

How does the Word of God command us to stand firm by faith, and live trusting God?

Joshua 1:9: "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the LORD your God *is* with you wherever you go."

1Timothy 6:12: "Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses."

Philippians 1:27: "Let your conduct be worthy of the gospel of Christ." Jude 3: "Contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints."

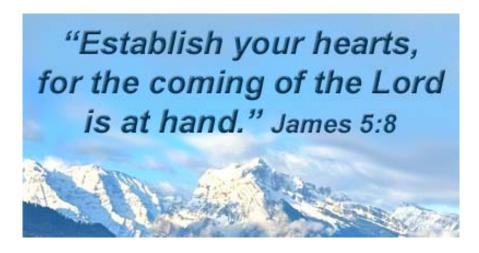
2Timothy 2:15: "Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

Romans 12:2: "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God."

2Timothy 4:5: "You should keep a clear mind in every situation. Don't be afraid of suffering for the Lord. Work at telling others the Good News, and fully carry out the ministry God has given you."

Ephesians 6:10: "Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might."

How strongly do I stand firm in the faith, so as to trust and honor God?



Why must we stand firm with God in following Christ?

Psalm 119:89-90: "Forever, O LORD, Your Word is settled in heaven. Your faithfulness *endures* to all generations."

Ephesians 6:12: "For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual *hosts* of wickedness in the heavenly places."

Matthew 24:11-13: "Many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. But he who endures to the end shall be saved."

Hebrews 3:14: "For we have become partakers of Christ if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast to the end."

Therefore:

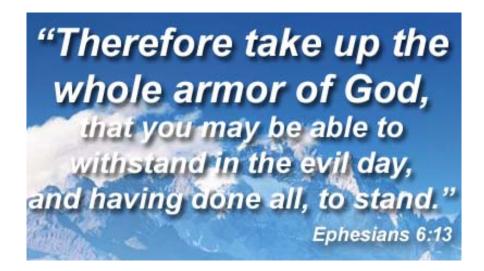
James 1:2-3: "Count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience."

Romans 5:3-4: "Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope."

Finally:

James 1:12: "Blessed *is* the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him."

Am I steadfast to stand firm with Christ in rejecting the world's temptations?



How can we stand firm in Christ in this evil world?

Colossians 1:10-11: "Walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing *Him,* being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, for all patience and longsuffering with joy."

Hebrews 12:1-2: "Let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God."

2Timothy 2:15: "Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

1Corinthians 15:58: "Be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain." Galatians 6:9: "And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart."

Proverbs 3:5-6: "Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths."

Do I understand clearly what standing firm in Christ requires?

"I am the vine,
you are the branches.
He who abides in Me,
and I in him, bears much fruit;
for without Me
you can do nothing."

John 15:5

Where do we find the guidance and power to always stand firmly in Christ?

1John 5:5: "Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?"

Our only secure source of knowledge being:

Hebrews 4:12: "The Word of God *is* living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart."

As a clear proof:

Acts 17:10-11: "As soon as it was night, the believers sent Paul and Silas away to Berea. On arriving there, they went to the Jewish synagogue. Now the Berean Jews were of more noble character than those in Thessalonica, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true."

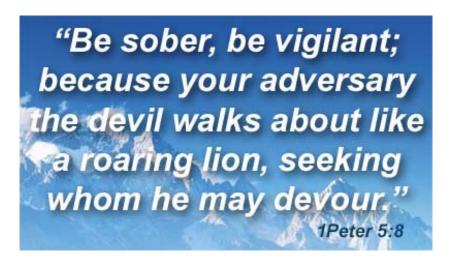
What's more?

John 14:26: "The Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you."

Therefore:

James 1:5: "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him."

Do I daily seek the Lord through His Word, so I am equipped to always stand firm in Christ?



How must I live to avoid the temptations of the world?

Matthew 24:4-5: "Take heed that no one deceives you. For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will deceive many." Galatians 5:1: "Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage." 2Peter 3:17: "Since you have been forewarned, be on your guard so that you may not be carried away by the error of the lawless and fall from your secure position."

What's more?

Proverbs 13:20: "Whoever walks with the wise becomes wise, but the companion of fools will suffer harm."

Therefore:

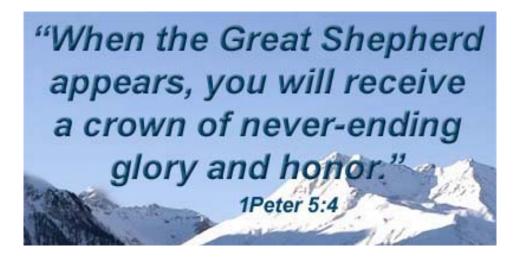
Hebrews 10:23: "Let us hold fast the confession of *our* hope without wavering, for He who promised *is* faithful."

Colossians 2:6-7: "As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving."

James 4:7: "Submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you." 1Peter 5:9: "Resist him, steadfast in the faith."

Matthew 24:42: "Watch, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming."

Is my guard up at all times, so I am enabled to stand firm with the Lord?



What is promised for those who trust and stand firm with Christ in this life?

Jeremiah 17:7-8: "Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD. He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out its roots by the stream, and does not fear when heat comes, for its leaves remain green, and is not anxious in the year of drought, for it does not cease to bear fruit."

Philippians 3:8: "What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ."

The purpose being:

1Peter 1:7: "That the genuineness of your faith, *being* much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ." With the result that:

Isaiah 26:3: "You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You."

Therefore:

Philippians 1:6: "Being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete *it* until the day of Jesus Christ."

Can I declare as 2Timothy 4:7 says: "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith?"