Resolutions That Will Work

Greg Kline · Deuteronomy 17:14–20

INTRODUCTION

- We have an opportunity to grow in our service to Him, to grow in our understanding of how mighty, powerful, holy, and great He is.
- If we want to have resolutions that work, if we want to grow in our service to God, we have to recognize three things this morning.

1 The King Must Not Acquire for Himself

Deuteronomy 17:16–17; 1 Kings 11:1–8

- If that king is chosen by God from among his people, we would recognize that God has control and that his ways must be followed.
- God did not want his people to return there, but the key that you're going to see in this list is to not acquire for himself.
- When Solomon was old, his wives turned away his heart after other gods, and his heart was not wholly true to the Lord his God.

2 First of All, We Have to Know God

1 Timothy 6:10

- If we're going to have resolutions that work in the new year, first of all, we have to know God.
- The very essence of each of these is a lack of trust in God, not only that his ways will come to pass, but that his ways are best.
- He didn't trust that what God said was true. He didn't trust what God said was necessary. And he chose to do it his own way rather than God's way.
- The love of money, it changes our internal compass. It changes our trust.

3 The King Must Write, Read, and Do the Law

Deuteronomy 17:18–20

- He shall write for himself in a book a copy of this law, approved by the Levitical priest.
- That he may learn to fear the Lord his God by keeping all the words of this law and these statutes and doing them.
- The king must know the law, read it, meditate on it, and in so doing it will guide our actions.
- Unless we know God, unless we trust him, we will not do what he says.

4 Trust the Lord, Even When Life Is Hard

Joshua 1:2–9; Ephesians 5:16

- First of all, we need to trust the Lord, even when life is hard.

- Be strong and very courageous, being careful to do according to all the law that Moses, my servant commanded you.
- Do not be frightened, do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.
- I have to be looking. I have to be waiting for opportunity actively.

5 Truly Accept That God's Ways Are Best

Isaiah 55:8–9; 1 Peter 3:1–7

- If we're going to grow in our faith and our understanding of what it means to be a child of God, we have to truly accept that God's ways are best.
- God's ways are higher than our ways, his thoughts are higher than our thoughts.
- It's pretty easy to trust that God's ways are best when life is going well.
- The problems we have are when we don't act the way God tells us to.

6 Seizing the Opportunity: Set, Seek, and Separate

Colossians 3:1–10

- Any problem, any situation that we might be struggling with is solved by seizing the opportunity.
- I have to be willing to set, seek, and separate.
- If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.
- It's wonderful to know my God is greater than my weakness.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **If you're inexperienced, find someone who's experienced. If you consider yourself wise, having gone through a lot of challenges in this life, find someone and prevent them from following in the footsteps that are separate from Christ.**

MY NOTES