

December 31, 2017

## The Biggest Challenge to a New Year

*Ezekiel 18:30-32 (NIV)*

<sup>30</sup> "Therefore, O house of Israel, I will judge you, each one according to his ways, declares the Sovereign LORD. Repent! Turn away from all your offenses; then sin will not be your downfall.

<sup>31</sup> Rid yourselves of all the offenses you have committed, and get a new heart and a new spirit. Why will you die, O house of Israel?

<sup>32</sup> For I take no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Sovereign LORD. Repent and live!

*Ezekiel 36:26-27 (NIV)*

<sup>26</sup> I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.

<sup>27</sup> And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws.

*Isaiah 43:18-19 (NIV)*

<sup>18</sup> "Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past.

<sup>19</sup> See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland.

*Ephesians 4:31-32 (NIV)*

<sup>31</sup> Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice.

<sup>32</sup> Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

**The biggest challenge of the new year is not dragging the old ones with you.**

**So let's talk about the most helpful grace God has given us:  
Forgiveness**