

THE BELLEVILLE MESSENGER

December 26

2021

Be Resolved...

With a new year being just around the corner, many are beginning to make their New Year resolutions (i.e. they are resolving to do something). With that said, it's important to note that the phrase "be resolved" means, "to be firmly determined to do something." So, with that thought in mind, I encourage us all to strive to be resolved spiritually this upcoming New Year.

Be Resolved To Always Put God First.

We must put God first in our lives (Matthew 6:33). If you have been neglecting to put God first in your life, you are encouraged to be resolved to put God first in your life this New Year. For Jesus informed, "*You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind*" (Matthew 22:37). Therefore, hold on to those words of Jesus, love the Lord thy God, and be resolved to always put Him first in your life.

Be Resolved To Attend Every Service.

In Psalm 122:1, David declared, "*I was glad when they said to me; Let us go into the house of the Lord.*"

Brethren, may we all possess the same attitude as David, and may we all be excited about, and look forward to every opportunity that we have to come together to serve the Lord this New Year. Be resolved to be one who attends every service, and resolve to serve the Lord with gladness (Psalm 100:2) in the upcoming New Year.

Be Resolved To Be An Encouragement To Others.

Brethren, whether we realize it or not, we all need encouragement. You see, it is very important that we all diligently strive to encourage one another, lest we become hardened through the deceitfulness of sin (Hebrews 3:12-13). Therefore, let's be resolved to be an encouragement to others this New Year, and let's always pursue the things which make for peace and the things by which one may edify another (Romans 14:19).

Be Resolved To Read The Bible Every Day.

The apostle Paul informed, "*So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God*" (Romans 10:17). You see, the Bible is God's all inspired word (2 Timothy 3:16), and as Paul said, God's word is the source of faith. Therefore, be resolved to imitate the noble Bereans of old, and search the Scriptures daily (Acts 17:11) this New Year.

Be Resolved To Pray Daily.

Prayer is the avenue we take to communicate with God, and my beloved brethren, we always ought to pray and not lose heart (Luke 18:1). Knowing that, let's all be resolved to pray daily this New Year, or as Paul would say, "*pray without ceasing*" (1 Thessalonians 5:17), and let's

continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving (Colossians 4:2) in the upcoming New Year.

Be A Soul-Winner For Jesus.

In Matthew 9:37, Jesus said, *“The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few.”* You see, the world is full of sin-sick souls that are in need of the gospel of Christ. So, let’s all be resolved to share the precious gospel of Christ with others this New Year, remembering that it is the power of God unto salvation to all who believe (Romans 1:16). Therefore, be a soul-winner for Jesus this upcoming New Year, and never forget, *“...he who wins souls is wise”* (Proverbs 11:30).

Be Resolved To Go To Heaven.

Contrary to the belief of some, heaven is for real, and in Matthew 25:34, Jesus revealed that heaven was prepared from the foundation of the world. However, we must all understand that heaven is a prepared place for a prepared people. Therefore, be resolved to do the will of our Father in heaven (Matthew 7:21) this upcoming New Year. Be resolved to always press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus (Philippians 3:14). For by doing so, someday your citizenship will forever be in heaven (Philippians 3:20).

My friend, these are just a few things that I encourage us to be firmly determined to do, not only in the upcoming New Year, but also for the rest of our lives. So, once more, I encourage you, “Be Resolved.”

✍ Brad Phillips

Final Issue For 2021

As we look at the calendar, we notice that only a few days remain in 2021. Therefore, as noted in the title of this article, this will be the final issue of “The Belleville Messenger” for 2021.

Knowing that, I hope that the articles that have been published in “The Belleville Messenger” this past year have been of help, and encouraging to you, as you seek to examine the articles published in this bulletin, in the light of God’s all inspired word.

It hardly seems possible that another year is nearly gone, and that my family and I are about to conclude our second full year, and enter into our third year of laboring in the Lord with you all here at Belleville.

With that said, I would like to express my thanks and appreciation to all of the brethren here at Belleville for your continued support and encouragement to my family and I during this past year. We look forward to laboring in the Lord with you in 2022, and we pray God’s richest blessings upon you all during the upcoming New Year.

✍ Brad Phillips

Belleville church of Christ

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www.bellevillechurch.net

Schedule of Services

Sunday Bible Study	9:30 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship	10:30 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship	5:00 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study	7:00 p.m.

Evangelist

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