

Stand

(Compiled by Paul R. Blake)

Introduction:

A. Eph. 6:10-18

1. God has always expected his people to stand.
2. The word "stand" is found 267 times in the Bible.
3. In Biblical usage, stand means "to be steadfast in what God would have one to stand."
4. Jer. 6:16; Ex. 9:13
5. God expects his people to stand.

I. THE BIBLE SAYS TO STAND

- A. No greater measure of faithfulness than standing - 1Cor. 15:1-2
 1. Need to stand in the Gospel that saved us in order to remain saved.
- B. Am I doing that? - Eph. 4:14
 1. Converting the Christians - Eph. 4:20-24

II. THE BIBLE SAYS STAND STILL

- A. Occasionally miss important matters because one isn't standing still
 1. Ex. 14:13
 2. Too often God's people rush around implementing their own solutions to crises instead of patiently waiting for God to supply His own infinitely better and more efficacious answer to the matter.
- B. Sometimes the best answer is to patiently stand still and let God handle it.
 1. "Let go and let God."

III. THE BIBLE SAYS STAND AND SEE

- A. 1Sam. 12:13-25
- B. Stand and see what?
 1. That actions have consequences; God responds to man's good or evil
 2. God said if you do what I say I will bless you. If you don't I will curse you
 3. Need to be impressed with what God can do.

IV. THE BIBLE SAYS STAND AND SPEAK

- A. Some times the Lord's people have to open their mouths and speak out.
- B. Acts 5:20 - "Go, stand, and speak."
- C. What to stand and speak about:
 1. Acts 5:21, 25, 27-33
 2. Eternal life is too vital and important to risk it over social niceties
 3. James 4:14, 17
- D. Stand and speak the words about life - Acts 20:25-29

V. THE BIBLE SAYS STAND AGAINST SIN AND ERROR

- A. Eph. 6:11 - says stand against the wiles of the devil
 1. Broad way to hell is easy; narrow way that leads to heaven is difficult.

- B. Many do not have the will to say no to sin and error.
 - 1. Prey animals in the talons or jaws of a predator have a massive endorphin release and cease struggling
 - 2. Some Christians respond to encroaching worldliness this way
 - 3. Some respond to error in the local church this way
 - 4. Stand against them; don't go to hell passively lying down

VI. THE BIBLE SAYS TO STAND FAST

- A. 1Cor. 16:13
- B. Matt. 7:13-14 - didn't say would be easy
- C. Sometimes you may have to stand alone. Others have, and so can you.
 - 1. 2Tim. 4:16-18
- D. Where?
 - 1. Gal. 5:1 - Stand fast in the Liberty
 - 2. Phil 1:27 - Stand fast in One Spirit
 - 3. Phil. 4:1; 1Thes. 3:8 - Stand fast in the Lord.
 - 4. 2Thes. 2:15 - Stand fast and hold the traditions

VII. THE BIBLE SAYS WE WILL STAND BEFORE GOD

- A. Rom. 14:10-12; 2Cor. 5:10

Conclusion:

- A. What about you? Have you been standing?
- B. First stand you will take is to obey the Gospel. Stand still and see the salvation of the Lord.
- C. As a Christian, stand fast in the Lord
- D. You say you have fallen and can't get up?
 - 1. Quit laying down that waiting to die and get up by means of repentance and confession of sins, and start standing for the Lord again.