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HAPPY
New
Year
2023

FRONTLINES

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A Fresh Start
The Love of God Wipes the Slate Clean



Money Matters

by BILL MARKHAM

Co-Host, *The 700 Club Canada*



Most of us don't like talking about money, but the Bible talks a lot about it; or more accurately, the Bible talks about

stewardship. Jesus said in Matthew 6:21, **"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also,"** and in verse 24, **"No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money"** (NIV). So, what does this mean?

Everything is a **gift**: The Bible is clear that God created everything as a gift. As soon as I acknowledge this, it transforms my worry into wonder. Instead of being anxious about how to get and maintain stuff (Matthew 6:19-34), I can be grateful for everything I have, no matter how little, and trust God's promise to take care of me (Philippians 4:4-19).

I am a **steward**: This is an Old English word which means someone who is responsible for another's resources (God owns everything). When I invest in the kingdom of God, I am actively participating in God's original desire when He created the earth (Genesis 1:27-28; Matthew 25:14-30).

Generosity is essential: The reason for this is simple—God is generous. He gave everything for us to know and experience Him, and He in turn wishes us to do the same for others (2 Corinthians 9:6-11).

As you study these Scriptures, it is my hope that you will find freedom in moving from consumption to contentment, from fear to faith, and from greed to generosity. God's way is the best way!

WASTING TIME *With Worry?*

Check out these practical tips for a peaceful mind



Do you often find yourself weighed down with worry? It's understandable in today's world, but it's not the best way to navigate life. After all, God wants you to live abundantly with Him. So, what can you do to foster a better change of mind?

According to Dr. Monica Vermani, author of *A Deeper Wellness: Conquering Stress, Mood, Anxiety, and Traumas*, "the first step to treatment is awareness. It's important for us to slow down, pause, and reflect."

She emphasizes the importance of being kind to yourself and to remember that you *do* have the ability to handle life. "Give yourself some credit for how far you've grown, how much you've learned, and how much skill set you possess."

"Secondly," she says, "I think it's important for us to recognize worry is a thought that you pull from thin air and you give it life." What a great image for this concept!

Dr. Vermani continues, "Our thoughts go into two places. They go into the past, which is regrets—looking at things from the past and comparing them to the present. Or the future, which is uncertainty. It hasn't happened yet. It's your imagination."

She then poses this key question: "If you're going to imagine something, why aren't we imagining best-case scenarios versus worst-case scenarios?"

Therefore, as we capture our thoughts and cast all worries onto Jesus, we are free to choose those best-case scenarios and live that full life He died to give us.

A Will Matters

Jesus had much to say about money and possessions. As we intentionally pursue Him, we grow in our desire to follow Jesus in all areas of our life, including this one. We learn to be good stewards of all we have, yet too many don't consider how it will be used when our lives are over. **We need to be as thoughtful and as good a steward of our resources when passing them over as we are in our lifetime.** A good plan can help you create a Will that speaks to your life and your faith.

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A Fresh Start

The Love of God Wipes the Slate Clean



January 1 is not only the day that people around the world make resolutions, or vow to make a change in their lives, but it is a literal beginning. It is the day that one year ends, a new one begins, and in one way or another, we all view it as a fresh start.

But what does this mean for us as Christians, or for those who feel convicted to accept Christ into their lives?

As believers, choosing to follow God was the most important decision that we ever made, and it provided the most significant change in our lives, leading to that fresh start. As soon as we asked Christ into our hearts, we began to change.

Old habits, old attitudes, old values, and thoughts began to fall away, and day by day, over time, we continue to grow into the person that God wants us to be. This doesn't happen overnight, and there is no doubt that there will be bumps along the way, but our faith in God and desire to give Him control means that even the worst aspects of our humanity can be overcome.

If you need more proof of God's ability to dramatically alter the life of an individual, we only need to look to Scripture for examples. Jonah fled from God, but God still used him, and Nineveh was saved. Peter denied Christ but became the rock upon which Jesus built His church. Even Paul, who persecuted the Church, was overcome by the love of Christ, and travelled broadly, preaching the Gospel.

Our previous actions do not matter, as Christ is ready to use us as soon as we accept Him into our lives.

In Isaiah 43:18-19, God reminds us to, **"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"** (NIV).

As we enter 2023, I encourage you to remember that the love of God wipes the slate clean and provides direction as we surrender to His will.

After all, 2 Corinthians 5:17 promises us that **if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!**

I wish you and yours every blessing for a happy and healthy year.

YOU CAN KICK OFF THE YEAR WITH **POWER**

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THE 700 CLUB CANADA

Brand-New!

by LORIE HARTSHORN

Co-Host, *The 700 Club Canada*



This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life

has begun! (2 Corinthians 5:17 NLT)

I believe that the greatest truth of the Gospel is that we become brand-new people when we put our faith and trust in what Jesus has done for us. Brand-new! That's quite a statement. No health product or therapy can make that claim. This is not a "skin-deep" promise but rather goes much deeper. You must go back to verse 14 to see why Paul makes this claim.

