

What Will 2026 Bring Us?

2025 has been a year of transition for me, as I moved from Florida to Ohio (where I grew up) to be with my family (really good), and also getting to experience the unpredictable cold Ohio winters (not so good) I have avoided for about 20 years. One thing I am very grateful for is my health and how active I am at age 80. At this age, EVERY day is a blessing - some are just more blessed than others.

So how about you? How has 2025 treated you? I know that for many of you it has been a very difficult year, maybe losing a loved one (or more than one) and many of you have dealt with serious health issues, either yourself or a loved one. I know this because I have prayed diligently and daily for many of you! So many of you have helped me bear my burdens, and I count it an honor to help you bear yours.

There are many ways we might look at the new year, but I think many of us look ahead in one of two ways: with thoughts of fear, dread and trepidation, or, we see it through the eyes of faith, hope, and anticipation. Proverbs 23:7a says: *"For as he thinks in his heart, so is he..."* (NKJV) How well 2026 goes for each of us will depend largely on our attitude towards it. Proverbs 17:22 in TPT says *"A joyful, cheerful heart brings healing to both body and soul. But the one whose heart is crushed struggles with sickness and depression."* We need to enter 2026 with an attitude of gratitude!

As Jesus prepared His disciples for His death and resurrection and the persecution they would face, He said this in John 16:3 (NIV): *"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."* Just in case you haven't figured it out yet, life is NOT fair! Lots of really bad things happen to some really good people, and sometimes to put it plainly, LIFE SUCKS! Here are two biblical ways to face 2026 with a positive attitude no matter what might come your way...

From Isaiah 43:18-19a: *"Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing!"* And from MT. 6:33-34: *"But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own."* Trust God. Don't dwell in the past! Don't worry about the future! As my friend Brother Cary often says, "Take life one day at a time!" Amen! Happy New Year!