

INTRODUCTION.

- A. Scripture text: **John 17:1-4**.
- B. Many will make New Year's Resolutions only to later break them.
- C. I want to stress that we make an everyday resolution that can more easily be kept.
- D. My everyday resolution is to glorify God. To live is such a way that God will not be ashamed of my actions, and that by what I do and say makes Him look good.
- E. Jesus glorified God in His life and we must do the same in ours.

I. GLORIFY GOD BY **ASKING FOR THE RIGHT BLESSINGS** (Jn. 17:1).

These things Jesus spoke; and lifting up His eyes to heaven, He said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify Thy Son, that the Son may glorify Thee,

- A. Jesus is asking that God glorify Him, so that He in turn can glorify God.
- B. This throws an interesting light on prayer. We should be asking for the blessings that can be used in giving more glory to God.
- C. If we do this we will not be praying selfishly (Jas. 4:2-4).
You lust and do not have; so you commit murder. And you are envious and cannot obtain; so you fight and quarrel. You do not have because you do not ask. 3 You ask and do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, so that you may spend it on your pleasures. 4 You adulteresses, do you not know that friendship with the world is hostility toward God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.
- D. Do your personal prayers amount only as a check list? Or do they show forth praise and glory?
- E. By doing the will of God and not our own we glorify God and not ourselves.
- F. *My everyday resolution is to try to ask for the right blessings.*

II. GLORIFY GOD **THAT OTHERS MIGHT KNOW GOD** (Jn. 17:2-3).

even as Thou gavest Him authority over all mankind, that to all whom Thou hast given Him, He may give eternal life. 3 "And this is eternal life, that they may know Thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom Thou hast sent.

- A. Jesus told others about His heavenly Father by His reputation.
The rich young ruler called Him "good." Do we have a good reputation? See Mk. 10:17-18
And as He was setting out on a journey, a man ran up to Him and knelt before Him, and began asking Him, "Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" 18 And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good except God alone.
- B. Jesus told others about His heavenly Father by His teachings.
The rich young ruler called Him "teacher." Do we teach the word to others? See Mk. 10:17-18.
- C. Jesus told others about His heavenly Father by doing things for others, namely miracles of benevolence. Are we busy doing for others? See Mt. 4:23.
And Jesus was going about in all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every kind of disease and every kind of sickness among the people.
- D. *My everyday resolution is to try to live so that others might know God.*

III. GLORIFY GOD **IN ACCOMPLISHING HIS WORK** (Jn. 17:4).

"I glorified Thee on the earth, having accomplished the work which Thou hast given Me to do."

- A. Jesus work was to seek and save the lost (Lk. 19:10).
For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost."
- B. We have the same task today (Mt. 28:19; Mk. 16:15; Eph. 3:10; 2Tim. 2:2).
*(Mt 28:19) "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit,
(Mk 16:15) And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.
(Eph 3:10) in order that the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known through the church to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenly places.*

(2Tim 2:2) And the things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, these entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also.

- C. Jesus lived the greatest commandment and we should too (Mt. 22:37-39).
And He said to him, “‘YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND.’ 38 “This is the great and foremost commandment. 39 “The second is like it, ‘YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.’
- D. To live life in such a way that people see God (Mt. 5:16).
“Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.”
- E. *My everyday resolution is to do God's work.*

IV. **GLORIFY GOD IN LIVING A JOYFUL LIFE (Jn. 17:13).**

“But now I come to Thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they may have My joy made full in themselves.”

- A. I believe that happiness should result from doing the right thing. Happiness is not an “end in and of itself,” but rather a “by-product” that comes from being and doing right by God.
- B. In the beatitudes (Mt. 5) to be blessed (or happy) is the one who does the right thing:
 - 1. (5:3) “Blessed are the poor in spirit,”
 - 2. (5:4) “Blessed are those who mourn,”
 - 3. (5:5) “Blessed are the gentle,”
 - 4. (5:6) “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,”
 - 5. (5:7) “Blessed are the merciful,”
 - 6. (5:8) “Blessed are the pure in heart,”
 - 7. (5:9) “Blessed are the peacemakers,”
 - 8. (5:10) “Blessed are those who have been persecuted for the sake of righteousness,”
- C. As I spoke about this morning joy (from Phil. 4) can come from:
 - 1. Living at peace with one another.
 - 2. Realizing that the Lord is always near.
 - 3. Praying to God.
 - 4. Having the peace of God in our hearts.
- D. *My everyday resolution is to live a joyful life.*

CONCLUSION AND INVITATION.

- A. Let our everyday resolution, beginning today be to glorify God. Resolve to:
 - 1. Ask for the right blessings.
 - 2. Live so that others will come to know God.
 - 3. Do the work of God.
 - 4. Live a joyful life.
- B. Plan of salvation for non-Xians; erring Xians.