

# Stand Firm For The Lord

(Part 1)

***“Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold, but the one who stands firm to the end will be saved.” (Matthew 24:12-13)***

There is an increasing wickedness all around the world and more temptation to pull the people out of the right way of life and godliness. Now the increasing corruption, compromising and lack of commitment and the irresponsibility in the people’s life and behaviour it might infect others and make their love to God and their commitment to Him less. You might say why I should work hard and do that and this while others are not doing anything of that. You might be also thinking while you are keep doing the right thing and diligent to obey all what God had commanded you but others who are keep doing wrong they are receiving and getting better thing. But do not be deceived even if the wicked are getting some better things now, this is only temporary but later on they will be judged and you will be rewarded. The Bible commends us to persevere and to stand firm on the Word of God and based our lives on what He says in His word and He will be the one to reward us.

***“Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.” (1 Corinthians 15:58)*** You should not be tempted with the circumstances around you and hold yourself back from serving the Lord fully. God will reward you for all your services if you are diligent and obedient to Him. Therefore, ***“Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong.” (1 Corinthians 16:13)***

You need to be alert and aware of what God wants you to do and what the circumstances around you calls for you to achieve. You need to know about the plan of God in your life that He had called you for eternity and you must be alert that the devil will try to oppose you to hinder you from doing God’s will and plan, ***“For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place.” (Ephesians 6:12-14)***

Life and all the struggles that might carry is something not easy to manage, as well as the battle against the Devil is not easy, but we must remember that the Lord who called us for His own glory and purpose will neither leave us nor forsake us. He will deal with our enemies and He will fight the battle for us, ***“You will not have to fight this battle. Take up your positions; stand firm and see the deliverance the LORD will give you.” (2 Chronicles 20:17)*** God will defend us and will not allow the devil to overpower us and oppress us. The devil will always try you and wants you to compromise and yield to His will. But you need to stand firm and hold on the sound teaching that you had received, ***“So then, brothers and sisters, stand firm and hold fast to the teachings we passed on to you, whether by word of mouth or by letter.” (2 Thessalonians 2:15)*** And if you have not received any teaching you need to be disciplined and trained according to the word of God,

***“All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.” (2 Timothy 3:16-17)*** The word of God will help you, guide you, correct you and instruct you how to follow God and train you how to stand against the power of darkness and how to serve God.

Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ stood firm on the cross, even He was alone with all the pain and suffering of the cross, therefore He brought us great victory. The same also will be for us, we will be persecuted because we want to keep His word and commands, but He commanded us to stand firm, ***“You will be hated by everyone because of me, but the one who stands firm to the end will be saved.” (Matthew 10:22)*** Certain times we are not standing firm because we are overwhelmed by the worries of this life, the deceitfulness of wealth and the desire of other things come in and choke the word of God and make us ineffective and shaken and cannot stand firm.

Certain time our focus will be shifted; we are no more focus on the Lord and on His word. But we are focus on power, position, prestige, as well as the pride and boasting inside us would hinder us from standing firm. We found ourselves dragged by our own emotion and prideful promises. Simone Peter the disciple of Jesus out of showing off and boasting he said to the Lord that even if everyone will leave him and escape he will stay with the Lord and even he is willing to go to the prison for the Lord. He wanted to tell to the Lord that he is better than others. At the time that Jesus arrested he kept following Jesus to the place that they arrested him because he want to keep what he said not out of love but to keep his face in what he promise to the Lord, adding to that his fear, his intermingling with the guards who arrested Jesus, and his lack of prayer in that period of his life with Christ, all that had pushed him to deny the Lord. But Jesus had already warned him that devil wants to take him away from the way of the Lord. ***“Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift all of you as wheat. But I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned back, strengthen your brothers.” (Luke 22:31-32)*** Simon out of his pride answered the Lord, ***“But he replied, “Lord, I am ready to go with you to prison and to death.” (Luke 22:33)*** But the Lord already knew what is inside of Peter, therefore, ***“Jesus answered, “I tell you, Peter, before the rooster crows today, you will deny three times that you know me.” (Luke 22:34)*** Although Simon denied the Lord three times, but praise be to the Lord that he corrected himself and repented and was restored.

***My Dear and Beloved:*** We need to stand firm. If we had been driven away by trials, opposition of the enemy or by our sinful nature and pride, today God is calling us back to be with Him and to stand firm; to come back to Him and serving Him wholeheartedly and walk in His ways and be good example to others to come back and follow the Lord and be deserving to Jesus promise, ***“But the one who stands firm to the end will be saved.” (Matthew 24:13)*** As we agree to pray.

***My Prayer:*** Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins and rose from the dead on the third day to give me eternal life. Lord I repent from the following sins \_\_\_\_\_. Lord I am coming back to you, receive me and uphold me with your grace to stand firm against all trials and temptations. This all I ask and pray in Jesus name, Amen.