

STANDING FIRM FOR SPIRITUAL FREEDOM

Spiritual Freedom was established as the theme of Gal.5

- (Gal.5:1, 13) "It was for freedom that Christ set us free."
- (Gal.5:1) "For you were called to freedom."

On the basis of the theme of Spiritual Freedom, we have divided Gal.5:1-26 into two sections for study.

- (Gal.5:1-12) Spiritual Freedom from slavery of legalism.
- (Gal.5:13-26) Spiritual freedom from slavery of flesh (old sin-nature).

Last time I taught, we studied the Magna Charta of Spiritual Freedom (7/30/14).

After establishing the theme of Spiritual Freedom, Paul taught two important doctrinal principles of Spiritual Freedom in Gal.5:1.

- (Gal.5:1) Keep standing firm
- (Gal.5:1) Do not be subject again to a yoke of slavery.

These two important doctrinal principles were introduced by the inferential conjunction (therefore). It establishes today's lesson on the theme of Spiritual Freedom (Christ set us free for freedom)

Today's lesson will study three aspects of "Standing Firm for Spiritual Freedom."
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1. The primary doctrine of Spiritual Freedom in the Christian way of life (CWL) is STANDING FIRM in FAITH.

"Therefore keep standing firm (steko/ **p.a.impv.2pl**) [The command of continuous action of positive volition to all church age believers. (CAB)

"Be alert, standing firm (steko/ p.a.impv.2pl) in the faith, (Rom.10:17; 2 Cor.1:24b) act like men, be strong. Let all things be done in love." (1 Cor.16:13-14) [Five present imperatives necessary for victory in the angelic conflict. (AC)

- Standing firm is the HOW.
- Faith is the WHAT.
- Spiritual Freedom is the WHY.

2. Standing firm in the faith is the primary doctrine of victory in the AC for every CAB.

Paul illustrated this doctrinal concept in (Eph.6:11-17) (Full Armor of God).

- (Eph.6:11-12) Spiritual warfare against Spiritual Freedom (AC/ Greek sentence).
- (Eph.6:13) Full armor of God to fight evil – stand firm is standing your ground against evil (Greek sentence).

- (Eph.6:14 -16) **Stand firm** (steko/ **a.a.impv.2pl**) **with** (belt of truth, breastplate of righteousness, shoes of the preparation of the gospel of peace, and shield of faith (Greek sentence/ a.ptc).
- (Eph.6:17) **Take the** (dechomai/ **a.m.impv.2p**) “helmet of salvation and sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God” (Greek sentence).

3. We will illustrate Standing Firm in the Faith for Spiritual Freedom by the Exodus generation being caught between the proverbial rock and hard place recorded in Ex.14.

The Exodus Israelites were caught between the Red Sea and the Egyptian’s famous chariot brigade. “And he (Pharaoh) took 600 select chariots and all the other chariots of Egypt with officers over all of them.” (Ex.14:7)

When this enormous adversity occurred, the Israelites became terrified (fear of death and panic of soul) (Ex.14:10).

The Israelites reaction was to panic within their souls. This resulted because of the loss of a Relax Mental Attitude (RMA), failure to reverse their concentration on God’s Word as the absolute truth. Their inter-dialogue with their flesh (OMCD) Worldly Belief System’s lies rather than (NMDV) New Man Divine Viewpoint truths regarding the adversities of life, walking by sight rather than by faith, and talking beliefs of hopelessness (Ex.14:11-12).

Pay attention to what Moses told them (Ex.14:13-14/ NMDV talk).

- **Do not fear** – stop and reverse concentration to NMDV of promises of God’s word (RMA).
- **Stand firm in faith** – “See the deliverance of the Lord which He will accomplish for you today” (NMDV inter-dialogue of hopefulness)
- **Lord dealing with stressful adversities of Life** – “The Egyptians whom you have seen today, you will never see again. The Lord will fight for you while you keep silent (charesh) [still and speechless].”

It occurred in the **Last Watch of the Day**: “At the morning watch (2am to sunrise), the Lord looked down on the army of the Egyptians through the pillar of fire and cloud and brought the army of the Egyptian into confusion.”(Ex.14:24) There were three military watches of Israelites (first - sunset to 10pm; second - 10pm to 2am; third - 2am to sunrise).

Standing firm in faith until the Last Watch of the Day. It required the believers to **be silent** (faith rest technique (FRT) on the waiting side of the faith cycle (Ex.14:31).

Hearing (Rom.10:17)

Completing (James 2:22)

Believing (Heb.4:2)

(Waiting side/ Ps.33:16-22)

(Word side/ Ps.119:105)

Applying (2 Cor.5:7)

Later the writer of Hebrews will remind believers of this story by quoting Moses’ final words of (Deut.31:6-8) in (Heb.13:5). **A reminder to the CAB of why Standing Firm in Faith is important to Spiritual Freedom.**