

RESOLUTIONS FOR THE NEW YEAR

Resolution: “a firm decision to do or not to do something,” “the quality of being determined or resolute.”

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2 Corinthians 5:9-11

9. Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him.

10. For we must **all** appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, **whether good or bad.**

11. Knowing, therefore, the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are well known to God, and I also trust are well known in your consciences

I. IN THE PAST YEAR

A. HAS OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD AND CHRIST IMPROVED?

➤ **1. Have we drawn nearer to God?**

➤ **James 4:7-8**

➤ **7. Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.**

➤ **8. Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners and purify your hearts, you double-minded.**

Jesus says in (John 12:44-48)

- **44.** Then **Jesus** cried out and said, “He who believes in **Me**, believes not in **Me** but in Him who sent **Me**.”
- **45.** And he who sees **Me** sees Him who sent **Me**.
- **46.** I have come as a light into the world, that whoever believes in **Me** should not abide in darkness.
- **47.** And if anyone hears **My words** and does not believe, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world but to save the world.
- **48.** He who rejects **Me**, and does not receive **My words**, has that which judges him—the **word** that I have spoken will judge him in the last day

2. HAS OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE BRETHREN IMPROVED?

1. Has our love for one another increased this year

1 Thessalians-4:9-10

- **9.** But concerning **brotherly love** you have no need that I should write to you, for you yourselves are taught by God to love one another;
- **10.** and indeed you do so toward all the brethren who are in all Macedonia. But we urge you, brethren, that you increase more and more;

3. HAS OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THOSE IN THE WORLD IMPROVED?

- **1. As people of God, we have an important responsibility toward those in the world**
- **To be a positive influence ("You are the salt of the earth")**
- **To demonstrate a better way ("You are the light of the world")**

Matthew 5:13-16

- **13.** “**You are the salt of the earth;** but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men.
- **14.** “**You are the light of the world.** A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden.
- **15.** Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house.
- **16.** **Let your light so shine before men,** that the may see your good works and glorify your **Father in heaven.**

II. FOR THE YEAR AHEAD

- **A. RESOLVE TO DRAW NEARER TO GOD AND CHRIST.**
 - 1. By having a daily studying of God's living and abiding Word - **Hebrews 4:12**
 - **12. For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.**

a. Read and study the Old and New Testament this year –

Roman 15:4-

4. For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we **through the **patience** and **comfort** of the Scriptures might **have hope**.**

2 Timothy 3:14-17-

16. All Scripture is given by **inspiration of God, and is **profitable** for **doctrine**, for **reproof**, for **correction**, for **instruction in righteousness**,
17. that the **man of God** may be complete, thoroughly equipped for **every good work**.**

A. RESOLVE TO DRAW NEARER TO GOD AND CHRIST.

➤ **James 1:21-**

➤ **21.** Therefore lay aside **all** filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and **receive** with **meekness** the **implanted word**, which is able to **save your souls**.

➤ **1 Peters 2:2-**

➤ **2.** as **newborn babes**, desire **the pure milk** of the **word**, that you may **grow** thereby,

A. RESOLVE TO DRAW NEARER TO GOD AND CHRIST

1. Peter's last written admonition to the Church

2 Peters 3:18-

**18. But grow in the grace and knowledge of our
Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the
glory both now and forever. Amen.**

A. RESOLVE TO DRAW NEARER TO GOD AND CHRIST.

- 2. By being diligent in prayer - Hebrew 4:14-16
 - 14. Seeing then that we have a **great High Priest** who has passed through the heavens, **Jesus the Son of God**, let us hold fast our confession.
 - 15. For we do not have a **High Priest** who cannot **sympathize** with our **weaknesses**, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet **without sin**.
 - 16. Let us therefore come **boldly** to the **throne of grace**, that we may obtain **mercy** and find **grace** to help in **time of need**.

A. RESOLVE TO DRAW NEARER TO GOD AND CHRIST.

a. Let's be a thankful people.

➤ **Colossian 4:2–**

➤ **2. Continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving;**

➤ **1 Thessalonians 5:17-18-**

➤ **17. pray without ceasing,**

➤ **18. in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.**

My Conclusion

- Has our relationship with God and Christ Improved
- Has our reading and studying the word Improved
- Has our relationship with the brethren Improved
- Has our relationship with those in world Improved
- Let's us Resolve
- Resolve to Draw nearer to God and Christ
- Resolve to read and study the word of God
- Resolve to become closer to the brethren
- Resolve to have a good relationship with those in world