

The Healing of the Memories

Scripture: Philippians 3:13-14
 Genesis 32:24-30

Introduction

At this time of the year we are conditioned to analyze the past year and make New Year's resolutions. We cannot, however, look forward to future successes until we have first dealt with past sins and failures and have given them to God.

I. Forgetting those things which are behind

Hebrews 10 :17 And their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more.

- A. Jacob at Peniel
 - 1. The haunting memories of his deception
 - 2. The consequent fear of Esau's revenge
 - 3. His wrestling with God
 - 4. His new name--Israel-a prince with God
- B. The lesson for us
 - 1. Take your past in hand
 - 2. Give your past to God
 - 3. ACCEPT FORGIVENESS
 - 4. Accept your new identity

Revelation 2:17b To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it.

II. Reaching forth unto those things which are before

2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

- A. The past is forgiven and forgotten
- B. Set new goals
- C. Let God give you a new life

III. I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus

Jude 1:24 Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy ...

- A. Your salvation has qualified you for the "finals"
- B. The Holy Spirit equips and conditions you to run
- C. Let God make you to be an overcomer