I Am Resolved

Prepared by Nathan L Morrison for Sunday December 31st, 2017

Text: II Cor. 13:5

### Intro

1. As one year fades into the archives of history, many people turn their attention on the new year.
   1. Many will make resolutions – most or all won’t be kept.
   2. Resolution: To declare one’s opinion, intent or purpose; determination (Webster’s)
2. Resolutions are silly and seem to be made in jest – But close spiritual examination is needed!
   1. II Cor. 13:5: “Test yourselves to see if you are in the faith; examine yourselves! Or do you not recognize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you--unless indeed you fail the test?”
3. There are resolutions that must be kept if we are to spend eternity with God!
   1. Resolved: Firm in purpose or intent; determined (Webster’s College Dictionary)
4. “I Am Resolved” (1896) by Palmer Hartsough (1844-1932)
   1. Palmer Hartsough was a Baptist preacher and music teacher and lyrics composer.
   2. In 1893, he moved to Cin­cin­na­ti, Ohio, where he joined the Fill­more Mu­sic Com­pa­ny – in his lifetime he wrote over a thousand hymns.
   3. I Am Resolved, was composed in 1896. The tune (Endeavor) was composed by James Henry Fillmore (1849-1936).
   4. The song was produced in 1896 as a delegation song for Ohio representatives at the World Endeavor Convention in San Francisco, CA, to honor its founder, Frances E. Clark. Fourteen trains of people sang it from Ohio to San Francisco.
   5. Its first hymnbook appearance was in *The Praise Hymnal,* published by Fillmore (1896).
5. In our walk with God there are many things about which we must be able to say, “I Am Resolved!”

#### I Am Resolved: Not to be Charmed by the World

* 1. Stanza 1 says that we must be resolved no longer to linger!
     1. “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.”
  2. We should linger no longer because now is the accepted time for salvation!
     1. II Cor. 6:2; Heb. 3:1: Saints are “partakers of a heavenly calling.”
  3. However, the world tempts us to linger longer by its delights:
     1. I Jn. 2:15-16: Not to love the world! *(Mt. 6:19-21; Mk. 8:36; Col. 3:2).*
     2. Heb. 11:25; I Jn. 2:17: The world and its “passing pleasures of sin” will one day “pass away” – the one who obeys God will live forever!
  4. Yet, if we set our affections on things that are higher and nobler, they will encourage us not to linger! (II Cor. 4:16-18; Phil. 4:8; Col. 3:1-2)
  5. The world and all it contains will one day perish – where is your treasure laid up?

#### I Am Resolved: To Go to the Savior

* 1. Stanza 2 says that we must be resolved to go to the Savior!
     1. "I am resolved to go to the Savior, Leaving my sin and strife; He is the true One, He is the just One, He hath the words of life."
  2. Jesus Christ came to be the Savior of the world:
     1. Mt. 1:21, Lk. 19:10, I Tim. 1:15: It was His mission to “seek and save the lost!”
  3. He wants us to come to Him for salvation:
     1. Mt. 11:28-30; Jn. 6:66-68: Peter summed it up, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have words of eternal life.”
  4. Our coming to Him requires both faith and obedience:
     1. Mk. 16:16; Acts 22:16; Heb. 5:9; 11:6: He saves “those who obey Him.”
  5. Despite what others around us do, are you resolved to “go to the Savior?”

#### I Am Resolved: To Follow the Savior

* 1. Stanza 3 says that we must be resolved to follow the Savior!
     1. "I am resolved to follow the Savior, Faithful and true each day, Heed what He sayeth, do what He willeth; He is the living way."
  2. Jesus came to be not only our Savior but also our Lord:
     1. Mt. 7:21, Lk. 2:10-11; Jn. 20:28: He is our Lord and our God! *(Jn. 14:6)*
  3. It is not enough just to come to Him in obedience (baptism), but we must continue to follow Him as the Lord!
     1. Lk. 9:23; Jn. 8:31; Rev. 2:10: We must “continue in His word” and be “faithful till death” to receive the eternal reward!
  4. To that intent, He left us an example that we should follow in His steps (Jn. 13:13-15).
  5. Many follow their own path – Are you resolved to follow after Him each day?

