

## The New Year and Sinning *Surrendering ourselves to God*

When we look out into this New Year do we visualize a year that things will go just right or do we look at the days ahead with a little bit of optimism and a little bit of pessimism fully accepting it to be fact that what happens will happen and there isn't much we can do about it.

How about mapping out a plan for this New Year and thinking more along the lines of understanding that we have a purpose in this life regardless of our age or our circumstances. The fact is we are alive and we can not only make a difference in our own lives but we can contribute to the well being of others as well.

**Before we venture out into this New Year we must be equipped with a clear understanding of the following concepts of sin:**

### Falling Short – Missing the Mark

Falling Short & Missing the Mark: First we must know that “falling short” and “missing the mark” entered the world through Adam (Romans 5:12). He disobeyed God and disregarded God's instructions. Adam missed the mark and fell short, he brought sin into the world by his disobedience. In the New Testament (John 8:21-43) Jesus pronounces the sentence on those who reject Him. Their lack of spiritual understanding was attributed to the fact that they cannot hear God's Word, they could not because they rejected Him. They missed the mark.

When we say “missed the mark” and “fell short” what does this mean to me today? Exactly what are we missing or falling short of? Ultimately this mark is “perfection.” We are talking about the perfection of God's character, the ultimate aim of God's spiritual children. (Matthew 5:48.) God's laws give us knowledge of falling short. (Romans 3 :20)

None of us can overcome our deficiencies, our sin, our shortcomings, without God's help. We can alter our actions, but only God can change our hearts. To come to grips with our sin each of us must surrender ourselves to God by receiving His Son Jesus Christ.

### The Life of Liberty in 2011

Stand for Jesus Christ, and receive Him as your Lord and Savior. For those who are in Christ we have completeness of our freedom. Christ is of advantage to those who trust Him exclusively. There can be no compromise between grace and law and no combination of faith and works. There is not two grounds for salvation. Faith is a vital heart trust and personal commitment to Christ. (Romans 10:9-10) Christians have a live-in divine Person, who is the Holy Spirit, to keep them in line. Let us walk in the Spirit. Let us go on walking, making progress toward spiritual maturity, by the Holy Spirit's indwelling presence and power.

**Remember, God closed the door on Noah's boat---Now is the time! (2 Corinthians 6:2)**

