



Philippians 1:27-30 “Stand Fast, No Matter What”

Philippians 1:21 For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

Staying the course

Standing fast

Persevere

Patience

- **Gene Getz entitles Php 1:27-30 “United We Win, Divided We Lose”** - Ask any football coach what it takes to win. If he really understands the game, he will zero in on **three factors—a good defense, a good offense, and a positive attitude.** Would you believe that Paul believed the same ingredients are necessary for Christians to be victorious over their opponents!
- In the Greek, verses 27-30 are just one sentence!

27 Only let your **conduct** be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of your affairs, that you **stand fast** in one spirit, with one mind **striving together for the faith** of the gospel,

28 and **not in any way terrified by your adversaries,** which is to them a proof of perdition, but to you of salvation, and that from God.

29 For to you it has been granted on behalf of Christ, **not only to believe in Him,** **but also to suffer for His sake,**

30 having the same conflict which you saw in me and now hear is in me.

1. Stand worthy of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. (v27)
2. Stand fast with one mind. (v27)
3. Never be afraid of your enemies (v28)

4. Blessed to believe and blessed to suffer for Jesus sake. (v29)

1. Stand worthy

a. Stand for Jesus

i. Holiness

b. Stand with your armor on

Ephesians 6:10–14

10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.

11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to **stand** against the wiles of the devil.

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.

13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to **withstand** in the evil day, and having done all, **to stand**.

14 Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness,

Exodus 14:13–14

13 And Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid.

Stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which He will accomplish for you today.

For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall see again no more forever.

14 The LORD will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace."

c. Stand for His bride

i. Edwards: *"We are to be a unified, advancing army; unwavering in our assault upon the gates of hell, enduring any and all of Satan's opposition in God's global conquest of fallen earth."*

- ii. Their **contending** (synalhountes) for the faith suggests a joint effort, like that of an athletic team. ¹
- iii. **“Striving together”** (συναθλουντες [sunathlountes]). Rather, “striving together” as in an athletic contest. Late and rare word. ²

People are constantly watching your Christianity

- Your **“conduct”**
 - **4176. πολιτεύω *politeúō*; fut. *politeúsō*, from *polítēs* (4177), citizen. To live as a free citizen. In the NT, a pass. deponent *politeúomai*, **to be a citizen of a state, to live as a good citizen, to conduct oneself according to the laws and customs of a state.**
 - It generally means to live or to order one’s life and conduct in accordance with a certain rule.
 - With an adv. in Phil. 1:27, to behave worthily of the gospel.
 - With a dat. in Acts 23:1, to live worthily of or for God or according to His will. ³**
 - Gr: “Polis”: “city”
 - Politic
 - Police
- They are looking for your hypocrisy
 - Is your ORTHODOXY and ORTHOPRAXY the same?
 - Orthodoxy
 - Emphasizes **correct belief, and ritualism.** ⁴
 - What we believe should dictate what we do.
 - Orthopraxy.
 - **orthopraxy is correct conduct,** both ethical and liturgical...⁵
 - This contrasts with The word is a neoclassical compound— ὀρθοπραξία (*orthopraxia*) meaning 'correct practice'. ⁶
 - Orthodoxy and Orthopraxy so often get mixed up.

¹ Robert P. Lightner, “Philippians,” in *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures*, ed. J. F. Walvoord and R. B. Zuck, vol. 2 (Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1985), 652.

² A.T. Robertson, *Word Pictures in the New Testament* (Nashville, TN: Broadman Press, 1933), Php 1:27.

³ Spiros Zodhiates, *The Complete Word Study Dictionary: New Testament* (Chattanooga, TN: AMG Publishers, 2000).

⁴ McKim, Donald K. (1996). *Westminster Dictionary of Theological Terms*. Westminster John Knox Press. pp. 197, 242.

⁵ Jackson, Elizabeth (2007). *The Illustrated Dictionary of Culture*. Lotus Press. p. 147.

⁶[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Orthopraxy#:~:text=In%20the%20study%20of%20religion,\)%20meaning%20'correct%20practice](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Orthopraxy#:~:text=In%20the%20study%20of%20religion,)%20meaning%20'correct%20practice)

- We believe things of faith we don't (or won't) practice
- **To Apostle Paul's point –**
 - stand firm in what you believe
 - Be doers, not just hearers

James 1:22 **But be doers of the word,**
and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. ⁷

- They are looking for a stumbling point

1 Peter 2:11–12

11 Beloved, I beg you as sojourners and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul,

12 having your conduct honorable among the Gentiles, **that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may, by your good works which they observe, glorify God in the day of visitation.**

2 Peter 3:11–12

11 Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved,

what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness,

12 **looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God,** because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat?

Paul knew how to stand and contend for the Gospel

- **No matter what!**

2 Corinthians 11:23–28

23 Are they ministers of Christ?—I speak as a fool—I am more: in labors more abundant, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequently, in deaths often.

24 From the Jews five times I received forty stripes minus one.

25 Three times I was beaten with rods;

once I was stoned;

three times I was shipwrecked;

a night and a day I have been in the deep;

26 in journeys often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils of my own countrymen, in perils of the Gentiles, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren;

27 in weariness and toil,

in sleeplessness often,

⁷ *The New King James Version* (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Jas 1:22.

in hunger and thirst,
in fastings often,
in cold and nakedness—

**28 besides the other things,
what comes upon me daily:
my deep concern for all the churches.**

Never fear our enemies.

- **Our foes:**

Ephesians 2:1–3

1 And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins,

2 in which you once walked

according to **the course of this world,**

according to **the prince of the power of the air**, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience,

3 among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in **the lusts of our flesh**, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others.

We have **STRENGTH** and **ARMOR** to stand against our foes:

Eph 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.

2 Cor 10:3-5. (LEB)

3 For although we are living in the flesh, we do not wage war according to the flesh,

4 for the weapons of our warfare are not merely human, but powerful to God for the tearing down of fortresses, tearing down arguments

5 and all pride that is raised up against the knowledge of God, and taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ. ⁸

- **ALWAYS choose your battles**

- **Get help**
- **Call intercessors**
- **Prayerchains**
- Nothing wrong with calling
 - Police

⁸ W. Hall Harris III et al., eds., *The Lexham English Bible* (Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press, 2012), 2 Co 10:3–5.

- Doctors
- Lawyers