

RESOLUTIONS

Int.

1. Aim: To discuss some resolutions each of us should make.
2. Phil. 3:12-14
 - a. Paul had not yet reached a state of perfection
 - b. But he was not going to live in the past - he was going to forget those things
 - c. He was going to look to the future
 - d. He had a goal - he was pressing toward that goal.
3. At the end of the year and the beginning of a new year many people make resolutions to forget the past and reach toward new and better goals in life
 - a. All kinds of resolutions
 - i. Diets to lose weight - Quit Smoking - Pay off debt, buy new car
 - ii. Few are kept, most are broken
 - b. If the resolution is good, then it is good to keep it!
4. We will look at resolutions that everyone can make...
 - a. As an alien sinner
 - b. As an erring Christian
 - c. As a Christian

Discussion

I. Alien Sinner

- A. What is an alien sinner and why should he make any resolutions ?
 1. Alien - foreign born resident who has not been made a citizen
 2. Rm. 6:23 "For the wages (hire) of sin is death."
 3. 2 Thes. 1:7-9 - Sinner = life devoted to sin

- B. I am Resolved what to do... ,
1. Give up sinful way of life!
 2. Obey the Gospel plan of Salvation! B.R.C. B. = Salvation

II. ERRING CHRISTIAN

- A. Possible to fall from grace
1. Gal. 5:4 "...ye are fallen from grace."
 2. II Pet. 1:9 - an erring Christian is one who "hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins."
 3. Jas. 5:19-20 - err - save a soul from death - if converted
- B. "I am resolved what to do..."
1. Return unto the Lord
 2. I Jn. 2:1-2
 - a. Advocate - helper - lawyer or attorney who represents us
 - b. Jesus pleads our cause before God
 3. Acts 8:18-25
 - a. Simon had done wrong
 - b. Told to repent - change his mind
 - c. Pray to God!
- C. An erring Christian must:
1. Repent
 2. Confess
 3. Pray

III. THE CHRISTIAN

A. Phil. 3:13-15

1. We are not perfect - just as Paul was not perfect
2. We need to reach forth to new things
3. His goal was to seek the calling of God
4. Let us be thus minded

B. READ -

1. I Tim. 4:13 "Till I come give attendance to reading"
2. Read to be qualified to teach the truth and defend it
3. Read writings of O.T. - would profit him
4. If we are well acquainted with scriptures then we can teach and defend it.
5. Resolve to read daily
 - a. Spend at least one hour eating - 20 Min = 1 Hr. a day = 7 Hours @ week,
 - b. How much time do you spend feeding on the "Bread of life"

C. ENDURE-

1. 2 Tim. 2:3
2. Do not let suffering or the fear of it, cause you to abandon Christianity
3. Endure afflictions and hardship like a good soldier does
4. Resolve to not give up just because afflictions may come.
5. Remember the suffering of Christ

D. STUDY - II Tim. 2:15

1. Study the Bible to cultivate and improve your heart
2. The study of the Bible makes us approved by God.
3. Rightly dividing - not twisting or wresting the scriptures to our own destruction
II Pet. 3:16
4. Resolve to be careful how you use the word of God!
5. A sharp sword is a wonderful weapon but is also dangerous if not used properly.
Heb. 4:12

E. OBEY - I Pet. 1:22

1. "Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth."
2. Purified not Just by believing- but by obeying.
3. Obey = compliance, submission
4. "Obedience to the faith." Rom. 1:5
5. Resolve to be doers of the word not hearers only - Jas. 1:22
6. Mt. 7:21

F. LOVE - I Cor. 13

1. "Love never faileth" v. 8 "The greatest of these"
2. Without it life would have nothing desirable, love is preserver of life
3. Resolve to have that feeling of Love toward your fellow-man which will cause you to "Do unto him as you would have him to do unto you." Mt. 7:12 4.
4. Resolve to love God.- I Jn. 5:3 "For this is the love of God that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous!"

G. UPHOLD - Phil. 1:20

1. Paul was going to uphold the cause of Christ no matter what might happen to him.
2. Written at a time in Paul's life when there was uncertainty and suspense about the future!
3. When we have the same situation here we must be resolved to uphold the cause of Christ through it all
4. Be bold so you will uphold.

H. TEACH- Mat. 28:19-20 - Mark 16:15-16 - into all the world

1. Teach them to be disciples and then teach them the doctrine or all things he had commanded them.
2. We are to be teachers of the word. "Heb. 5:12 "For when for the time ye ought to be teachers."
3. Resolve to start teaching the word to a friend or relative.
4. Resolve to learn how to teach - you can not teach what you do not know!

I. INCREASE- II Cor. 10:15

1. Increase your faith - A.S.V Your faith groweth
2. More of the life and power of Godliness
3. Resolve to increase your faith , trust, belief in God and his promises and commands!
4. Rom. 10:17

J. OVERCOME-

1. I Jn. 5:4
2. Overcome temptations of the world
3. Victory when we overcome the world
4. Yield not to temptation - not wrong to be tempted but it is to yield - Jas.1:12
5. Resolve to overcome all temptations - God has promised that he provide a way of escape. I Cor. 10:13 - we are without excuse for yielding

K. NUMBER -

1. Ps. 90:12 "So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom."
2. Our days are few at the very most. Do not waste your time.
3. Resolve to use your time as wisely as possible.
4. Time is the stuff of which life is made. If you waste it and throw it away, then you are wasting and throwing away your life!

L. SERVE-

1. Mt. 4:10
2. Christ said he would serve the Lord our God.
3. We must resolve that we will be a servant of God all the days of our life!

CONCLUSION

1. The largest room in any ones life is the room for Improvement.!
2. Make these resolutions a part of your life and you will be improved in God's sight.
3. Don't forget these resolutions in a few hours and break them, for if you do they'll be useless.
4. Don't wait to adopt these resolutions!! Start Immediately.
 - a. Alien Sinner obey the Gospel
 - b. Erring Christian - return - repent, confess and ask God's forgiveness
 - c. Christian - Reach forth unto those things which are before
5. I Am Resolved no Longer to Linger

R ead
E ndure
S tudy
O bey
L ove
U phold
T each
I ncrease
N umber
S erve