Christ's love controls us. Since we believe that Christ died for all, we also believe that we have all died to our old life (2 Corinthians 5:14).

We become brand-new because we have died to our old life. We are not controlled by it any longer. We are controlled by the Holy Spirit who lives in us, and that is why we can say with Paul, **"Christ's love controls us."**

What's your response to this? Are you living in this truth? If you think you're still controlled by sin, then you'll live under its power, and it will weaken your faith and ability to be the person that God says you are—brand-new! I encourage you to believe that what God says about you is true. If you belong to Christ, you are a new person, a new life has begun. This new life comes with a new power source: the Spirit of Christ living in you, who changes us from the inside out. So live brand-new today because that's who you really are.

follow 700 Club Canada



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

JANUARY SPECIAL HIGHLIGHTS

WATCH AND BE AMAZED



DELIVERED FROM DARKNESS

One night, while watching the news, Heather learned that the man she trusted was arrested for pursuing a minor. Guilt and shame led to self-harm until she discovered a Christian rehab centre. Watch Heather's journey from hurting to healing.



GOD HEALS SEVERELY BROKEN MARRIAGE

Brian and Elisha have been married for over 20 years. Infidelity threatened their marriage until they each had a pivotal moment with God.



DESPERATE TO HEAR FROM GOD

Robert rebelled against his parents' Christian faith and was suicidal during his teen years. Then, a Christian friend challenged Rob to start reading the Bible and asking God to speak to him. Discover God's powerful response.



ANCIENT DIET RESTORES MAN'S HEALTH

Jerry was put on dialysis and was informed he needed a kidney transplant. The book of Daniel taught him how to eat, and 100 days later he was cured. See the miraculous results!

JOIN US EVERY WEEKDAY

Watch The 700 Club Canada Weekdays:

- VisionTV – Nationwide
10:30 a.m. EST
- FaithTV – Nationwide
9:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. CST
- JoyTV 10 – Vancouver
1:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. PST
- The Miracle Channel
9:30 a.m. MST



Watch The 700 Club With Gordon Robertson Weekdays:

- JoyTV 10 – Vancouver
11:00 a.m. PST
- CBS KREM – Spokane
9:00 a.m. PST
- WUTV TV29 – Buffalo
9:00 a.m. EST
- WNYO TV49 – Buffalo
1:00 p.m. EST
- WMYD Detroit – Southwestern Ontario
9:00 a.m. EST



CHECK YOUR LOCAL LISTING FOR CHANNELS AND TIMES IN YOUR AREA.

FAMILY IN FOCUS:

Mental Health Awareness

January 23–27

Join us on *The 700 Club Canada* for an entire week devoted to issues facing many Canadians today.

- Mental health challenges kids face
- The importance of family culture
- Mental health hurdles for parents and caregivers
- The impact of anxiety on kids
- The importance of self-care for parents

We'll be joined by **Psychotherapist Roxanne Francis**, and **Communication Coach Dr. Andrew Blackwood** for an in-depth discussion to equip you and your family to handle issues in these challenging times.

Don't miss this important week!



Dedicating Ourselves to Our Father and King



If you love me, obey my commandments.

—John 14:15

by GORDON ROBERTSON
President and CEO, CBN



As the new year begins, I'm reminded of a prayer Jewish people use during Rosh Hashanah, their traditional new year. It calls people to return to God and is translated "Our Father, Our King."

As Christians, we use the phrase, "My Lord and Saviour." Often, we focus more on our Saviour who is merciful, forgiving, and loving—rather than on Him as our Lord, who died to take the punishment for our sins and deserves our heartfelt obedience. When we truly make Him our Lord and Saviour, we do both, and we echo this prayer. If He is your King, you wouldn't think of disobeying Him.

Jesus tells His followers in John 14:15, "*If you love me, obey my commandments.*" That's key for us as Christians. It is our loving service to Him to be obedient children of the Most High God. So during the coming year, let us strive to be obedient out of love and gratitude to Him. And when we miss the mark, we can pray, "Father, forgive us. We did not obey You as our King."

Here is a version of "Our Father, Our King" that I've adapted and translated:

Our Father, our King, we have sinned before You.
Our Father, our King, we have no King but You.
Our Father, our King, be kind to us for the sake of Your Name.
Our Father, our King, bless us with a good year.

Our Father, our King, stop the plague from reaching us.
Our Father, our King, pardon and forgive all our iniquities.
Our Father, our King, blot out and remove our transgressions from before Your eyes.

Our Father, our King, erase all record of our sins.
Our Father, our King, bring us back to You in wholehearted repentance.

Our Father, our King, send complete healing to the sick of Your people.

Our Father, our King, remember us with favour before You.

Our Father, bless us so that we rise from being servants, and become Your children again.

May we be written in Your Book of Life. Amen.

Scripture is quoted from the NLT. Adapted from a teaching on The 700 Club.



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