

WINTER 2022

TIDINGS

CHRIST'S SANCTIFIED HOLY CHURCH



Burn the Ships!

How many of you have made New Year's resolutions? The real question is: How many of us have already blown those New Year's resolutions?

I have read that, in America, 25% of us discard our resolutions by the end of the first day. Change can be so difficult that even people who want to change will most likely fall back into old patterns and not make change permanent. As long as the option to turn back is there, some will inevitably choose to do so.

In the year 1519, Hernán Cortés arrived in the New World with six hundred men and, upon arrival, made history by destroying his ships. He burned and sunk them in the harbor right in front of his men. They had already threatened mutiny if he did not take them back to Spain. This sent a clear message to his men: There is no turning back. Two years later, he succeeded in his conquest of the Aztec empire.

This is the kind of mentality we need to have when we think about moving forward in our own lives. There's no turning back. We've come through so much in the past two years. God has given us an incredible opportunity to grow as individuals and as a body of believers. Why would we even consider going back?! Deliberate living requires that we model the behavior of the Apostles and take steps to live out a godly life. We can shake free from last year's chaos and turmoil and move forward with new purpose and determination in this new year. There's no turning back.

In the Bible, Paul writes to the Philippian church: "But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ" (Philippians 3:7-8). Paul had everything going for him from a human point of view — he had it all. But all of his knowledge, wealth, or good deeds could not bring him closer to God. Once he became sanctified, Paul had to change his perspective — to reframe the things he thought were important. He goes on to say that his new goal was "to know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being made conformable to His death." But to do that, he had to forsake his past: old friends, old habits, and old temptations. He had to burn the ships and leave it all behind. Like Paul, we can forget those things that are behind and "press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3:14).

continued on p. 2...

"This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success. Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest."

- JOSHUA 1:8-9

For calendar updates visit
www.cshc.org

*"Though troubles around us
and dangers affright,
Though friends all should fail
and foes all unite;
Yet there's one thing secures
us whatever betide,
The scripture assures us, the
Lord will provide."*

*His call we obey like Abraham
of old,
Not knowing our way but
faith makes us bold;
For though we are strangers,
well, we have a good guide,
Have trust in all dangers, the
Lord will provide."*

- JOHN NEWTON

...continued from p. 1

2022 is here. Do you need a closer walk? Do you need a rededication, a renewal of purpose? Are you not as close to God as you want to be? You can change the pattern! Turn around — refuse to go back. Don't be like Lot's wife yearning for the old life when God is trying to move you forward. Begin today and make resolutions that take you from where you are to where you should be going. Be intentional about the steps you're taking towards the future. No matter what, refuse to let anything pull you back. Walk in the freedom and newness that comes from a life following Jesus.

Burn those ships. Happy New Year!

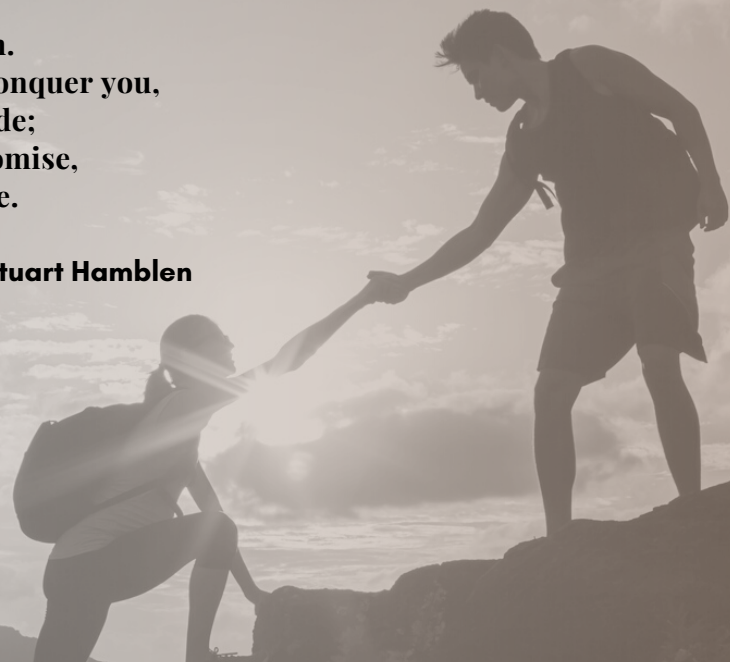
- **Bro. Brian Collier**

The chimes of time
Ring out the news;
Another day is through.
Someone slipped and fell.
Was that someone you?
You may have longed
for added strength,
Your courage to renew.
Do not be disheartened,
For I bring hope to you.

There is no night,
For in His light you'll never walk alone;
Always feel at home
wherever you may roam.
There is no pow'r can conquer you,
While God is on your side;
Just take Him at His promise,
Don't run away and hide.

