

## As The Year Draws To A Close

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by Elmer I. Newton

“What I have written, I have written,”  
Was Pilate’s firm reply  
When Jesus hung upon the cross,  
Between the earth and sky.  
The Jews had asked that he would change  
The sign he’d written there:  
“This is Jesus, King of the Jews,”  
Above the Lord so fair.

What I have written I have written:  
How true these words today,  
As we look back o’er the year that’s gone  
Merrily on its way.  
There are lots of things we would erase  
If we could have our way;  
What we have written we have written,  
And it is there to stay.

What we have written we have written;  
These things we can’t erase,  
But we can profit by our mistakes  
As another year we face.  
If, with heads held high and an upward look,  
The year ahead we’ll face,  
When we look back on future years  
There’ll be less we would erase.

— Elmer I. Newton  
December 31, 1948

**Editor’s Note:** As God blesses us with a new year — one day at a time — may all of us prosper as our souls prosper,  
[3 John 2](#). **Happy New Year 2021!**

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