

NEW YEAR'S EVE

Prov. 29:18

a  
**VISION**  
for  
**2020**

Prov. 29:18 Where *there is* no vision, the people perish: but he that **keepeth** the law, *happy is* he.

Wonder how many times the phrase “Happy New Year” has been expressed the last few weeks? Our text gives directions for happiness – “...but he that **keepeth** the law, *happy is* he.”

Jn. 13: 17 If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them.

## I. THE IMPERATIVE FOR A VISION

A. The Command Connected --- vision = knowledge + obedience “...he that **keepeth** the law, *happy is* he.”

❖ Without light it is impossible to have vision to see anything.

Psa. 119:105 Thy word *is* a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path. ...

130 The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple.

❖ Knowledge gained from the Word of God will enhance our “vision” to see life for us from God’s perspective.

Prov. 6:23 For the commandment *is* a lamp; and the law *is* light; and reproofs of instruction *are* the way of life:

❖ The road to happiness begins with a vision of faith.

2 Pet. 1:5 “And beside this, giving all diligence, **add to your faith...**”

Rom. 10:17 So then faith *cometh* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

## B. The Calamitous Consequences --- “...the people perish...”

**Original Word:** פָּרַע

**Transliteration:** para'

**Definition:** let go, let alone (perish)

<https://biblehub.com/hebrew/6544.htm>

(Niphal) to be let loose, be loosened of restraint

<https://www.blueletterbible.org/lang/Lexicon/Lexicon.cfm?strongs=H6544&t=KJV>

Prov. 1:25 But ye have **set at nought** all my counsel, and would none of my reproof:

❖ The “perishing” is due to the overpowering influence of sin.

Rom. 6:16 Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

17 But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you.

18 Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.

19 I speak after the manner of men because of the infirmity of your flesh: for as ye have yielded your members servants to uncleanness and to iniquity unto iniquity; even so now yield your members servants to righteousness unto holiness.

20 For when ye were the servants of sin, ye were free from righteousness.

21 What fruit had ye then in those things whereof ye are now ashamed? for the end of those things *is* death.

22 But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life.

23 For the wages of sin *is* death; but the gift of God *is* eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

- ❖ The vision of salvation frees us from the perishing power of sin and spiritual defeat.

## II. THE INVIGORATION OF A VISION

### A. The Revelation of our Privileges

- ❖ Embracing the new year requires “raising from the ashes” of the past.
- ❖ Knowing that we have a lively hope creates a blessed spirit to motivate us to have a better attitude of joy.

1 Pet. 1:3 Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again **unto a lively hope** by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

1 Pet. 2:5 Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.

Mt. 22:32 I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob? God is not the God of the dead, but of the living.

Acts 17:28 For in him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also his offspring.

Gal. 2:20 I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

Phil. 1:21 For to me to live *is* Christ, and to die *is* gain.

## B. The Responsibility of our Profession

- ❖ Believers should have a vision of a victorious life as we live for His glory.

Mt. 5:14 **Ye are the light of the world.** A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.

15 Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.

16 **Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.**

Prov. 4:18 **But the path of the just *is* as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day.**

- ❖ The Lord expects us to have a “Happy New Year” as we order our steps according to His Word.
- ❖ God’s plan for a “Happy New Year” is available every year and every day, as we obediently implement His plan for our lives.

Heb. 6:9 **But, beloved, we are persuaded better things of you, and things that accompany salvation, though we thus speak.**



## How to put the “happy” in the New Year

1. Know the Lord.
2. Get better acquainted with the Lord.
3. Study the Word of God.
4. Spend quality time alone in prayer.
5. Pray without ceasing – 1 Thess. 5:17; Isa. 26:3.
6. Don't miss church services and opportunities for spiritual growth.
7. Be a good steward of everything – gifts, abilities, time, finances, etc.
8. Fellowship with other believers.
9. Make a continual effort to witness – ALL THE TIME, EVERYWHERE!
10. Keep daily priorities – the Lord first, then mate, children, ministry, career, etc. = balance.

## Conclusion

Jn. 13: 17 If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them.

Jn. 8:12 Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.

Mt. 4:4 But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

Heb. 10:38 Now the just shall live by faith: but if *any man* draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.

1 Jn. 4:9 In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him.