

January 2016

From the Pastor



A New Start This New Year

A new year brings all sorts of thoughts. We feel like we have a brand new start for our life. Some start a new Bible reading program while some start a new weight loss program. There are endless kinds of new starts.

Did you know that God starts something new, not at the beginning of every year but at the beginning of every day? The new start is found in a letter written by the prophet Jeremiah, the book of Lamentations.

The letter is written as a warning to the nation of Israel. They had turned their backs on God, and Jeremiah wrote a letter of warning. It starts and ends with the warning of God's judgment on His people. There is a call to repentance. God wanted His people to come back to Him.

In the middle of this letter is a wonderful message. In spite of all their wrongdoing, God loves His people. He says this.

Lamentations 3:22-23 ²² *The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end;* ²³ *they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. (ESV)*

God's love for His people is steadfast. This means that it is like an anchor for your life. It is always there. His love will never end. Can you imagine a love that never comes to an end? Have you ever been loved by someone that much? God loves us that much.



God's love is new every morning. It is fresh each day. It is not a love that loses strength or loses vitality. God loves you with a fresh love each day.

As you begin this year, remember God loves you each day with a vital, deep, strong love.

In Him and for His glory,

Pastor Art