

January 2012 Link

The year 2011 has come and gone. This new year has begun in a whirlwind. Do you ever contemplate asking that the world stop and let you off? I don't think I want off but at the same time, I wonder where those years that used to go by so slowly went. I have been told that the older I get, the faster time flies. I have come to this conclusion. Time flies no matter how old one is. While studying in the book of Ecclesiastes, the words of the preacher come to mind here. Look at Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 again. Verse one says there is an occasion for everything, and a time for every activity under heaven. To everything there is a season. What season of life are you in at this time? Some have celebrated the birth of a new child since the new year began. Some have entered their teen years. Some will graduate college this year and start a family or a new job. Some will be watching their grandchildren grow (that would be Linda and me). Some will be retiring and starting a new phase in life. Some will be seeing their loved ones pass from this life to the next. Some may experience what they have been looking forward to since coming to Christ as their Savior. I don't want this to sound morbid, but it is the end for all as the writer of Ecclesiastes calls to our memory. The words "Of all the words of tongue and pen, the saddest are these. It might have been.", come to my mind at this time. I pray that when you and I come to the end of our earthly life that we will be able to say that we have spent all of life that God has given us.

The question was asked of Pilate, "What then will you do with Jesus?". This is a question we must ask ourselves in this coming year. I am not speaking of whether or not you are a Christian. I pray that has already been settled. As a Christian, we must be asked this question. Remember there is no such thing as a silent Christian. Jesus said, "if you deny me before men, then I will deny you before my heavenly Father. If you confess me before men, then I will confess you before my heavenly Father". One is a witness whether he or she realizes or not. We give a positive witness of what it means to follow him or we give a negative witness of what it means to be lukewarm. Nobody wants a lukewarm follower, not even Christ.

With the emphasis on GPS across our state again this year, every believer is encouraged to be a witness of the grace that is in us. Let us not be silent, let us proclaim the unsearchable riches of Christ. Remember that we are not called to save, just to tell. God does the saving. Even Paul concluded that some said, "I will hear you another time", "Almost thou persuaded me to be a Christian", and "**some believed**". As Dr. Larry Gilmore says, "it is not good news, unless you tell it."