

**"The Ultimate Resolution!"**

Romans 12:1-2

INTRO: Every year, desiring change, million make New Year's Resolutions. Many barely make it to January 2, let alone all year. But what if there was an end-all resolution—the ultimate resolution? Paul gives us just such one that comes in two life-changing parts. Do this one, and you will have all the others covered.

I. RESOLVED: A SACRIFICIAL PRESENTATION - v. 1

1. The Causes Of Our Sacrifice

(1) Our Lord's Work

(2) Our Logical Worship

2. The Character Of Our Sacrifice

(1) It Must Be Perpetual

(2) It Must Be Pure

(3) It Must Be Pleasing To God

II. RESOLVED: A SEPARATING TRANSFORMATION - v. 2

1. The Process Of Our Transformation

(1) Be Not

(2) Be

2. The Proof Of Our Transformation

(1) His Good Will In Our Life

(2) His Acceptable (Well-pleasing) Will In Our Life

(3) His Perfect Will In Our Life

CONCL: Two warnings if you make this resolution. WARNING #1: your sin nature, the society, and Satan himself will oppose you. WARNING #2: your resolution must be renewed daily, even often in a day, because of that opposition. This resolution is not an easy one, it is just the best one. It is the one that the Lord Himself wants you to make. Are you ready? LET'S DO IT TOGETHER!!

**"No Longer The Babe Of Bethlehem!"**

Luke 2:39-52

INTRO: What was Jesus like growing up? Two Gospels do not even include the birth narrative. Of the two that do, only one, Luke, provides any insight into the life between Bethlehem (birth) and the beginning of ministry (age 30). This story completing the birth narrative of Luke 2 gives us a picture of the awesome character surrounding the growing up years of the Lord Jesus Christ.

I. THE CHARACTER OF THE HOME OF JESUS vv. 39-42

1. A Home Promoting Godly Development

2. A Home Promoting Godly Devotion

II. THE CHARACTER OF THE PARENTS OF JESUS vv. 43-48

1. They Were Caring Parents

2. They Were Confused Parents

III. THE CHARACTER OF THE MISSION OF JESUS vv. 46-50

1. A Confounding Mission

2. A Compulsory Mission

IV. THE CHARACTER OF THE LIFE OF JESUS vv. 51-52

1. A Life Demonstrating His Personhood

2. A Life Demonstrating His Purity

CONCL: No one goes from being a baby to instantly being an adult, yet for the most part that is our emphasis. But what of those years in between? Luke graciously gives us a peek inside—a peek which should challenge us not only to be like the adult Jesus, but also to imitate the 12-year-old Jesus. He is incredible!