

A Soldier's Life

“You therefore must endure hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.”

– 2 Timothy 2:3 –

Courage, conviction, and integrity are certainly respectable qualities from a secular viewpoint, but it is most definitely vital they be manifested in the life of every Christian. The name “Christian” identifies us with Christ, who never compromised or deviated from the truth. He was and is the perfect, flawless example and illustration of courageous integrity.

That being said, it follows that we similarly are called to be stable and steadfast like Christ and not waver: “But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavers is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed.” (Ja. 1:6) Scripture is replete with injunctions to stand firm: “Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil” (Eph. 6:11), and to be strong: “Watch (be on your guard!), and stand fast in the faith, act like men, be strong” (1Cor. 16:13), and “Therefore. . .endure all things. . .” (2Tim. 2:1) All these references support the fact we are to be bold and uncompromising in living for Christ.

I think it would be fair to say that all of us earnestly desire to stand firm and not stumble in our Christian walk. None of us wants to be crushed under the weight of life’s trials or be defeated by the onslaught from the world’s influences, the flesh and the devil and his schemes. We must realize that standing firm and being strong isn’t easy because we are engaged in spiritual warfare, “Therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. No one engaged in warfare entangles himself with the affairs of this life, that he may please him who enlisted him as a soldier.” (2Tim. 2:3-4) We have to be prepared to “endure hardship” along the way – as a “good soldier” of faith.

– Article submitted by Chuck Wetzel, 04.29.20