

Welcome to 2020. I'm your host, Baba Wawa.

20/20 is a vision term. It means that a person sees at twenty feet what a person with normal vision sees at twenty feet.

Now there is a saying, "Hindsight is 20/20," which means that when we look back on past events we can see clearly what was done right and what was done wrong. It's easy to know what is right after something has happened and the effects of a decision or decisions have played out. This saying is often used to admit that mistakes were made. Sometimes we make poor decisions and act poorly because we are too emotional. Other times, we aren't emotional enough. Either way, humanity's record is filled with people who would do things differently if they had them to do all over again.

The saying, "Hindsight is 20/20" also speaks to the difficulty of knowing the future. Even when correct decisions are made and correct action is taken things don't always work out how we planned because of factors that were beyond our control or our knowledge. In this instance, the saying acknowledges that humanity and our decisions and actions are fallible, even when well intentioned, because we are finite (in knowledge and in power).

These realities can make life difficult. We strive to do the best we can with what we have. OR DO WE?

One of the beautiful things about being a Christian is that we serve the one true God who is all-knowing and all-powerful. His word, the Bible, provides us with examples from the past, exhortations for the present, and encouragement for the future. When it comes to "vision" our Lord is unmatched.

So we should avail ourselves of his wisdom and vision. We should set about learning from his word, studying it in its entirety, so we can learn from the past, live for Him in the present, and lead others into the future.

And that is what this year is about.

Scripture: Various

## I. **Warring**

- A. Scripture clearly states that Christians are soldiers at war (Eph. 6:12)
  - 1. Learn who our Adversary is/is NOT
    - a) Satan and sin
  - 2. Learn how he Attacks
    - a) Schemes and stratagems
  - 3. Learn our Aim
    - a) Salvation, Sanctified living, and Spreading the Gospel
  - 4. Learn our Approach
    - a) Supplication, Submission, Sacrifice, Service

5. Learn from Accomplished Warriors

- a) Success stories

**II. Winning**

A. Scripture clearly states that Christians are to strive to win (1 Cor. 9:24)

1. Learn what it means to "win"
  - a) Defining "winning"
2. Learn what it takes to "win"
  - a) Develop a winning program
3. Learn from past "winners"
  - a) Discover lessons from biblical examples

**III. Witnessing**

A. Scripture clearly states that Christians are to serve as witnesses (Acts 1:8)

1. Learn what it means to witness
  - a) Lives and Lips
2. Learn when to witness
  - a) Listening to the Holy Spirit
3. Learn how to witness
  - a) Lead by the Holy Spirit

In Proverbs 29:18 we read, "Where *there is* no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy *is* he." Not only would I agree with Solomon but I would also add that when mankind relies upon mankind's vision, the people suffer. After all, it was also Solomon who wrote under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, "There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death."

Relying upon our own vision is foolhardy. We are too limited. But our God is limitless in knowledge and in power and that means his vision is not only good, it is the best. In an effort to be led by the Lord's vision we will spend some time this year looking aback, recalling lessons from the past. We will spend time looking around, removing our heads from the sand and reacting with obedience to God's commands. We will spend some time looking ahead, rejoicing over our heavenly calling and rehearsing for heaven itself.

So will you join with me and commit to following God's visionary Word, with your eyes kept on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, while being led by the Counselor and Keeper who is the Holy Spirit?