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THE SURE WORD By Jonnie Hutchison

I AM RESOLVED!

As each New Year begins it is a common practice to make resolutions to improve oneself. Some resolve to improve themselves physically by eating less, exercising more, and losing weight. Some resolve to improve relationships, to be a better more loving parent or spouse, to spend more time with family or to make new friends. Others resolve to mend relationships to seek or offer forgiveness for some wrong done. A few resolve to improve themselves spiritually by becoming Christians and living as faithful servants of the Lord. All of these are worthy resolutions though some are more important than others. However, following through on resolutions made is the key to reaching one's goal. The words of the song "I Am Resolved" urge each of us to consider the importance of spiritual resolutions – "I am resolved no longer to linger, charmed by the world's delight; Things that are higher, things that are nobler, these have allured my sight. I am resolved to go to the Savior, Leaving my sin and strife. He is the true one He is the just one He has the words of life.

" We have faced many challenges this past year, and, if the Lord allows this world to continue, we will face additional challenges in the years to come. The question for each of us is, "Will I face the challenges of this life with or without my Lord?"

Sin is not the figment of someone's imagination. Sin is a reality and so are the consequences of sin. Sin is the transgression of God's spiritual law which is revealed in the New Testament for those of us who live this side of the cross of Christ (1 John 3:4). What one earns by choosing to continue in the practice of sin is spiritual death (Romans 6:23). But those who resolve to accept God's offer of salvation through Jesus Christ and follow through by obeying what God commands for forgiveness escape the horrible eternal consequences of sin. To believe Jesus Christ is the Son of God (John 8:24), to turn from sin in repentance (Acts 17:30), to confess faith in Christ (Romans 10:9-10) and to be immersed in water into the death of Jesus there to reach His cleansing blood (Romans 6:3-4; Mark 16:16), allows one to be freed from the bondage of sin and gives one the hope of eternal life (Titus 3:7).

Will you say, "I am resolved! I will hasten to him Hasten so glad and free. Jesus greatest highest, I will come to thee." Join us Sundays at 10:00 am for worship and Wednesdays at 7:00 pm for Bible study. Call us at 270-978-7569.