

Stand!

One of the most important positions we can assume as believers in Jesus Christ, is to **STAND** in the midst of the daily challenges that confront us, and not abdicate our positions in Christ by accepting defeat. The Bible commands us In Exodus 14:13 to, " ---- **STAND** firm and you will see deliverance the Lord will bring you today----."

We so often look at our daily circumstances and let them dictate our emotional responses. We allow worry, doubt and anxiety to enter in. Even though we may have natural negative inclinations to our circumstances, we **MUST** allow the Holy Spirit within us to rise up, convict and motivate us to fulfill our responsibility in taking captive **ALL** of our negative thoughts unto Christ. Our trust **MUST** be in God, **NOT** in our circumstances.

God exhorts us in Philippians 4:6-8, "**DO NOT** be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable - if anything is excellent or praiseworthy **THINK** about such things."

When we focus on the negative and trust in our own understanding we are on the road to defeat.

In Colossians 3:2, we are told to, "Set your (our) minds on things above, **NOT** on earthly things."

Proverbs 3:5, tells us, "Trust in the Lord with **ALL** your heart and lean not on your own understanding:"

The Scripture makes it very clear as to what our problem is and why there appears to be so many Christians that allow their circumstances to defeat them. If we would only focus on and trust in God, and apply the Word of God to those things that beset us, we could walk and **STAND** in the peace of the Lord regardless of what we are facing.

David, in Psalm 40:2, proclaims a promise from God, "He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire; He set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to **STAND**." God further promises us in, I Corinthians 10:13, that, "No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, He will also provide a way out so that you can **STAND** up under it."

How grateful we should be for His faithfulness to His children in **ALL** of our circumstances. Psalm 117:1, ---the faithfulness of God endures forever.

He reminds us of this in Romans 8:28, "And we know that in **ALL** things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose."

Obviously, the enemy would like to see us defeated by the un-pleasant events in our lives. But again, the Word comes to our rescue with a strong exhortation in Ephesians 6:10, "Finally, be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can **STAND** against the devil's schemes."