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*"Christ caring for People
through People"*

January 1, 2012 New Year's Day

Psalm 8 (NIV)

1 LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory in the heavens. 2 Through the praise of children and infants you have established a stronghold against your enemies, to silence the foe and the avenger. 3 When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, 4 what is mankind that you are mindful of them, human beings that you care for them? 5 You have made them a little lower than the angels and crowned them with glory and honour. 6 You made them rulers over the works of your hands; you put everything under their feet: 7 all flocks and herds, and the animals of the wild, 8 the birds in the sky, and the fish in the sea, all that swim the paths of the seas.

9 LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Dear Friends in Christ,

Happy New Year!

It's a new year, a new day!

And since Jesus has come to live, die, and be raised forever, it's truly all NEW!

"3-5 I heard a voice thunder from the Throne: "Look! Look! God has moved into the neighbourhood, making his home with men and women! They're his people, he's their God. He'll wipe every tear from their eyes. Death is gone for good—tears gone, crying gone, pain gone—all the first order of things gone." The Enthroned continued, "Look! I'm making everything new. Write it all down—each word dependable and accurate."

Revelation 21:3-5 (The Message)

May I suggest the best New Year's Resolution ever:

I resolve to do all that I can to get to know God better.

In addition to scripture may I suggest the best book to help in this resolution that I have come across in many years: Knowing God, by J.I. Parker. (Available Chapters, online, \$14.43)

This not a new book (1973) but is newly edited and republished using scripture from the New International Version. It is a warehouse of meditative material which is well worth reading - s l o w l y - and taking the time to pray over.

Father, open our minds and hearts to you this year that we may grow to know, love and trust you more. Amen.

(Rev.) John McGurrin