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# NEW YEAR'S DAY

## RESOLUTIONS

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### *1 John 4:4*

As you tear off that last leaf of your day-by-day calendar, think of it this way: “I’m starting clean, with a new leaf. Or, to be more exact, 365 new leaves (one more, of course, if it’s leap year).

It’s a good time to look backward—to finally analyze the soon-to-be-ending past 365 days, and planning the next 365 (or 366). Think back. Just what resolutions did you make when you entered this year? Be honest now: how many are actually unbroken? How long did most of them last? Which one did you totally forget about, or ignore?

Resolutions have no value whatsoever if they are ignored. Their essential purposes and objectives are worthless unless adhered to consistently. Benjamin Franklin was aware of some personal habits that he considered counter-productive to good living, and he drew up a set of resolutions to guide him in conquering those habits. He had only the best of intentions. To his chagrin, however, he found himself in violation of one after another until he was obliged to admit he had not progressed at all!

We who are Christ’s have available precise and proper power to make and keep each resolution. This power is the indwelling Holy Spirit!

*Brant Lee Doty*

When you were buried to sin in your baptism, you began a new life with the Spirit of God as a resident of your heart, a guide for your life.

Listen to Him! He will guide you in distinguishing good and evil. When He speaks—silently, but clearly through your educated conscience—listen!

Then follow His guidance.