#### I Am Resolved: To Enter the Kingdom

#### Stanza 4 says that we must be resolved to enter the kingdom!

* + 1. "I am resolved to enter the kingdom, Leaving the paths of sin; Friends may oppose me, foes may beset me, Still will I enter in."
  1. The kingdom of the Lord is His church:
     1. Mt. 16:18-19; Col. 1:13: Those obedient to the gospel are added to His church *(NKJ: Acts 2:47: The Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved)*
  2. One purpose of the kingdom (church) on earth is to sound forth the truth so that the world might hear it and be saved!

1. Eph. 3:8-10; I Thess. 1:8; I Tim. 3:15: The church is the “manifold wisdom of God” and should “sound forth the word of the Lord!” (the gospel – “Good News”)
   1. By living godly lives *(II Pet. 1:5-11)* we ensure our entrance into the “eternal kingdom!”
      1. II Pet. 1:10-11: “The entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will be abundantly supplied to you.” *(I Pet. 1:4: Reserved in Heaven)*
   2. Many don’t plan on their eternal destination: are you resolved to enter Heaven?

## Conclusion

1. The chorus continues to emphasize the need of this resolution to come to Christ:
   1. "I will hasten to Him, Hasten so glad and free; Jesus, greatest, highest, I will come to Thee."
2. Nothing wrong with making resolutions, but let us make sure to keep the eternal ones!
3. Let us all be able to say, “I Am Resolved to follow the Savior!”
4. If not a Christian, you need to be! Don’t wait for a new year! Repent and be baptized ***NOW!***
5. If a Christian in error, make the corrections needed ***NOW!*** Repent & be renewed!
6. Whatever your requests, let them be made known ***NOW*** while we stand & sing!

“I Am Resolved”

By Palmer Hartsough (1844-1932)

<http://homeschoolblogger.com/hymnstudies/553752/>

<http://www.cyberhymnal.org/bio/h/a/r/hartsough_p.htm>



*Born:* May 7, 1844, Red­ford, Mi­chi­gan.

*Died:* Oc­to­ber 24, 1932, Ply­mouth, Mi­chi­gan.

*Pseudonym:* Uncle Frank.

Son of Wells and Thank­ful Palm­er Har­tsough, Palm­er at­tend­ed Kal­a­ma­zoo Coll­ege and Mich­i­gan State Nor­mal. Af­ter work­ing as a tra­vel­ing sing­ing teach­er in Mich­i­gan, Il­li­nois, Io­wa, Ohio, Ken­tucky, and Ten­nes­see, Hart­sough opened a mu­sic stu­dio in Rock Is­land, Il­li­nois, around 1877, and directed the music at a Bap­tist church there. In 1893, he moved to Cin­cin­na­ti, Ohio, where he joined the Fill­more Mu­sic Com­pa­ny. In Cin­cin­na­ti, he act­ed as mu­sic di­rect­or at the Be­thel Miss­ion and at the Ninth Street Bap­tist Church. Hart­sough was or­dained a Bap­tist min­is­ter in 1906, preaching in On­tar­io, Mi­chi­gan from 1914 to 1927, when he retired. He then re­turned to Ply­mouth, Mi­chi­gan, where he lived the rest of his life.

The hymn, I Am Resolved, was composed in 1896. The tune (Endeavor) was composed by James Henry Fillmore (1849-1936). The song was produced in 1896 as a delegation song for Ohio representatives at the World Endeavor Convention in San Francisco, CA, to honor its founder, Frances E. Clark. Fourteen trains of people sang it from Ohio to San Francisco. After the convention, Fillmore asked Hartsough to change the words a little bit for a wider audience. Its first hymnbook appearance was in *The Praise Hymnal*, published by Fillmore (1896).

He was a prolific author of texts for hymns, producing more than a thousand of them. He never married, but was very close to his two sisters and wrote them a weekly letter for many years.

**Lyrics:**

1. "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."
2. "I am resolved to go to the Savior, Leaving my sin and strife;  
   He is the true One, He is the just one, He hath the words of life."
3. "I am resolved to follow the Savior, Faithful and true each day,  
   Heed what He sayeth, do what He willeth; He is the living way."
4. "I am resolved to enter the kingdom, Leaving the paths of sin;  
   Friends may oppose me, foes may beset me, Still will I enter in."
5. "I am resolved, and who will go with me? Come, friends, without delay;  
   Taught by the Bible, led by the Spirit, We’ll walk the heavenly way."

**Chorus:**

"I will hasten to Him, Hasten so glad and free; Jesus, greatest, highest, I will come to Thee."