## 73rd – Bible Seeds Podcast

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## • Intro Music -

Hi, my name is Carl Vasta and I would like to welcome you to the Bible Seeds section here, at Understanding God's Word. This is where I get to comment on biblical readings and stories that brings the bible into what's happening to us in our daily lives.

I'll touch on such topics as Family Prayer or Why I Believe There Is A God. I'll talk about what was predicted that makes these the Terrible Times In The Last Days or how to Have A Daily Meaningful Relationship With God.

Today's topic is: The Glorious Way To Start A New Year

I hope you notice that the title says to start 'A New Year', not the new year. Not just another year but 'A NEW YEAR!' One that opens your eyes, your ears, your mind, and your heart to **God, the Father, the Lord Jesus, and the Holy Spirit!** 

We are facing a year of near depression and oppression. A year, where **'Evil'** is trying to force itself on us daily, through political administration, through re-education, under financial hardships, and even pushing the abandonment of our moral and religious values.

Even the people who we thought would help us have turned out to be a disappointment! And we ourselves, may have abandoned the only help we have in this life on the Earth. And those of us who say they have faith in God and claim *"We are not ashamed of the gospel"* find this only a starting point, and not an answer! *And what does God have to say about us?* 

What He told Isaiah to tell the people, in the Old Testament, at Chapter 6: verses 9-10.

And the same message Paul told the people in Rome, in book of Acts, Chapter 28: verses 26-27.

*And this is the very same message Jesus told the people* when His disciples asked Him why He spoke in parables. It is found in the book of Matthew, Chapter 13: verses 14-15. And Jesus said,

'Hearing you will hear and shall not understand, And seeing you will see and not perceive; For the heart of this people has grown dull. Their ears are hard of hearing, And their eyes they have closed, [Un]Less they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears, [Un]Less they should understand with their heart and turn [ back to Me ] So that I should heal them.'

I did a podcast about a year ago titled 'How You Know You're Saved' and revealed what happened in my life that started me hearing God. Not only hearing His voice, but having conversations with Him. It made me realize a plain truth. If God created the universe and all the stars and planets, the Angels, the Earth and all life on the Earth, why do people think it is impossible for Him to talk and be heard by His people; His creation?

If we look at the bible, we can see that He spoke to them directly from the very first Chapter of Genesis, all the way to the very last Chapter of Revelation.

He is with me still and I often remind my children that they used to hear his voice, even at a very young age. But lately I've heard some timid responses, as if someone in their lives have questioned their hearing.

As for me, I think sometimes they think I've gotten past the age of reality, and might need a padded cell. And right now, I'm living in an area where temperatures hover around 20\*F, and I would welcome some padding in my room to keep me warmer.

But let me tell you how comforting it is to have God the Father, the Lord Jesus and the Holy Spirit keep me company. He is so close that I can ask him little things like; how long do I cook this food in the microwave so I won't ruin it. And He tells me; and it comes out great.

He helps me with everything. He helps me with my doctors, and how to take care of my corrupted body. He tells me how to fix my computer, my musical instruments that are twenty five years old and I still play and enjoy music.

He comforts me with my old memories, and tells me not to be uptight and worried about the bad and scary news of this world. And He reassures me that the sin of this world is coming to full bloom and 'evil people' will be repaid at the 'Tribulation', but His people will be removed before then, as they die from this world and while they are living at the 'Rapture'.

Faith is about believing! If you don't believe in God or that God can do anything. You might have the same faith as an Atheist or an Unbeliever.

I know some people think hearing God is somehow putting God to the test. Because you can't hear him, it could cause you to think there is no God or that you have no faith. But if you believe in God the Father, his Son Jesus and the Holy Spirit, He **will live in you!** 

Don't be afraid and remember when the devil tempted Jesus.

'Then the devil took Jesus to the highest point of the temple in the Holy City and said,

*"If you are God's son, throw yourself off this point for the scripture says, 'God will give orders to his angels about you: they will hold you up with their hands, so that not even your feet will be hurt on the stones."* 

Jesus answered, "But the scripture also says, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test'" (Matthew, Chapter 4: verses 5-7)

Okay, so you are putting your life to a test by that temptation, but speaking to Him and listening to hear what He has to say is not putting your life in peril.

Jesus told His apostles to believe in God and believe also in Him.

Put Jesus to the test. Listen to Him! Remember God told the three disciples on the mountain with Jesus. "*This is My Son,* whom I have chosen – listen to Him".

How do we know we are hearing God's voice? At the book of 1<sup>st</sup> John, Chapter 4: verses 1-3, John says *"Beloved, do not believe* every sprit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world.

By this you know the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of God and every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God. And this is the spirit of the Anti-Christ, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world."

At the book of John Chapter10: verse 11, Jesus told his disciples that *He was the "Good Shepherd"* and at the book of John Chapter 10: verse 27, He told His disciples that *'His sheep knew His voice.'* 

Another important thing Jesus told His disciples "I will be with you always." (Matthew, Chapter 28: verse 20)

So, no matter what the new year brings, you can start *"A New Year"* by talking and listening to God.

## Back Ground Music Starts and .....

I would like you to know how much GOD loves you. He is ready and waiting to help you. You just need to believe that He exists and has created all things and has given *His Son Jesus, the good shepherd* to bring you back to him. This is why I put together these pod casts, starting with **The Storyline Of The Bible**, 19 easy understandable pod casts that take you from Genesis, the first book of the bible- to Revelation, the last book of the bible.

And beyond that, there are **The Stories And Quotes From Jesus**, which will help you to strengthen your faith in God. And now I have just added these **Bible Seeds**: my commentary on some of these readings.

You can find all of this and print out the **PDFs** for **Storyline Of The Bible** and **Quotes and Stories from Jesus.** You can download the MP3s, Videos, and my original music from my website: <u>www.carlvasta.com</u> Everything is free and there are no sign ups. Enjoy!

## Ending The Program

This is your host Carl Vasta and I thank you for tuning in to Bible Seeds at Understanding God's Word.

New podcasts are released on Sundays at 12:30PM Pacific Coast Time. *God bless you and your loved ones and remember...*