

Introduction

Are you ready to make some new year's resolutions? It is wise for many of us to set goals and make plans to reach those goals. It helps us focus on what is important and it helps us get where we need to be. Have you considered making your resolutions based on the bible? Let's focus on some resolutions God may want for us to consider from His Word...

I. Jacob's Resolution To Give A Tenth – Genesis 28:22

- a. The Conditions The Resolutions Were Made (Genesis 28)
- b. Some Thoughts On Tithing
 - i. Abraham started it – Genesis 14:20; Hebrews 7:4, 15-16, 24-25
 - ii. Jacob continued it – Genesis 28:22
 - iii. It was commanded – Malachi 3:10
 - iv. Jesus commended it – Matthew 23:23
- c. Does tithing apply to us today?
 - i. It is clear we ought to give (1 Corinthians 16:1-2; 2 Corinthians 9:6-9; Acts 20:35) but why should we give?
 1. 1 Corinthians 15-16 are connected – The gospel, our hope in Jesus who raised from the dead, we will be raised from the dead because of Jesus, our victory in v51ff is because Jesus took away our sins. Giving is a response to God's grace and love.

II. David's Resolutions Concerning God's Word – Psalms 119:15-16

- a. "I Will Meditate On Your Precepts"
 - i. Why is it important to mediate on God's word?
 1. We will be blessed with answered prayers, we prove to be Jesus' disciples, we abide in love with God and our joy will be made complete – John 15:7-11
 2. When we obey what we have learned we are freed from sin and are enslaved to God resulting in our sanctification and eternal life – Romans 6:17-18, 21-22
 3. It is more valuable than anything the world has to offer for in it we find Christ and we learn to know Him and the power of His resurrection – Philippians 3:8-11
- b. "I Will Not Forget Your Word"
 - i. This calls for memorizing and being able to recall what God's Word says
 - ii. It means being dedicated to reading, learning and living in God's Word

III. Daniel's Resolution Concerning A Clean Life – Daniel 1:8

- a. The Testimony Of A Teenager
 - i. In Daniel's heart he decided to be different, to be holy
 - ii. We too can be holy as God is holy – Colossians 1:19-23
 - iii. We can be different as well by laying aside the old self and be renewed putting on our new self through the Holy Spirit – Ephesians 4:20-27
 - iv. Holy living always pays dividends – 2 Corinthians 6:16-7:1

What will be your resolutions for Christ?