thomas, "Reach here your finger, and see my hands. Reach here your hand, and put it into my side. Don't be unbelieving, but believing." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!"*

To be merchandised - John 12:4-6 *Then Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, one of his disciples, who would betray him, said, "Why wasn't this ointment sold for three hundred denarii, and given to the poor?" Now he said this, not because he cared for the poor, but because he was a thief, and having the money box, used to steal what was put into it.*



Introduction
View from our World

For self empowerment - Acts 8:18-19 *Now when Simon saw that the Holy Spirit was given through the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money, saying, "Give me also this power, that whoever I lay my hands on may receive the Holy Spirit."*

To escape - Jonah 1:2-3 *"Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and preach against it, for their wickedness has come up before me." But Jonah rose up to flee to Tarshish from the presence of Yahweh. He went down to Joppa, and found a ship going to Tarshish; so he paid its fare, and went down into it, to go with them to Tarshish from the presence of Yahweh.*



Introduction
View from our World
Views as We See It

As God Really Is

Loved us first - 1 John 4:19 *We love Him, because he first loved us.*

Sought us out to save us - Luke 19:10 *For the Son of Man came to seek and to save that which was lost.*

Despite our sinfulness - Romans 5:7-8 *For one will hardly die for a righteous man. Yet perhaps for a righteous person someone would even dare to die. But God commends his own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.*

A gracious God - Jonah 4:2 *He prayed to Yahweh, and said, "Please, Yahweh, wasn't this what I said when I was still in my own country? Therefore I hurried to flee to Tarshish, for I knew that you are a gracious God, and merciful, slow to anger, and abundant in loving kindness, and you repent of the evil."*



Introduction
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Views as We See It

Not willing for any to perish - 2 Peter 3:9 *The Lord is not slow concerning his promise, as some count slowness; but is patient with us, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.*

Wants to welcome you - Matthew 11:28-30 *"Come to me, all you who labor and are heavily burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart; and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."*



Introduction
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Views as We See It
As God Really Is

Conclusion

More than just believing - James 2:19 *You believe that God is one. You do well. The demons also believe, and shudder.*

Faith in action - James 1:27 *Pure religion and undefiled before our God and Father is this: to visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.*

Worldview - Galatians 6:9-10 *Let us not be weary in doing good, for we will reap in due season, if we don't give up. So then, as we have opportunity, let's do what is good toward all men, and especially toward those who are of the household of the faith.*

Walk with God - 1 John 1:6-7 *If we say that we have fellowship with him and walk in the darkness, we lie, and don't tell the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ, his Son, cleanses us from all sin.*



Mission Report by brother Stephen Sang, Myanmar

I would like to say thank you so much for your support for our Potluck in 2020 and 2021. We are worshipping the Lord at the Pwetaung Church of Christ in the morning and at my home in the evening on every Lord's Day. The potluck has been very helpful in inviting new friends to our fellowship. It also helped in our bond of love for each other become stronger.

I am also teaching basic English to the children in our community. I hope that one day a mission team from Household of Faith will come and visit to us.

Thank you again. God bless you and your congregation. Happy blessed New Year to you all.





31st January 2021

One Month Gone... Only 11 left

During the turn of the year, many could not find closure for 2020 with all its inconveniences, social distancing and the pandemic. Now, one month into 2021, we are still grappling with the issues of the past year.

How was your first month of 2021? Have you settled down and are you ready to tackle the year in earnestness? With only 11 months left, there is not a moment to lose before 2021 will also be over.

In less than a month, the Chinese in Singapore and around the world will usher in the year of the Ox. The Bible has some things to say about this animal, and I will be sharing a sermon on the Ox on February 7th, just before we welcome the lunar new year.

While there is no sign that the government will allow singing and fellowship any time soon, we are receiving a good number of positive comments on our weekly live streaming worship from viewers around the world.

We are appreciative to my former congregation at Pasir Panjang for allowing me to use my former office. The congregation is working on plans to rebuild in the middle of the year. If all goes according to their plans, we will be looking for a place to do our live streaming after June.

We were unable to assemble to celebrate our third anniversary last year, and it is unlikely that we will be able to do so this year. Still, we are thankful to be able to live stream our worship every week.

With these considerations in mind, here are some things that members and supporters can do in 2021 to maintain your walk with God.

1. First, I want to encourage you to read the Bible through in 2021. You should have already received the schedule. You can select one of several other plans available from Bible Study Tools website at

<https://www.biblestudytools.com/bible-reading-plan/>

2. Second, please use the Lord's Supper kit as you join us for our live streaming every Sunday. I want to encourage you to tune in at least 5 minutes before 6pm to make sure that your connection is good.

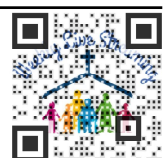
The best way is to use a digital TV or a desktop computer. Mobile phones and tablets will also work. Go to our website - www.hofsg.com and click on the live stream button.

3. Third, I am thankful to members and supporters for sending in your weekly contributions and missions Sunday gifts. The church treasury is in a healthy state and already we are using the missions fund to assist the Lord's work in Myanmar and Indonesia.

If you have not been contributing, or were irregular in 2020, let us abound in this grace also in 2021.



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<https://tinyurl.com/HDFstream>
Every Sunday @6pm

Welcome to the Household of Faith!
31 January 2021






Introduction

I wonder why some people commit suicide

Where there's life, there is always hope



For Chinese in Singapore – second chance during new year resolutions

SECOND CHANCE
JUST AHEAD

Introduction

I wonder...

When the Chinese New Year comes



For Chinese people, the Chinese New Year is a time for new year resolutions.

