

JESUS COMES AGAIN

“For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven” I Thessalonians 4:16

NEW BEGINNINGS

Opinions about New Year's resolutions vary; some strongly oppose making them, while others employ them. Our views may be shaped by our success or lack of reaching the goals articulated. However you feel about that issue, a New Year can hold symbolic motivational power. Like starting anew or turning the page and attempting to put past failures securely in the past.

OLD TROUBLES

These attempts at new beginnings often have their roots in old troubles. And the turning of a page on a calendar does not usually change the troubles we face. Relationship troubles and financial troubles are two examples on a potentially long list.

GOD HELPS

Regardless of our troubles, the Child of God is promised help in the midst of them. This help can come in the form of miraculous interventions and God sends Grace, Mercy, Hope, Healing and Wisdom when that does not happen. These are powerful helps in our fight against life's troubles.

FINAL HELP

But there is more help to come for the believer. Because truth be told, sometimes the persistent troubles we encounter in this life seem more than our coping capacity. The stress can feel debilitating, the fatigue real. And as Scripture warns, we can become weary in well-doing and discouraged despite God's help. But there is help beyond the support that is currently available to us. Paul wrote about it in I Thessalonians 4:16-17:

“For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.”

In the next verse, Paul taught the church to "*Comfort one another with these words.*" So be comforted, Child of God. Your trouble will not win. In the end, the ultimate help will arrive as you abide in the presence of Christ eternally. You will forget your troubles as He wipes the tears from your eyes. Praise the name of the Lord.