

A Christian's Resolutions
Philippians 2:1-16
Series: Topical

1. Introduction:

- a. Many people around this time make resolution.
- b. The most popular New Year's resolutions are:
 - i. Lose Weight – Get Fit – Eat Healthy
 - ii. Quit Smoking
 - iii. Get a Better Education
 - iv. Get a Better Job
 - v. Save Money – Manage Debt
 - vi. Manage Stress
 - vii. Drink Less Alcohol
- c. None of the most popular resolutions are centered on living more Godly and spiritually mature lives.
- d. America is dying spiritually and we are concerned with things, that although might be important, that are not the most crucial in saving our country.
- e. I want to challenge you today to make resolutions/goals that will contribute to a spiritually healthy you, family, church, and community.

2. Verses 1-2 – Like mindedness

- a. One of the first resolutions we should make as Christian is to be like minded with other bible-believing, conservative Christians.
 - i. The plea that Paul makes is based on several factors:
 - 1. Is there any encouragement in Christ
 - a. Is there any weight of value in Christ's encouragement
 - 2. Any comfort from love
 - 3. Any participation in the Spirit
 - 4. Any affection and sympathy
- b. Verse 2 – complete my joy by – the joy of the minister
 - i. Same mind
 - ii. Same love
 - iii. In one accord

3. Verse 3 – Do nothing

- a. Selfish ambition

- b. Conceit
 - c. In humility count others more than yourself.
4. Verse 4 – looking out for your bretheren
- a. Looking out for the interest of others.
 - i. As Christians we have an affirmative duty to look out for one another.
 - ii. A Christian’s care for a fellow Christian is a duty that is sacred and one to which God demands adherence.
 - 1. **1 John 4:20** If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen.
5. Verse 5-8 – The mind of Christ
- a. Verse 5 – We are to have the mind of Christ – we have been given said mind when we came to Christ
 - i. **Romans 12:2** Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.
 - b. Verse 6 –
 - i. Christ renounced his prerogative as God and came in order to save us – this is the mind of Christ
 - c. Verse 7 – he emptied himself
 - i. Taking the form of a servant
 - 1. He gave up heavenly authority
 - ii. What, as Christians, should be our concern?
 - d. Verse 8 – he became obedient to the point of death
6. Verses 8-11
- a. Christ is exalted because of his great humility and for his great love by which he was willing to serve us.
 - b. Verse 9 – highly exalted
 - i. **Matthew 23:11-12** The greatest among you shall be your servant. (12) Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.
 - c. Verses 10-11 – exaltation

- i. **Romans 8:18** For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.
- 7. Verse 12-13
 - a. Obedience
 - i. **John 14:23** Jesus answered him, "If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him.
 - b. Working out our salvation
 - i. Sanctification with fear and trembling
 - 1. **1 Peter 1:15** but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct,
 - c. God is working in us
- 8. Verse 14 – Do all things without grumbling or disputing
 - a. **Hebrews 13:17** Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.
- 9. Verse 15 – Blameless
 - a. **1 Peter 3:16** having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame.
- 10. Verse 16 – holding on to the word of life
 - a. **Psalms 119:105-106** Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. (106) I have sworn an oath and confirmed it, to keep your righteous rules.
- 11. Benediction –
 - a. **Philippians 4:7-9** And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (8) Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. (9) What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me--practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.