

# 4 Resolutions

## To an AMAZING 2015!

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desert breeze  
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You can't control what will happen to you in 2015 but you can control how you respond, which reveals your character. Your circumstances matter far less to your happiness than you think, it's more about character. Your character is the sum total of your choices. We make our choices and then our choices make us (Josh24:15).

TO RESOLVE: to decide, settle, determine, purpose  
RESOLUTION: a firm determination to do something

Most resolutions are shallow based on fear and/or pride and don't last. Resolutions that last are much deeper based on a heart captivated by God.

Hebrews 11:23-27

### I RESOLVE...

**1) To be defined by God and not by people.** V24 *By faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter.*

- God did not make you to be what someone else wants you to be. Rom12:2
- It's more about what you want (to be accepted & liked) than what people say, do or think. Pro29:25
- When you hang out in the throne room of a Holy God you aren't as easily dominated by the opinions of mere humans who are just like you. Rom1:7, 19:23, 14:26-27

**2) To enjoy the promises of God more than the promises of sin.** V25 *choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin.*

- Sin has power over us through its promise of pleasure.
- The power of sin's promise is broken by the power of God's promise. Titus2:11-12
- A life of pain with God is infinitely & eternally more satisfying than a life of pleasure without Him. Ps73:3, 13, 17, 25-26; 84:10

**3) To be shaped by the values of God's Word rather than the values of this world.** V26 *He considered the reproach of Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking to the reward.*

- The values of this world: To look good (v24 son of Pharaoh's daughter), feel good (v25 pleasures of sin) & have all the goods (v26 treasures of Egypt). 1Jn2:15-17; Matt4:1-11
- The values of God's Word: God's purpose is more valuable than popularity (Phil1:21, 3:8). People are more valuable than pleasure (Acts20:35; 2Cor8:1-4). Peace of mind is more valuable than possessions (Pro15:17, 17:1).

**4) To live by faith and not by fear.** V27 *By faith he left Egypt, not being afraid of the anger of the king, for he endured as seeing him who is invisible.*

- Faith is truth about God entering your head (Notitia/content), igniting your heart (Assensus/Conviction) & outworking through your hands (Fiducia/Commitment). Heb11:1, 6
- It's not the size but the object of your faith that matters most. The more you get to know the object of your faith the more it will soar. Matt17:20; Rom10:17; Ps9:9-10
- The closer you get to God through spiritual disciplines the less fear you'll have. 1Tim4:7-8; 2Tim3:16-17; 1Jn4:18-19

### Growing Notes

**1)** What kind of advice would you give to someone wanting 2015 to be a great year? Why do you think most New Year resolutions don't last? What's the difference between fear/pride vs. love for God motivated resolutions?

**2)** Read Hebrews 11:23-27. What do you like most about this text? Review the four resolutions from the life of Moses along with sub points & cross reference. Which one(s) most resonate with you? Explain.

**3)** You can't control what will happen to you in 2015 but you can control how you respond. Explain. How might these resolutions help you to respond to whatever 2015 may bring making it a God glorifying year?

**4)** What are some next steps you can begin to take to reinforce these resolutions in your life? Make each of these resolutions your prayer.