

STAND THEREFORE

W. Terry Varner, Marietta, OH

In describing the Christian soldier (a description applying to ALL Christians), Paul sets forth the various pieces of armament to equip him to "Fight the good fight of faith" (1 Tim. 6:12). The Christian must move forward without retreat and without compromise. In putting on the whole armor of God, we are to "Stand therefore" (Eph. 6:14). We stand in various ways.

1. **Stand for something.** The battle will always rage between the Christian and the devil. Nothing is more disappointing in general and harmful in particular, than for Christians to stand for nothing. We must stand "for the righteousness of God" (Rom. 10:3); i.e., that which is right and pleasing to God. If we do not, then our own righteousness will not avail and we will not be pleasing to God. In whatever way the Lord needs me, I must **STAND THEREFORE.**

2. **Stand on something.** The Lord built His church on one rock or foundation (Mat 16:18). This is the only foundation on which Christians can build and please God. Paul wrote: "For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ" (1 Cor. 3:11). To stand on the foundation of Christ is to be wise (Mat. 7:24). We cannot stand on denominationalism nor apart from the Lord's church and please God. **STAND THEREFORE!**

3. **Stand in something.** Peter writes: "this is the true grace of God. Stand ye fast therein." (1 Pet 5:12). We appropriate the grace of God by an obedient "faith working through love" (Gal. 5:6). This places the Christian "in hope of the glory of God" (Rom. 5:2). In God's grace, we have freedom and liberty. We know that "For freedom did Christ set us" (Gal. 5:1). The freedom or liberty we have in Christ does not imply no boundaries, responsibilities nor conformity. We are to have the mind of Christ (Phi. 2:5) which empowers us to be the light of the world and the salt of the earth (Mat. 5:13-16). The freedom and liberty in Christ is deliverance from the powers of darkness and sin. We have been delivered "out of the power of darkness, and translated us into the kingdom of the Son of his love" (Col. 1:13). Jesus is "the author and perfecter of our faith" (Heb. 12:2). We are to **STAND THEREFORE!**

4. **Stand apart from sin and error.** David describes the child of God as one "that walketh not in the counsel of the wicked, Nor standeth in the way of sinners, Nor sitteth in the seat of scoffers" (Psa. 1:1). We are warned that "Evil companionships corrupt good morals" (1 Cor. 15:33) and that we are to have nothing to do with that which is "contrary to the sound doctrine" (1 Tim. 1:10). Let us **STAND THEREFORE!**

- via Beacon, Bellview Church of Christ, Pensacola. FL

Today's mighty oak is just yesterday's nut, that held its ground. - David Icke

News & Notes

REGULAR SCHEDULE OF SERVICES: Sunday Worship, 10:30 a.m., 5:30 p.m., and Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.

FACE COVERINGS REQUIRED: Our Elders have decided that masks or face shields are **required for EVERYONE in ALL of our assemblies** whether seated in the auditorium or the balcony. Please comply.

NEWLYWED'S ADDRESS: Shawn & Nicole Beagle, 131 Birds Eye View Drive, Morgantown, WV 26501

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY: Each Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.

PANTRY: Noodles.

PICTURE GALLERY OF PAST MEMBERS: Submit pictures (black and white or color) to David Malcomson.

LADIES INSPIRATION DAY: Saturday, Nov. 6th, Hanoverton Church of Christ. Topic: "Home Improvement" (Spiritually Speaking). Speakers: Danielle Burch, Angela Marshall, Tam Raynor. Registration & Breakfast Eatables, 8:15-9:00 a.m.; Lessons, 9:00 a.m. through Lunch.

SICK & SHUT-IN: WEIRTON MEDICAL CENTER: Jean Haught (Skip's mother), Room 712. **THE ORCHARDS REHAB:** Lois Hissom, 709 Armstrong Lane, E. Liverpool, OH. **AT HOME:** Marilyn Miller, Randy Beagle, Barb DeLong, David McCoy, Marlene Evans, Russell Martin, Dana & Emma Rine, Rick Beck. **CALCUTTA HEALTH CARE:** Sarah Miller (Room 6). **VALLEY OAKS CARE CENTER:** Fred Larrimore (Room 210). **IN FLORIDA:** Ilene Rayl.

GOSPEL MEETING

Weirton Heights ----- Oct. 17-22 (M-F 7:00 p.m.) -- Steve Stevens

THE BIBLE JUDGED

Salmon Chase, the sixth Chief Justice of the United States and U.S. Treasury Secretary under Lincoln (1808-1873), said, "There came a time in my life when I doubted the divinity of the Scriptures, and I resolved as a lawyer and a judge I would try the book as I would try anything in the courtroom, taking evidence for and against. It was a long, serious, and profound study, and using the same principles of evidence in this religious matter as I always do in secular matters, I have come to the decision that the Bible is a supernatural book, that it has come from God, and that the only safety for the human race is to follow its teachings."

Why not begin a serious study of the Bible and decide for yourself whether it is from God or man?

- Author Unknown - (via House to House) -

