

## **FIGHT THE GOOD FIGHT**

Ephesians 6:10-17

### **I. THERE ARE TIMES WHEN GOD DEMANDS HIS PEOPLE STAND AND FIGHT:**

- A. God demanded Israel to fight on some occasions. (Deut. 7:1-5)
  - 1. The Israelites were to cast out 7 nations.
  - 2. And God did not want them marry their sons and daughters, nor worship their idols, but to destroy them.
- B. King Saul was to utterly destroy the Amalekites. (I Sam. 15:2-3)
  - 1. God remembered how Amalek laid waste on Israel when he came up from Egypt.
  - 2. And, so, Saul was ordered to utterly destroy all of them, everything they had.
- C. God demands Christians to fight.
  - 1. Paul said - "Fight the good fight of the faith, lay hold on life eternal.." I Tim.6:12.
    - a. To fight the good fight of the faith, we must not be ashamed of it. Romans 1:16.
    - b. To fight the good fight of the faith is worth eternal life. (Jude 3)
  - 3. When we are on this battlefield fighting the good fight of the faith, we must be wearing our armor for protection.
    - a. Ephesians 6:13-17.
    - b. Without the right protection we can not stand against the wiles of the devil - Ephesians 6:11.
    - c. Paul said - "... I am set for the defense of the gospel." Phil. 1:16.
    - b. "Preach the word; be urgent in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching." 2 Timothy 4:2.

### **II. GOD DEMANDS THAT HIS PEOPLE FLEE WHEN TEMPTATION COMES:**

- A. Joseph was sold into slavery and brought to Potiphar's house. Genesis 39:1-12.
  - 1. God was with Joseph and he was a

prosperous man. He found favor with Potiphar.

- 2. Joseph was made overseer of his house and blessed the house and everything in and out of it because of all that he did and he pleased God.
- 3. Potiphar's wife said "lie with me" Gen.39:7
- 4. Joseph fled when temptation was strong - Gen.39:12.
- B. I Corinthians 6:18 - "Flee fornication."
  - 1. There are some temptations, which are very difficult to resist, therefore the plea says - FLEE!
  - 2. I Corinthians 15:33-34
  - 3. When you're in or around a tempting situation - FLEE!
  - 4. I Corinthians 10:13.
  - 5. I Peter 5:8 - "Be sober, be watchful: your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour..."

### **III. GOD DEMANDS HIS PEOPLE STAND WHEN PERSECUTION COMES:**

- A. Christ was led to Pilate, to be tried and finally crucified.
  - 1. Jesus could have defended himself, but instead he submitted John 19:11.
  - 2. Christ became the author of eternal salvation through His suffering and dying for us. (Heb. 5:8-9)
- B. We too, are to have the same mind/attitude of Christ.
  - 1. He truly was submissive to His Father's will.
  - 3. And, He suffered in the flesh for us all - I Peter 4:1.
- C. We can rejoice when we suffer for Christ sake. (I Peter 4:12-13, James 1:2-4)
- D. We are not to seek revenge when persecuted.
  - 1. Matthew 5:39.
  - 2. Hebrews 10:30