

Stand Firm!

Pastor Robert J. Morgan

Introduction

Pine Trees

Scripture – Philippians 1:27-30 and 4:1:

Philippians 1:27-30 (NIV®)

²⁷ Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Then, whether I come and see you or only hear about you in my absence, I will know that you stand firm in the one Spirit, striving together as one for the faith of the gospel ²⁸ without being frightened in any way by those who oppose you. This is a sign to them that they will be destroyed, but that you will be saved—and that by God. ²⁹ For it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ not only to believe in him, but also to suffer for him, ³⁰ since you are going through the same struggle you saw I had, and now hear that I still have.

Philippians 4:1 (NIV®)

Therefore, my brothers and sisters, you whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, dear friends!

The Great Exhortation

1. Stand Firm In The Lord

1 Thessalonians 3:6-8 (NIV®)

⁶ Timothy has just now come to us from you and has brought good news about your faith and love. ... ⁷ Therefore, brothers and sisters, in all our distress and persecution we were encouraged about you because of your faith. ⁸ For now we really live, since you are standing firm in the Lord."

2. Stand Firm In The Liberty of Christ

Galatians 5:1 (NIV®)

It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. **Stand firm**, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

3. Stand Firm In The Faith

1 Corinthians 16:13 (NIV®)

Be on your guard; **stand firm** in the faith; be courageous; be strong.

4. Stand Firm, Clad In The Armor of God

Ephesians 6:13-17 (NIV®)

¹³ 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. ¹⁴ **Stand firm** then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, ¹⁵ and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. ¹⁶ In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷ Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

5. Stand Firm Against The Devil And His Schemes

1 Peter 5:9 (NIV®)

Resist him, **standing firm** in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of suffering.

6. Stand Firm In The Scriptures

2 Thessalonians 2:15 (NIV®)

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.

7. Stand Firm In A Hostile World

Proverbs 10:25 (NIV®)

When the storm has swept by. The wicked are gone, but the righteous **stand firm** forever.

8. Stand Firm In Danger

Exodus 14:13 (NIV®)

... Do not be afraid. **Stand firm**, and you will see the deliverance the Lord will bring you today.

9. Stand Firm In Times Of Fear

2 Chronicles 20:17 (NIV®)

You will not have to fight this battle. Take up your positions; **stand firm** and see the deliverance the Lord will give you, Judah and Jerusalem. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged. Go out and face them tomorrow, for the Lord will be with you.

10. Stand Firm To The End

Matthew 10:22 (NIV®)

You will be hated by everyone because of me, but the one who **stands firm** to the end will be saved.

11. Stand Firm, Knowing Your Work Is Not In Vain

1 Corinthians 15:58 (NIV®)

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.

Conclusion

The heroes of Christian history have stood firm. They knew the truth of 2 Corinthians 1:21 (NIV®): Now it is God who makes both us and you **stand firm** in Christ.