

Standing Firm When the Ground is Shaking

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"Therefore, take up the full armor of God, so that you will be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm."

Ephesians 6:13, NASB

5 PRINCIPLES FOR STANDING FIRM

1. We are citizens of the Kingdom of God.

- Ephesians 6

2. Our rights are "inalienable" and granted to us by our Creator.

3. Our citizenship, and everything else in life, is a stewardship.

"¹⁷ Whatever you do in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father." **Colossians 3:17 NIV**

4. We are called to be salt & light in our world and be a witness for Jesus.

- Matthew 5

5. Followers of Jesus need to model grace and truth.

"And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us; and we saw His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth." **John 1:14 NIV**

Standing firm means to fulfill the mission no matter the circumstances.

"Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." **Matthew 28:18-20 NIV**

5 Practices:

1. Know Jesus and sonship.

*"Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God—" **John 1:12 NIV***

2. Follow Him in the power of His Spirit.

"But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well." **Matthew 6:33 NIV**

*"I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me." **Galatians 2:20 NIV***

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law."

Galatians 5:22-23 NIV

3. Walk the narrow way & obey Jesus.

*"Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." **John 14:6 NIV***

"As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. ¹⁰ If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. ¹¹ I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. ¹² My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. ¹³ Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. ¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command. ¹⁵ I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. ¹⁶ You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. ¹⁷ This is my command: Love each other." **John 15:9-17 NIV**

"Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. ¹⁴ But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it." **Matthew 7:13-14 NIV**

4. Find a Jesus-loving spouse to share life with.

"He who finds a wife finds what is good and receives favor from the Lord." **Proverbs 18:22 NIV**

5. Glorify God in every area of life.

"And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him." **Colossians 3:17 NIV**

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