



# Starting Over

Philippians 3:7-16

# Welcome to 2022

- We can't really start over. We can't go back and change the past.
- But a new year is a good time to think about ourselves and draw a line in the sand to mark a new purpose for life and a new way of thinking.

# Welcome to 2022

- <sup>13</sup> Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead,
- <sup>14</sup> I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.
- <sup>15</sup> Let those of us who are mature think this way, and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal that also to you. (Phil. 3:13-15 ESV)

# Turning Back

- We can make a change.
- In fact we are required to do so.
- It's called repentance
- In the Old Testament the word was defined as "turning, turn around, turn away from rebellion and turn toward obedience"
- In the New Testament the word is defined as "changing one's thinking, change one's mind or purpose"

# Verses using both definitions

- *Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out, (Acts 3:19 ESV)*
- *<sup>19</sup> "Therefore, O King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision, <sup>20</sup> but declared first to those in Damascus, then in Jerusalem and throughout all the region of Judea, and also to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, performing deeds in keeping with their repentance. (Acts 26:19-20 ESV)*
- *More than sorrow – demands appropriate action*

# How often?

- Do you remember “70 times 7”?
- Jesus to Peter – “When you turn again...” (Lu. 22:32)
  - “Get behind me Satan”
  - The vision before going to Cornelius
  - Paul opposed Peter to his face
- *But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified. (1 Cor. 9:27 ESV)*

# Steps to repentance

- *"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. (Matt. 5:3 ESV)*
- *"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. (Matt. 5:4 ESV)*
- *"Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. (Matt. 5:5 ESV)*
- *"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. (Matt. 5:6 ESV)*