6 “I Wills” for 1998

(A Challenge from David’s Resolutions)

Psalm 101:1-8

12/27/1998

INTRODUCTION:

Note the continual phrase: "I will" (v. 1-8)

***You need to make the resolutions David did!**

6 Vital Resolutions:

I. I will guard my SONG (v. 1)
(A resolution about what I sing)

II. I will guard my STEPS (v. 2a)
(A resolution about where I go)

III. I will guard my HOME (v. 2b)
(A resolution about what I do)

IV. I will guard my EYES (v. 3)
(A resolution about what I see)

V. I will guard my HEART (v. 4)
(A resolution about what I am)

VI. I will guard my FRIENDS (v. 5-8)
A resolution about who I associate with)

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INTRODUCTION:
Note the continual phrase: "I will" (v. 1-8)

Key words in Psalm 101 -

> "I will" (a good Psalm for "New Year's Resolutions"). The phrase shows the determination and resolve of David to please God.

He, like Daniel, determined in his heart that he would do and not do certain things.

We all need grit and backbone, courage and will power to firmly say within ourselves: "I will or will not do . . ."

You will never do what you do not determine to do!

***You need to make the resolutions David did!**

6 Vital Resolutions:

I. I will guard my SONG (v. 1)
(A resolution about what I sing)

"I will sing . . . will I sing" - the repeated assertion shows the great determination David had to sing to God.

God exhorts us to such singing (Ps. 100:1-2)

"Mercy" = the loving loyalty of God. A hymn like: "Great is Thy Faithfulness" is what David has in mind.

"Judgment" = justice; the fairness, impartiality, equity of God. Hymns like "My God is a Righteous God" is what David had in mind.

"Unto Thee" - David's song is directed toward God (EX: Ps. 40:2; Col. 3:16)

II. I will guard my <u>STEPS</u> (v. 2a)
(A resolution about where I <u>go</u>)

"I will behave myself" = I will follow the right path

"Perfect way" - the path that is upright; the blameless path. The road free from defilement and shame

Ps. 1:1 - "Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful."

III. I will guard my <u>HOME</u> (v. 2b)
(A resolution about what I <u>do</u>)

"I will walk within <u>my house</u>" - David's domestic resolution.

The easiest place to let your guard down, yet the place where you should be the most upright is in your home.

"A perfect heart" - an upright, blameless, undefiled heart.

He does not say: "I will walk within my work place, or church (Temple), or neighborhood with a perfect heart; but within <u>my house</u>!"

Above all people, your family needs you to be at your best behavior.

If wives spoke as well to their husbands as they do to their bosses (and vice/versa), marriages would never crumble.

IV. I will guard my EYES (v. 3)
(A resolution about what I see)

You remember more of what you see than any other of your five senses.

Anything you see makes a permanent impression on your soul. The information that passes through your eye gate indelibly inscribes a message onto your mind.

"I will (purposely) set no . . ." - many times we cannot help what comes across our path in the streets of NYC. But you can control what comes into your living room. You can control the magazines you read, the television you watch, the videos you rent, the books you buy.

A recent survey revealed that the average person in America takes in 5,000 messages per day (via radio, TV, billboards, advertisements, etc.).

"Wicked thing" - Hebrew = "belial." A wicked thing refers to a thing of Belial or a thing of Satan!

No Christian should tolerate such evil. If so, he will feel miserable, stained, dirty. For "What concord (agreement; common ground) hath Christ with Belial?" (II Cor. 6:15).

EX: Job's covenant with his eyes - Job 31:1 - "I made a covenant with my eyes; why then should I look upon a maid?"

EX: the only thing the church father Chrysostum hated/feared was sin.

"I hate the work" - David is not saying that we should hate wicked people (EX: Mt. 5:44), but rather their wicked work (or deeds, actions, practices).

"Them that turn aside" = those who reveal their unbelief by deviating from the right way. Those who transgress and deliberately step all over God's laws.

"It shall not cleave to me" - David determines to not allow any evil work to cling to him. He would discard it or fling it away in horror like someone would throw away a leprous garment or a poisonous snake.

V. I will guard my HEART (v. 4)
(A resolution about what I am)

"Froward" = perverse; deceitful;' false.

David is saying: I am resolved to be genuine, real, true, bonified, unhypocritical.

Many times we spend more time worrying and hiding what we are than being what we should be.

Prov. 11:20 - "They that are of a froward heart are abomination to the LORD: but such as are upright in their way are His delight."

"I will not know a wicked person" - NOTE: The word person is italicized. The Hebrew reads: "I will know no evil" - speaking about David's desire to be internally pure; naive concerning experiencing evil.

I Cor. 14:20 - "Brethren, be not children in understanding: howbeit in malice be ye children, but in understanding be men."

Rom. 16:19 - "For your obedience is come abroad unto all men. I am glad therefore on your behalf: but yet I would have you wise unto that which is good, and simple concerning evil."

VI. I will guard my <u>FRIENDS</u> (v. 5-8)
A resolution about who I <u>associate with</u>)

V. 6

In verses 6-8 David gives a manifesto of ethical standards for his administration, only perfectly practiced by the Messiah in His future kingdom (Ryrie note).

A. Separate yourself from:

1. The gossipers (v. 5a)

   "Privily slandereth" - to secretly gossip about someone

2. The proud (v. 5b)

3. The deceitful (v. 7a)

4. The liars (v. 7b)

5. The wicked (v. 8)

B. Associate with:

1. The faithful (v. 6a)

2. The righteous (v. 6b)

CONCLUSION: