

## Faithful and Steadfast: Navigating Trials and Temptations

By Jeff Arnette

In life, we often face trials and temptations that test our faith and character. It is during these moments that we must cling to our convictions and remain faithful to God's word. The profound wisdom found in Revelation 2:10, Jude 21, and 2 Peter 2:20, provides guidance on how to navigate through challenging times while remaining steadfast in our devotion to God.

Revelation 2:10 – “Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.”

The book of Revelation offers encouragement to those enduring trials and persecution. This verse reminds us of the eternal reward that awaits those who remain faithful to God, even in the face of death. It serves as a powerful reminder that our temporary struggles pale in comparison to the glory that awaits us in eternity. We are called to persevere and hold fast to our faith, knowing that God is with us through every trial.

Jude 21 – “Keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life.”

Jude's exhortation emphasizes the importance of actively maintaining our relationship with God. To “keep ourselves in the love of God” implies that we should consistently seek His presence, abide in His word, and cultivate a life of prayer. By doing so, we remain grounded in His love, eagerly awaiting the ultimate mercy and salvation that comes through Jesus Christ. In times of trial, let us hold on to God's promises and trust in His faithfulness.

2 Peter 2:20 – “For if, after they have escaped the defilements of the world through the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and overcome, the last state has become worse for them than the first.”

This verse serves as a warning against falling back into the entanglements of sin after experiencing the transforming power of God's grace. It reminds us of the importance of staying vigilant and not becoming complacent in our faith. If we allow ourselves to be swayed by worldly temptations and return to our former ways, the consequences can be devastating. Let us strive to maintain a pure and steadfast faith, continually seeking God's guidance to avoid the snares of sin.

As believers, we will undoubtedly face trials, temptations, and moments of doubt along our journey of faith. However, by anchoring ourselves in the wisdom of God's word, we can find strength and guidance to remain faithful and steadfast. It is my hope that you will be encouraged to persevere, stay focused on the eternal crown of life, eagerly awaiting the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ, and faithfully using your gifts for God's glory.

- Bulletin Gold -

God invites us to burden Him with what burdens us.

### News & Notes

**BAPTISM:** Stephanie Ammon, 16994 SR 267, Calcutta, OH 43920. Cell phone: (330) 843-2749.

**QUARTERLY Q & A:** This evening Bible questions previously submitted will be considered and answered.

**CARE & SHARE BEARS:** Canceled for all of October.

**CONVERT'S CLASS:** Each Thursday at 11:00 a.m. Open to all.

**MEN'S BREAKFAST:** Next Saturday, Oct. 5th, 8:00 a.m. at Coplin's in Newell.

**COVERED DISH DINNER:** Next Sunday, Oct. 6th about noon at the Fellowship Building. Our early afternoon service will follow at 2:00 p.m. at the church building.

**FALL CAMP:** Oct. 11th, 7:30 p.m., Oct. 12th, 7:30 a.m. Grades 7th - 12th, Columbiana Church of Christ. Free. Pre-registration needed. Additional details on the bulletin board.

**RECEPTION:** for Montgomery & Jaydn, Saturday, Oct. 19th, Noon - 2:00 p.m. at the Fellowship Bldg. Sign-up sheet in the foyer.

**PANTRY:** Canned fruit.

**PRAYER REQUESTS FOR:** David Michael (brother of Ed); David Ulbright in Hospice (Tracey Leslie's brother-in-law); Kim Cox in a Cleveland hospital (Noah Toomey's grandfather).

**SICK & SHUT-IN: Beaver Medical Center:** Bob McMahan. **At Home:** John Sprout, Scharlotte Jones, Becky McKitrick, Lois Hissom, Dean Spencer, Harry Huff, Peggy Linger, Nancy Cox, Barbara DeLong, Cheryl Renfro Walker. **Fox-Chester:** Audrey Geer, Janice Hutchins, Mary Johnson. **Elsewhere:** Carolyn Carbone, 103 Orange Blossom Lane, Ranson, WV 25438. Herman McHan, 7401 Elmwood Dr., Lisbon, OH 44432.

### Gospel Meetings

Bridgeport, WV.....Sept. 29-Oct. 3.....Different Speakers  
Salem, Glen Easton, WV.....Sept. 29-Oct. 4.....John Board  
Bridge St., New Martinsville .....Oct. 6- 9.....J. D. Conley  
Hanoverton .....Oct. 13-17.....Terry Jones  
Lubeck, Washington, WV.....Oct. 21-24.....Glenn Colley  
Weirton Heights .....Oct. 13-18.....Andy Robison  
Lake Milton, OH .....Oct. 18-20.....Ed Melott & David Deagel  
CHESTER.....Nov. 3- 7 .....Hiram Kemp

(Additional details on the Bulletin Board)

*The Lord is my strength and my shield;  
My heart trusts in Him, and I am helped;  
Therefore my heart exults,  
And with my song I shall thank Him.*

Psalm 28:7 (NASV)