SECOND CHANCE
JUST AHEAD

Since the Beginning

Introduction

Adam and Eve - Genesis 3:10-11 *The man said, "I heard your voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." God said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?"*

Genesis 3:21 *Yahweh God made coats of skins for Adam and for his wife, and clothed them.*

Genesis 6:5-6 *Yahweh saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. Yahweh was sorry that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him in his heart.*

Genesis 9:14-15 *It will happen, when I bring a cloud over the earth, that the rainbow will be seen in the cloud, and I will remember my covenant, which is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh, and the waters will no more become a flood to destroy all flesh.*

SECOND CHANCE
JUST AHEAD

In the Old Testament

Introduction

Since the Beginning

Adam and Eve - Genesis 3:10-11 *The man said, "I heard your voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." God said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?"*

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SECOND CHANCE

JUST AHEAD

Introduction

Since the Beginning

In the Old Testament

Rahab

Rahab

Joshua 6:22-25 *Joshua said to the two men who had spied out the land, Go into the prostitute's house, and bring out there the woman, and all that she has, as you swore to her. The young men the spies went in, and brought out Rahab, and her father, and her mother, and her brothers, and all that she had; all her relatives also they brought out; and they set them outside of the camp of Israel. They burnt the city with fire, and all that was therein; only the silver, and the gold, and the vessels of brass and of iron, they put into the treasury of the house of Yahweh. But Rahab the prostitute, and her father's household, and all that she had, did Joshua save alive; and she lived in the midst of Israel to this day, because she hid the messengers, whom Joshua sent to spy out Jericho.*

Matthew 1:5 *Salmon became the father of Boaz by Rahab. Boaz became the father of Obed by Ruth. Obed became the father of Jesse.*

SECOND CHANCE

JUST AHEAD

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In the Old Testament

Rahab

Jonah

Jonah 1:2-3 *"Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and preach against it, for their wickedness has come up before me." But Jonah rose up to flee to Tarshish from the presence of Yahweh. He went down to Joppa, and found a ship going to Tarshish; so he paid its fare, and went down into it, to go with them to Tarshish from the presence of Yahweh.*

Jonah 2:1,2 *Then Jonah prayed to Yahweh, his God, out of the fish's belly. He said, "I called because of my affliction to Yahweh. He answered me. Out of the belly of Sheol I cried. You heard my voice.*

7-10 *"When my soul fainted within me, I remembered Yahweh. My prayer came in to you, into your holy temple. But I will sacrifice to you with the voice of thanksgiving. I will pay that which I have vowed. Salvation belongs to Yahweh." Yahweh spoke to the fish, and it vomited out Jonah on the dry land.*

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Rahab

Jonah

Zacchaeus

Luke 19:2-10 *There was a man named Zacchaeus. He was a chief tax collector, and he was rich. He was trying to see who Jesus was, and couldn't because of the crowd, because he was short. He ran on ahead, and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him, for he was to pass that way.*

When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and saw him, and said to him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down, for today I must stay at your house."

He hurried, came down, and received him joyfully. When they saw it, they all murmured, saying, "He has gone in to lodge with a man who is a sinner."

Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, "Behold, Lord, half of my goods I give to the poor. If I have wrongfully exacted anything of anyone, I restore four times as much."

Jesus said to him, "Today, salvation has come to this house, because he also is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save that which was lost."

SECOND CHANCE

JUST AHEAD

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Jonah

Zacchaeus

Woman caught in Adultery

John 8:3-11 *The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman taken in adultery. Having set her in the midst, they told him, "Teacher, we found this woman in adultery, in the very act. Now in our law, Moses commanded us to stone such. What then do you say about her?"*

They said this testing him, that they might have something to accuse him of. But Jesus stooped down, and wrote on the ground with his finger. But when they continued asking him, he looked up and said to them, "He who is without sin among you, let him throw the first stone at her."

Again he stooped down, and with his finger wrote on the ground. They, when they heard it, being convicted by their conscience, went out one by one, beginning from the oldest, even to the last.

Jesus was left alone with the woman where she was, in the middle. Jesus, standing up, saw her and said, "Woman, where are your accusers? Did no one condemn you?" She said, "No one, Lord." Jesus said, "Neither do I condemn you. Go your way. From now on, sin no more."

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Zacchaeus

Woman caught in

Adultery

Thief on the Cross

Luke 23:39-43 *One of the criminals who was hanged insulted him, saying, "If you are the Christ, save yourself and us!"*

But the other answered, and rebuking him said, "Don't you even fear God, seeing you are under the same condemnation? And we indeed justly, for we receive the due reward for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong."

He said to Jesus, "Lord, remember me when you come into your Kingdom." Jesus said to him, "Assuredly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

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Adultery

Thief on the Cross

Conclusion

Ephesians 2:1-10 *You were made alive when you were dead in transgressions and sins, in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the powers of the air, the spirit who now works in the children of disobedience; among whom we also all once lived in the lust of our flesh, doing the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, even as the rest.*

But God, being rich in mercy, for his great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up with him, and made us to sit with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come he might show the exceeding riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus; for by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, that no one would boast.



Missions Request by brother Herbin Simanjuntak

Church members at Duri and Pekanbaru congregations are badly impacted by the Coronavirus. I would like to request the Household of Faith to help them by giving 25 kg of rice to each family. The majority are farmers. They are unable to work on their farms because of pandemic and for months they cannot harvest. Those who are not farmers are losing jobs and the prices of commodities are skyrocketing. (We have sent S\$1,000 in response to this appeal - Henry Kong)



Brother Jannes Banjarnahor,
minister of Duri congregation

