

SPECIAL DAYS – NEW YEAR

"LEARNING TO LIVE WISELY"

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"Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom." (Ps. 90:12)

Ralph Waldo Emerson wrote, "Write it on your heart that every day is the best day of the year." He also said, "A day is a miniature eternity." Why did the Psalm writer pray, "*Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom*"? Because the unit of measure that God uses to divide our life span is the "day" and our days are numbered – that is they are limited!

How then, can we successfully live the year before us wisely? Answer: by living it one day at a time with a conscious realization of our accountability to God. Here are five thoughts to help us focus on wise living in the year ahead:

I. DAILY PERUSE YOUR BIBLE.

"Day by day, from the first day until the last day, he read from the Book of the Law of God." (Nehemiah 8:18)

II. DAILY PRAISE THE LORD.

"The Levites and the priests praised the LORD day by day, singing to the LORD, accompanied by loud instruments." (2 Chron 30:21)

III. DAILY PRAY TO THE FATHER.

"Give us day by day our daily bread." (Luke 11:3)

IV. DAILY PROGRESS IN SPIRITUAL GROWTH.

"Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day." (2 Cor 4:16)

V. DAILY PREPARE FOR THE LAST DAY!

Although the word "day" is most frequently used in the Bible to denote the present timeframe in which we live, the word "day" is also used to refer to the future: "*the day of His coming*" (Malachi 3:2); "*He has appointed a day in which He will judge the world*" (Acts 17:31); "*the last day*" (John 6:39). Are you ready for that "final day"?

If not, this could be your "*day of salvation*" (2 Cor. 6:2). Today can be your "*day of salvation*" if you put your total trust in Jesus Christ. Let us determine to live one day at a time and live that day as if it were our last – one of them will be!

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