

Status Quo or Beyond?

Franklin Church of Christ
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AM Worship

Introduction:

- A. It's so "status quo" to make New Year's Resolutions.
 - 1. Typically, some are realized (a sense of accomplishment!) yet many others are never fulfilled.
 - 2. These resolutions typically center around our health: losing weight, exercising daily, etc.
 - 3. How many have gone beyond *self to focus on others? Evangelism, edification, benevolence, etc.*
- B. When reflecting upon last year, did we live a "status quo" Christian walk or one that is beyond?
 - 1. You see, our lives in Christ was never meant to be "normal" because we're a special people.
 - 2. As special people belonging to Christ our lives should be far beyond what is regarded as the status quo.

Discussion:

I. The Status Quo For The World

- A. Doing what everyone else does.
 - 1. Being kind to (loving, greeting) only those who are kind to you. **Lk. 6:32-34**
 - 2. Doing easy things, the easy way, when its convenient.
 - 3. This is the way to destruction. **Matt. 7:13-14**
- B. Living an unfulfilled, luke-warm life in the Lord.
 - 1. It's so easy to full ourselves into thinking this is okay.
 - 2. Ultimately, a life like this needs repenting. **Rev. 3:15-16, 19**

II. The Status Quo for Christians - Beyond

- A. In service to our Savior. **Matt. 22:37**
 - 1. Magnifying God's name when others are ashamed. **Psa. 34:1-3**
 - 2. Worshipping Him beyond lip service.
 - 3. Serving Him as a daily living sacrifice. **Rom. 12:1-2**
- B. In service to our fellow man. **Matt. 22:38**
 - 1. Going the extra mile when others won't. **Matt. 5:38-42**
 - 2. Showing kindness to those who cannot repay. **Lk. 14:12-14**
 - 3. Loving the unlovable. **Matt. 5:43-47**
- C. In other words
We're a special people (1 Pet. 2:9) made by our Special Creator to do special things (Eph. 2:10) for a special reason ... the world beyond. Lk. 6:35

Conclusion:

- A. Don't be satisfied with the status quo ... it only leads to your destruction.
- B. Go beyond yourself and experience eternity in the making.