

Give Up - continued

cause they do not focus on the reward of their efforts (1 Corinthians 15:58; Galatians 6:9; Hebrews 6:10-12).

There are people who give up because they do not see that others have succeeded even under greater challenges (Hebrews 11:32ff; 12:4).

There are people who give up because they forget they can get help (Hebrews 4:16; 1 Peter 5:7).

There are people who give up because they spend too much time thinking and not enough time acting (Acts 24:25; 26:28; 2 Corinthians 6:2).

There are people who give up because they forget that it is not their prerogative to give up (Luke 22:42).

There are people who give up because they listen to those who want them to quit (Nehemiah 4:1-6; 6:1-4).

Finally, there are people who give up because they walk with their eyes on this life instead of on the next (2 Corinthians 5:7; Hebrews 11:10-16).

Friend, make it your resolve this year to never give up on the Lord!
- Chris Reeves -

Sentence Sermons

- Start your new year with God.
- Resolve this year to lose “wait” and gain “faith”.
- Don’t just make resolutions. Keep promises!
- Make sure your resolution matches God’s revelation.
- Don’t bring your old (bad) habits into a new year.

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For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses.
- 2 Corinthians 10:3-4 -

Why Some People Give Up

*“But we are not of them
that shrink back unto perdition;
But of them that have faith
unto the saving of the soul”
Hebrews 10:39*

If you are a Christian and reading this article at the beginning of the new year, the chances are slim that you have given up on the Lord. If you picked up this bulletin at the church building, then you are still coming to the church service and have not given up.

As we begin this new year, let us all continue to serve the Lord and have the resolve to never give up on him. The reality, however, is that some Christians do in fact give up. As the author of Hebrews wrote, there are brethren who “shrink back unto perdition” (Heb. 10:39). Let us not be like them, but like the brethren who have “faith unto the saving of the soul”. Let us consider in this article why some Christians give up.

Giving Up

Do you know of anyone who has ever given up on someone or something? Some people give up on God before they are even converted. They

give up believing that there is a God, or they give up trying to understand their Bible. When the gospel is presented to them, they give up on wanting to repent (change their life) and obey it because they believe it is too hard to do so. Some people give up on God after they are converted. Something happens and they stop loving God and obeying him.

Some people give up on their marriage, their family, and other important relationships in life. When relationships are new and going well, people will often be committed to their relationships. But, when relationships grow old and difficult, some people give up. It is easier for these people to get a divorce, abandon their kids, quit their friends, etc.

Some people give up on their health, their work, etc. Often when people are young, they will work to stay healthy, they will stick with their education or their work, etc. But, as some people go through life, they stop caring about these things.

Why Some People Give Up

So, why is it that so many people, Christians in particular, give up on various things? Here are a few scriptural reasons that I can think of. When I read my Bible, I find that people give up because they for-

get how important the cause it (John 12:27).

There are people who give up because they have not conditioned themselves to face difficult challenges (Daniel 1:8; 1 Corinthians 9:25-27).

There are people who give up because they do not put all their might into their relationships (Ecclesiastes 9:10; Colossians 3:23).

There are people who give up because they do not lay aside those things that hinder them from running the Christian race (Hebrews 12:1-2).

There are people who give up because they focus too much on their past failures and not enough on their present progress (Philippians 3:13-14).

There are people who give up because they refuse to learn from the mistakes of others (1 Corinthians 10:6-11; Hebrews 4:1ff; Jude 5).

There are people who give up because they refuse to be encouraged and built up and so they quit (1 Thessalonians 5:11; Hebrews 3:25; 10:25).

There are people who give up be-