

“Recognize Our Past Mistakes”

January 2017

Hymn VU 104 We have Come at Christ's Own Bidding vs 1 & 3

Scripture; Jeremiah 29:11 and Philippians 3:13-14

Reflection:

Both scriptures speak of looking to the future for hope and looking forward and not back. Someone much wiser than I, said something akin to, “we cannot know our future if we forget our past”. I think he was suggesting if we don't recognize our past errors and mistakes so we can correct them we will never go forward. The bible is telling us that the future is brighter and don't be afraid because our real future is in meeting Jesus. For some it is a real exercise to shake off the past and start anew, but that is what we expect in the new year. So, let's look forward with hope. Amen

Discussion:

Views about the bible, about religion in general, have changed greatly in the last few years. In the lobby of our apartment building just a few days ago I overheard a conversation, “there is no heaven nor hell”! This came from a 75 year old female. A devout Catholic gentleman, about the same age, just sat with a sly smile on his face, as if to say, sorry lady but you have no idea! What about you?

Hymn VS 118 Wonder & Stare

Prayer: Well God, you have given us another year. Traditionally January is the time to reflect, look back and resolve to do better this year, to look ahead with hope as the scripture says. We are sometimes weak and ask for your grace, your guidance, your help, to shake off last year's bad habits and look forward not just with hope, but with a positive attitude and actions. Amen