

I Am Resolved

Resolve is “a firm determination to do something.” A Christian with resolve doesn’t simply think or talk about doing something; he gets up and actually does it.

A great psalm that teaches resolve is Psalm 101. (Take a moment to read it.) In this psalm, the author says “I will” over and over again. His many “I wills” show his resolve, from “I will sing” in the first verse, to “I will destroy” in the last verse. Let’s see what resolve will do for you.

Resolve will keep you from making excuses (Ezekiel 18:14); it comes from focusing on God’s word, not on circumstances or environment. Resolve will keep you from worldliness (Daniel 1:8; 3:16-17; 6:10); it comes from a heart settled ahead of time concerning what is right. Resolve will keep you from remaining in your sin (Luke 15:18); it comes from realizing what it means to be truly “lost” and “found”.

What else will resolve do? Resolve will keep you pressing toward the goal of heaven (Philippians 3:14); it comes from focusing on God’s will, not your own will. Resolve will keep you busy in the Lord’s work (John 4:4; Rom. 1:14-16); it comes from recognizing the urgency of salvation. Resolve will cause you to accept the Lord’s invitation (Revelation 22:17); it comes from appreciating Christ’s offer.

Like the psalmist, say more “I will” and less “I won’t”! - *Chris Reeves*

News & Notes

Please mark your calendar with the following important dates...

June 4-8: VBS

Warfield Blvd. church of Christ
290 Warfield Blvd.
Clarksville, TN 37043

Website
WBCOC.org

Assembly Times
Sunday: 9:30 am, 10:30 am, 6 pm
Wednesday: 7 pm

Everyone Is Welcome!
For More Information Call
(931) 647-1324

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For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses.
- 2 Corinthians 10:3-4 -

I Have Been Redeemed

We are familiar with the word “redeem” when it comes to our coupons that we use at the store. When we “redeem” a coupon, we exchange a piece of paper (the coupon) representing a particular amount of money for that amount of money or for goods that amount to that value. In the Bible, God through his Son, Jesus Christ, pays the price to “redeem” all mankind out of their sin and into salvation.

Redemption: The Need

Mankind needs redemption because all have sinned (Romans 3:23). Zacharias, John the Baptist’s father, praised God this way: “Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; for he has visited and worked redemption for his people” (Luke 1:68).

“Redemption” means deliverance or release (Greek *lutrosis*, *lutroo*). It can be physical deliverance from trouble (Luke 21:28; Acts 7:35; Romans 8:23; Hebrews 11:35), or spiritual deliverance from sin (Luke 2:38; 24:21).

“Redemption” is a releasing for (on payment of) a ransom price. We have been enslaved; in bondage to sin, and we need deliverance from that sin (JActs 26:18; Colossians 1:13-14).

Redemption: The Place

Mankind can be redeemed in Jesus Christ. Paul wrote: “being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus” (Romans 3:24). We have redemption in Christ alone and none other (1 Corinthians 1:30).

Redemption: The Result

Mankind can be redeemed in Jesus Christ resulting in forgiveness. Paul wrote: “in whom we have our redemption, the forgiveness of our sins” (Colossians 1:14).

We need redemption because we need forgiveness from sin and transgressions. We need deliverance from the guilt and the power of sin (Hebrews 9:15).

Redemption: The Cost

Jesus Christ paid the cost (redeemed the coupon, if you will) for our forgiveness. Paul wrote: “in whom we have our redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace” (Ephesians 1:7).

We have been bought with a purchase price — Jesus’ blood (Matthew 20:28; Mark 10:45; Acts 20:28; 1 Corinthians 6:19-20; 7:23; Hebrews 9:12-15; 1 Peter 1:18-

19; 2:19).

We have to apply the blood (in baptism) in order to get the redemption. We are baptized for the forgiveness of our sins (Acts 2:38; 22:16).

Redemption: The Goal

Mankind is redeemed for a particular divine reason or purpose. Paul wrote: “which is an earnest of our inheritance, unto the redemption of God's own possession, unto the praise of his glory” (Ephesians 1:14)

We have been redeemed in order to belong to God each day, to praise him, to be pure, and to serve him each day (Ephesians 4:30; Titus 2:14).

Some today do not consider the need for redemption and how enslaving sin can be. Some do not consider the cost of redemption and how valuable the church is. Some do not consider the goal of redemption and how busy they need to be in the Lord’s service each day.

Friend, please consider the need, the place, the result, the cost, and the goal of your redemption. Will you be redeemed today? - Chris Reeves