

December 15

LOCAL CHURCH BUDGET

Counting down. In just a couple of weeks, 2018 will be over and 2019 will come upon the scene. Has it been a good year for you and me? Have we been blessed by God with good health, prosperity, and spiritual growth? Or have times been tough, and maybe even discouraging, for us?

The world in general is filled with misery and woe, and sometimes it even touches us and our loved ones. Regardless of our circumstances, God has told us to focus our hopes on the better land to come. Happy is the Christian who can sing with enthusiasm, “This world is not my home; I’m just a-passing through. My treasure is laid up somewhere beyond the blue.” And whatever our lot in life, all it takes is one trip to a disadvantaged land or to a refugee camp to put things in perspective and realize that we are truly blessed.

As we count down to the end of the year, it is typical for some of us to begin thinking about the upcoming tax season and how we might take stock of our overall financial picture for the year. In certain businesses, such as farming, for example, we don’t really know what we have earned until all the accounts have been reconciled and our true gain or loss has been determined.

Let us then plan to “bring all the tithes into the storehouse” by the year’s end, that the Lord’s house may truly prosper and be blessed.