- "IT IS NO SECRET", by Stuart Hamblen

It is no secret what God can do.
What He's done for others,
He'll do for you.
With arms wide open,
He'll pardon you,
It is no secret what God can do.



Entire Devotion to God - A Prayer of Consecration

*"Oh, happy day that sealed my vows
To Him who merits all my love."*

In the name and in the presence of the triune Deity, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, I do hereby consecrate body, soul, and spirit, time, talents, influence, family, and estate; all with which I stand connected, near or remote, to be for ever, and in the most unlimited sense, THE LORD'S. My body I lay upon Thine altar, O Lord, that it may be a temple for the Holy Spirit to dwell in. From henceforth I rely upon Thy promise, that Thou wilt live and walk in me; believing, as I now surrender myself for all coming time to Thee, that Thou dost condescend to enter this Thy temple, and dost from this solemn moment hallow it with Thy

indwelling presence. The union is consummated!

"Hallelujah to God and the Lamb for ever!" With comminglings of intense yet solemn joy, and holy fear, I do at this eventful hour resolve, in the strength of the Lord Jehovah, on minute circumspection in the sustainment and adornment of my body, to indulge in only such things as may be enjoyed in the name of the Lord, and bear the legible inscription, "*HOLINESS TO THE LORD.*"

- *this is an excerpt from "Entire Devotion to God", a book authored by Phoebe Palmer, published 1857. You may know Phoebe Palmer as the writer of the song, "The Cleansing Stream."*

Anxiety

Have you been dealing with increased stress and anxiety? You're not alone: polling by the American Psychiatric Association revealed that 62% of Americans felt an increase in anxiety from 2020 to 2021. And it's not just adults – the publication *JAMA Pediatrics* reports that anxiety in children *doubled* in the same time frame.

Christians are not immune to life and it's challenges, and anxiety is no exception. While there is no easy answer or solution, there are tools we can have in our toolkits to help manage stress and anxiety. Here are a few:

- **Alone time with God**
- **Reading God's word**
- **Hanging out with believers (go to church)**
- **Get outside, enjoy nature**
- **Exercise**
- **Limit screen time**
- **Take a break from the news**

Remember, the goal here is not to eliminate all stress, but to keep stress at a manageable level. With God's help, this too we will overcome.

"These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full" (John 15:11).

- **Bro. David Copeland**

God is Greater Than...

The other day, I heard someone say that March will mark two years since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. Wow! It is crazy to believe that this pandemic has caused so much chaos, loss, and damage, and it seems to be the topic of many conversations. Regardless of this, I think we, as God's people, have been able to see His purpose and plan through it all. As we head into this new year, I have begun reading Hebrews. Every time I read through it, God reveals Himself more and more to me: Hebrews speaks to His greatness! Even though He is omnipotent, He has also purposefully made Christ as His son to be lower than the angels (Hebrews 2:9-11) and like us with an understanding of our feelings and thoughts (Hebrews 2:17-18). He is greater than any trial, but He is also greater than our temptations and, because he truly understands us, He also knows how to help us avoid the things of this world. Because of Jesus' death on the cross and God's ultimate sacrifice, we can have a relationship with God without a priest,



prophet, or mediator. As just a few people mentioned in Hebrews, Moses, Joshua, and Aaron were all influential individuals sent by God to lead His people. The book of Hebrews taught those who looked up to these men of faith that they were still imperfect beings, and to instead look to Jesus as the ultimate example of righteousness. We know that this is still true today! His sacrifice and covenant are built on a firmer foundation and a greater promise than the Old Covenant to give us a new, more fulfilling life. We can cling to Him in a more sure way when we appreciate this fact. God is greater than any situation we may face in this coming year. While it may seem like the struggles of this world will never end, we have a God who is even greater, and He will truly never leave us nor forsake us. All we must do is love and serve Him. This may sound difficult, but when you fully submit and cling to His overwhelming

love and plan for your life, it becomes more and more evident over time that a day without Him is certainly a day wasted. We may be happy to leave some things in 2021, but Lord help us to continue to proudly put You first in 2022 and in every year that follows! If, during the year, you find yourself fearful or worrying that 2022 will be difficult, like 2020 too, remember who is in control and devote sincere time with Him. I also encourage you to read through Hebrews. Here's encouraging scripture and my hope for us all, including those who may not know Jesus today:

"Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; and having an high priest over the house of God; let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;) and let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching." (Hebrews 10:19-25).

- **Sis. Caroline Smith**

Christ's Sanctified Holy Church
4701 Wrightsville Ave, Ste 2-209
Wilmington, NC 28403

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Columbia, SC
PERMIT No. 706

WINTER 2022

TIDINGS

CHRIST'S SANCTIFIED HOLY CHURCH

**"And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that
bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither;
and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper."**

- Psalms 1:3