



Ron & Cheryl Myers

GOD'S WORD FOR ISAN NEWSLETTER

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The Entrance of Thy Words Giveth Light

It Is A Lamp unto My Feet and A Light unto My Path

By Ron Myers

New Years Greetings in Jesus' Name,

It's the dawning of a new year and one primary thought on almost everyone's mind concerns making New Year's resolutions: try a new diet; lose weight; control a bad habit; curb unnecessary spending; paint the house; clean out the garage; smile more and frown less; be more patient and willing to forgive others, including family members; take a college course; pursue a new hobby... and the list goes on. As a rule, most resolutions consist of resolving to accomplish some positive betterment in our lives, or refrain from unproductive personal ruts. In short, *Turn Over A New Leaf*.

In the 1500s, the pages of books were referred to as *leaves*. When I think of turning over a new leaf, I picture myself leafing through the pages in my Bible in personal, meditative study. A person once said concerning making resolutions; *Why not concentrate on living in the light of the Promises in God's Word instead?* One promise that is paramount for any Christian during these increasingly uncertain times is found in Hebrews 13:5-6: "[Christ] hath said, 'I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.' So that we may boldly say, *The Lord is my helper, I will not fear...*"

I enjoy studying the Apostle Paul's personal expressions and prayers, especially his prayers for believers; for their wellbeing and spiritual growth. Many priceless hidden gems of truth are unearthed that way. We might wrongly imagine that Paul's prayers for believers focus on reprimanding us like an angry parent for things like: we should be more diligent; do more; be better; be more dedicated in our spiritual walk; clean up our act; pray more; be more zealous in church attendance; give more; witness more; win more souls, *et al.* However, you might be surprised to learn that in all of Paul's personal prayers for believers, I have not seen one that smacks of any negativity or skepticism.

Paul's prayers of encouragement for believers can be found in Ephesians 1:15-20 & 3:14-21; Philippians 1:9-11, and Colossians 1:9-12. For the sake of space, I won't quote them here, but highlight Paul's main themes. In Paul's prayers, he asks that our wisdom, understanding and intimate knowledge of God's character, and the understanding of the hope we have been given *in Christ* might increase. That we might know the exceeding greatness of His mighty power, both in and for us who believe. That we *have been* immovably rooted and grounded in Christ, through God's Love. And, that we might realize the exceeding greatness of that Divine Love – that it is immeasurable and limitless, way beyond our finite ability to comprehend or understand, and that the benefit of this knowledge might fill our hearts to the brim, bathed in God's Love for us, through Christ.

Furthermore, Paul also prayed that our knowledge and discernment might flourish and abound. That we might pursue excellent things. That we might show ourselves sincere and without offense towards those around us until His return. That our Christian walk might exhibit the fruit of the Holy Spirit—who abides within each of us—so that God may get the honor, the praise and the glory through our lives. That we might possess the wisdom and spiritual understanding of God's Divine plan for our lives. And lastly, that we might realize how God *has qualified us* to partake in the full inheritance He has given us in Christ, because He calls us His Saints, abiding in His glorious Light.

I can confidently speak to something I've found to be true. If one practices abiding in the victorious light of these truths that Paul verbalized in his prayers for us, an amazing thing occurs. As we walk with a yielded heart in the light of His promises, our focus on personal resolutions to turn over a new leaf or strive to do better in our own strength fades into the background as we see God bring them to fruition in our lives. This summarizes why I titled this New Years newsletter: *"The Entrance of Thy Words Giveth Light – It Is A Lamp unto My Feet and A Light unto My Path."* (Psalms 119:105 and 130)

By God's Grace and for His Glory,


Ron & Cheryl Myers
God's Word for Isan: IsanBible.org

Again, Cheryl and I want to thank you for your prayers and generosity on behalf of our ministry. We trust you will experience a blessed and prosperous 2019. Please pray for my bilateral knee procedure in April. Pray also for our work in Isan, Thailand. I'll be returning for a period of time previous to my knee surgery. Pray for my Isan co-worker, Baaw Ter. He remains faithful, yet sad over his Buddhist wife, Joo's, leaving. Pray for her salvation.