



I. INTRO

A. New Year's Challenges=change

Many times a Christian will default to blaming God or the devil for problems in life. But as long as the problem is with God or the devil that means that I never have to change. If I don't change then I won't grow.

B. Ultimately we act according to what we believe

2 Timothy 1:12 (NKJV) For this reason I also suffer these things; nevertheless I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that Day.

II. MY DECLARATION FOR 2014

2 Corinthians 4:13 (NKJV) ¹³And since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, "I believed and therefore I spoke," we also believe and therefore speak,

Because I believe

A. God's word is true - *I have confidence*

Psalm 119:89 (NKJV) ⁸⁹Forever, O Lord, Your word is settled in heaven.

1. The bible is an amazingly precise book

Luke 16:17 (NKJV) And it is easier for heaven and earth to pass away than for one tittle of the law to fail.

- The faith of Abraham –everything Abraham knew was to trust things around him – the experts, people, what he saw. It's impossible – God's promises won't happen for you

Romans 4:17-18 (NKJV) ¹⁷(as it is written, "I have made you a father of many nations") in the presence of Him whom he believed—God, who gives life to the dead and calls those things which do not exist as though they did; ¹⁸who, contrary to hope, in hope believed, so that he became the father of many nations, according to what was spoken, "So shall your descendants be."

Romans 4:21 (KJV) And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform.

He was persuaded – He came through a process of persuasion to a settled conclusion.

B. Because I know that God is a good God - *I have peace*

- Jesus is the will of God in motion

Acts 10:38 (NKJV) how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him



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- **Because I know**
 - *I know that God's word is true I have confidence*
 - *I know that God is good I have peace.*

C. Because I know God is all powerful – *I will not fear*

Psalm 27:1 (NKJV) The Lord is my light and my salvation; Whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; Of whom shall I be afraid?

Isaiah 43:1-2 (NKJV) But now, thus says the Lord, who created you, O Jacob, And He who formed you, O Israel: "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by your name; You are Mine. ²When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; And through the rivers, they shall not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned, Nor shall the flame scorch you.

- God has the power – what's that got to do with me?

Isaiah 40:29 (NKJV) ²⁹He gives power to the weak, And to those who have no might He increases strength.

- **Because I know**
 - *I know that God's word is true I have confidence*
 - *I know that God is good I have peace.*
 - *I know that God is all-powerful I will not fear.*

D. Because I know that God is Love - *I have security*

- God's love for you is based on His character not your actions

Romans 5:8 (NKJV) But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Deuteronomy 31:6 (NKJV) Be strong and of good courage, do not fear nor be afraid of them; for the Lord your God, He is the One who goes with you. He will not leave you nor forsake you."

- **Because I know**
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 - *I know that God is good I have peace.*
 - *I know that God is all-powerful I will not fear.*
 - *I know that God loves me I have security.*

E. Because I know there's an empty tomb – *I have victory*

1 Corinthians 15:57 (NKJV) But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ

- Because I know the tomb is empty I know that the devil is defeated.



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Colossians 2:15 (NKJV) Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it.

Col. 2:15 (Message) He stripped all the spiritual tyrants in the universe of their sham authority at the Cross and marched them naked through the streets.

- Because the tomb is empty I know that I have authority

Revelation 1:18 (NKJV) I am He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore. Amen. And I have the keys of Hades and of Death.

- And because Jesus rose triumphantly from the dead, I know that I overcome, because,

1 John 5:4-5 (NKJV) ⁴For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. ⁵Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

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 - *I know that God is all-powerful I will not fear.*
 - *I know that God loves me I have security.*
 - *I know there's an empty tomb I have victory*

F. Because I know that Jesus is coming again – I have hope

John 14:2-3 (NKJV) ²In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.

1 Thessalonians 4:15-18 (NKJV) ¹⁵For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. ¹⁶For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. ¹⁸Therefore comfort one another with these words.

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 - *I know that God is all-powerful I will not fear.*
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 - *I know there's an empty tomb I have victory*
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III. WE BELIEVE THAT GOD HAS GIVEN US A JOB TO DO

Luke 19:13 (NKJV) So he called ten of his servants, delivered to them ten minas, and said to them, 'Do business till I come.'

- Occupy until I come – or make this your occupation

Mark 16:15 (NKJV) ¹⁵And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.

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 - *I know that Jesus is coming again I have hope*