

NEW YEARS UPLOOK

I Peter 5:6-7

As we move into 2021 let's look up and see the mighty hand of God!

As we look up ...

I. ADMIT INSIGNIFICANCE

- Humble yourselves

A. THE RATIONALE (5b)

- Because God opposes the proud but give grace to the humble - see Proverbs 3:34

B. GOD'S REQUIREMENT - Micah 6:8

He has told you, O man, what is good; And what does the LORD require of you, But to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

C. MY RESPONSE: I am limited

- I'm not tough enough, wise enough, important enough, smart enough or strong enough

As we look up ...

II. RECOGNIZE SUPERIORITY (6b)

- Under the mighty hand of God

A. REVERANCE: As in Isaiah 6:1-5

B. REMEMBER ...

1. God is in control of our plans - See Acts 16:6-10 and James 4:13-17
2. God is in control of our pains - Note II Corinthians 12:7-10
3. God is in control of our deliverance - Remember Exodus 26:8

C. REHEARSE: "God is in control!"

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As we look up ...

III. **ANTICIPATE RELIEF** (6c)

- That He may exalt you at the proper time

A. RECALL

1. God gives grace to the humble (5b)
2. We can find grace in our time of need - Hebrews 4:16

B. RESOLVE ...

1. That you will rise above this at God's appointed time
2. To look forward! - See Paul's example in II Timothy 4:7-8
3. To persevere until God's proper time

As we look up ...

IV. **RELEASE ANXIETY** (7)

A. THE RIDDANCE: Anxiety

1. Being pulled in various directions
2. Doubt and fear scenarios playing out in our minds

B. THE RESPONSIBILITY: Casting on Him

1. Casting and not clutching your cares!
2. Exerting effort so as to fling them far from you
3. Present your requests to God - Philippians 4:6

C. THE REGULATION: No sinful fretting - Matthew 6:25-34

D. THE REASON: Because He cares for you

1. Review Psalm 55:22
2. Practice Matthew 11:28-30
3. Understand John 10:14-15

CONCLUSION: Today look up and see the mighty hand of God!

1. Admit Insignificance (6a)
2. Recognize Superiority (6b)
3. Anticipate Relief (6c)
4. Release Anxiety (7)

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