## Thank You, Lord, For Another Beginning

I live in what the Bible calls the "by reason of strength years"!

You see, I am in the second month of my 71st year of life.

The Psalmist has this to say in the 70s.

"The days of our years are threescore years and ten; And if BY REASON OF STRENGTH they be fourscore years. Yet is their strength labor and sorrow; For it is soon cut off, and we fly away!"

Another translation from the Jubilee Bible;

"The days of our years are seventy, and of the MOST VALIANT eighty years, yet their strength is labor and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away!" Now in those few words a lot is being said... the possible length of life, the futilities in the years of life, YET the triumph of flying away as we walk in faith and in the ways of our LORD.

The previous 12 months, I have encouraged myself by saying that I am living in the overflow of the promises of God by reaching the age of 70. Now, the encouragement comes in the word "valiant". I am now in the decade of my 70s heading towards 80 in power, abilities and as the old church folk would say, "reasonable health and strength". I am not only heading towards 80 but also another dimension, another expression of what all God has created, the Psalmist called "we fly away".

As we enter the 10th month of 2025, we can encourage ourselves to be on the runway, preparing for "we fly away".

Here is another interesting thing about October ... it is the 10th month on our calendar, but the root word means 8. 8 is the number of new beginnings. 8 is the time to enter the fulfillment of our potential and God's command to be fruitful and multiply.

For this, I say thank you, LORD.

Dear God, it is Your Will that
we prosper and be in good
health as our soul prospers.

NIV "Dear friend, I pray that you may enjoy good health and that all may go well with you, even as your soul is getting along well."

This is an amazing greeting from the Apostle John to the first-century Church. Let this ring deep in your soul, 21 centuries after the salutation was written to the Church in its infancy.

It has been said that our God is the Eternal Sky Above, and all other gods live beneath this majestic canopy.

Dear God, this month will be a time of new beginnings for many of us. We have chosen to live our lives in vitality and harmony.

Keep moving, my friend.

As Charles Dickens wrote, "The sun itself is weak when it first rises; and gathers strength and courage as the day goes on."

Thank You, Lord, for another beginning in the 10th month of the "new year"!

I am Dr. David Rainey, Faith Enthusiast for The Soultown Magazine. I want to thank God for having SOUL!



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