



'STAND'

Liz Dickson



Love UnVeiled
Transforming Women into God's Image of Beauty

*“Are we leaving because we accomplished our mission,
because we failed in our mission,
because we are just tired and weary of war?
But the enemy is not tired or weary!”
(News Reporter - Afghanistan 2021).*

The Battle of 2 Kingdoms - God and evil - life and death - light and darkness - love and hate – freedom and bondage - faith and fear - truth and deception.

STAND IN THE SHAKING

- “Yet once more I shake not only the earth, but also heaven.” Now this, “Yet once more,” indicates the removal of those things that are being shaken, as of things that are made, that the things which cannot be shaken may remain. Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear.” **Hebrews 12:25-28 NKJV**

Where do you STAND? How do you Stand?

“God is looking for an army who are filled with faith in Him, in who He is – not doubting” David Wilkerson.

- For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth to show Himself strong to those whose hearts are loyal to Him... **2 Chronicles 16:9**

Occupy/possess/ live the “Abundant” life John 10:10

- **Numbers 33:50-56**
 - Drive out - the inhabitants
 - Destroy – carved images and idols
 - Demolish - high places
 - Take possession – live in the land – I have given it to you

STAND IN THE BATTLE

- Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.
- **For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.** Therefore, take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore...

Ephesians 6:10-13

- Stand In His Peace
- Stand In His Grace
- Stand In His Presence
- Stand In Your Identity, Position, Authority
- Stand In Faith
- Stand In His Power
- Stand In His Love
- Stand In His Mighty Weapons
- Stand In Trials and Persecutions
- Stand In His Truth
- Stand With Your Full “Wait” On Him
- Stand In The Vine
- Stand In Obedience
- Stand In His Name
- Stand In Prayer
- Stand In Praise
- Stand For Others
- Stand In Victory

GOOD NEWS!

STAND IN PEACE WITH GOD

- My peace I leave with you. My peace I give to you. Not as the world do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled. Neither let it be afraid. **John 15:27**
- You were dead because of your sins and because your sinful nature was not yet cut away. Then God made you alive with Christ, for he forgave all our sins. He **CANCELED** the record of the charges against us and took it away by nailing it to the cross. In this way, he disarmed the spiritual rulers and authorities. He shamed them publicly by his victory over them on the cross. **Colossians 2:13-15 NLT**

➤ We are not fighting for victory but from Victory!

STAND IN HIS GRACE

- Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. **Romans 5:1-2 NKJV**
- **Romans 5:1-5** –
 - justified –
 - peace
 - access –
 - stand in His grace,
 - rejoice in hope
 - glory in tribulations,
 - perseverance
 - character
 - hope not disappointed
 - God's love poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit.

Here in the LOVE OF CHRIST I STAND

STAND IN YOUR IDENTITY, POSITION, AUTHORITY

- For if by the one man's offense **death reigned** through the one, much more those who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness **will reign** in life through the One, Jesus Christ. **Romans 5:17 NKJV**
- **Death reigned, but through Jesus's death, we reign in life!**

No matter what Jesus faced, He lived by what He knew about Himself, not by what others thought or said about Him. He found His identity in Scripture and always directed these people to the Scriptures.

The Holy Spirit led Jesus into the wilderness to be tempted and tested. He stood on what He knew was true - who He was and who He served. He could not be tempted to disobey God's assignment.

- **Knowing and believing who you are in Christ will determine your choices in the battle.**

The enemy will tell you you're not good enough, you don't have power, you don't deserve God's protection, power, blessing,

We don't stand in the strength of our works, performance, anything we have done.

- **Stand boldly in the truth of who you are in Christ. **2 Corinthians 5:17, 1 Peter 2:9****

STAND IN FAITH

We are not fighting flesh and blood but powers and principalities.

- **Stand firm** against the devil. **1 Peter 5:9 NLT**
- Timothy, my son, here are my instructions for you, based on the prophetic words spoken about you earlier. May they help you fight well in the Lord's battles. Cling to your faith in Christ and keep your conscience clear. For some people have deliberately violated their consciences; as a result, their faith has been shipwrecked." **1 Timothy 1:18-19 NLT**
- "But you, O man of God, flee these things and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, gentleness. Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses." **1 Timothy 6:11-12 NKJV**
- "You therefore must endure hardship 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." **2 Timothy 2:3-4 NKJV**
- "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." **2 Timothy 4:7 NKJV**

We are fighting the good fight of faith.

- Watch, stand firm in the faith, be brave, be strong. Let all you do be done with love. **1 Corinthians 16:13-14.**
 - POSITION – Watch - stand firm in faith - be brave, be strong.
 - ACTION - Let all you do be done in love

“Watch” -

- Be sober, be vigilant, your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour. **1 Peter 5:8**

What happens to the army if the military go to sleep?

Be on the alert. Be discerning. Know the signs of the times. Keep your eyes open. Keep your armor on.

- Let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall
1 Corinthians 10:12
- Be constantly checking your motives
- Be aware of your thoughts and the attitudes of your heart
- Who am I listening too? Who am I believing?
- Who or what has most of my attention and my energy?
 - Watch for idols, distractions, worry, fear, anxiety
 - Flee from idolatry, keep yourselves from idols.
1 Corinthians 10:14, 1 John 5:21

“Stand firm in the faith” -

- Resist him (the devil) standing firm in the faith, knowing the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings **1 Peter 5:9 NIV**

We cannot stand firm in the faith unless we have been watchful. If we have been watchful, we won't be so surprised by the sudden assaults. We won't be knocked down so easily. Be prepared.

Stand with confidence in the revelation that God in Jesus Christ will keep us no matter what comes against us. It is not because I have faith that I stand fast, but because of that in which I have faith.

A soldier needs shoes as much as a gun. If his shoes are not planted on firm ground, he will never be able to stand against the onslaught of the enemy, even with a gun.

*Never confuse the trial of faith with the ordinary discipline of life because a great deal of what we call the trial of faith is the inevitable result of being alive. Faith, as the Bible teaches it, is faith in God coming against everything that contradicts Him— a faith that says, “I will remain true to God’s character whatever He may do.” The highest and the greatest expression of faith in the whole Bible is— **“Though He slay me, yet will I trust Him” Job 13:15 Oswald Chambers.***

Pastor Andrew Brunson, imprisoned in Turkey in 2016...

“My tests were enough to knock me out of relationship with God. And your tests are enough to knock you out of relationship with God. What kept my wife going was the deep well she drew from her times over the years spent every morning with the Lord.”

If all we have is a works based, performance-based Christianity with no real intimacy with God, we will not stand when the real hard tests and trials come.

- **Stand in faith that God is trustworthy in times of bad news.**
- And as soon as Jesus heard the word that was spoken, He said to the ruler of the synagogue, (Jairus) “Do not be afraid, only believe”. **Mark 5:36**
- Surely the righteous will never be shaken; they will be remembered forever. They will have no fear of bad news; their hearts are steadfast, trusting in the Lord. **Psalm 112:6-8 (NIV)**

“Be brave, be strong” –

- Original meaning - “become strong”
- Paul uses the word as in “be strengthened” in the context of - *that you may be strengthened with power through His Spirit in your inner being.* **Ephesians 3:16**

We come in our weakness to Him who is our strength.

When we submit to His strength, we can stand in His strength for the day and the moment.

- *As is the day, so shall your strength. be* **Deuteronomy 33:25**
- *“My grace is sufficient for you, My strength is made perfect in your weakness.” Therefore, most gladly I will boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest on me.* **2 Corinthians 12:9**

“Let all you do be done with Love” -

- The love of many will grow cold **Matthew 24:12**
 - Love is the victor in all Christian warfare.
- Love never fails **1 Corinthians 13:8**

STAND IN LOVE

Defenders of the faith are inclined to be bitter until they learn to walk in the light of the Lord. When you have learned to walk in the light of the Lord, bitterness and contention are impossible.”

Oswald Chambers

- Love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, I all your mind and all your strength. This is the first commandment. And the second like it is this: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. **Mark 12:30-31**

- We cannot love God and not love our neighbor. The two cannot be separated.

To Jesus, the distinguishing mark of his followers is a life lived in love to others. Andrew Murray

- By this all will know you are my disciples if you have love for one another **John 13:35**

God desires we should live as people who have been forgiven. We can only prove our sincerity by forgiving those who have offended us, as freely and as willingly as God has forgiven us.” Andrew Murray

- The impossible is possible through God’s love being poured into our hearts by His Holy Spirit...
- Now hope does not disappoint, for the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us. **Romans 5:5**
 - Don’t fear people, failure, disaster. Instead know how much He loves you.
- We know how much God loves us, and we have put our trust in His love. God is love, and all who live in love live in God, and God lives in them. **1 John 4:16 NLT**
- There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts our fear, because fear involves torment. But he who fears has not been made perfect in love. **1 John 4:18**
- We love Him because He first loved us. **1 John 4:19**
- For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power, love, and a sound mind. **1 Timothy 1:7**

➤ **Know God - Love God - Trust God = Freedom - to love others.**

- But the people who know their God will be strong and carry out great exploits. **Daniel 11:32**
- Do not be overcome with evil but overcome evil with good. **Romans 12:21**
- ...pursue the things which make for peace, and the things by which one may edify another. **Romans 14:19**
- **Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on** tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do. But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection. **Colossians 3:12-14**
- Keep yourselves in the love of God. **Jude 1:21**
 - Make a commitment to know God more.
 - Wake up every day asking the Holy Spirit to help you know God more, to love God more and to trust Him more so that you can love others as He loves them.

STAND IN HIS MIGHTY WEAPONS

- Put on the whole armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.
- Stand firm then with the belt of truth buckled round your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and your feet fitted with the readiness which comes from the gospel of peace, in addition, take up the shield of faith with which, you can extinguish all the fiery arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

Ephesians 6:11-17

The front line of the battle - our thoughts –

What do you believe? Who do you believe?

“You can’t stop birds flying over your head, but you can stop them building a nest in your head”

- For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare *are* not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ, and being ready to punish all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled. **2 Corinthians 10:3-6**
- Keep your mind on the simplicity which is in Christ Jesus. **2 Corinthians 11:3, Psalm 131:1**

STAND IN OBEDIENCE

Asa did not continue in loyalty, obedience, and dependency.

- 2 Chronicles 16

Saul lost the kingdom because he cared more about what people thought than about obeying God.

- 1 Samuel 15:9, 11, 16-24, 30, 35
- 1 Samuel 16:14

STAND IN HIS POWER

The task ahead of you is NEVER as great as the POWER behind you.

- Stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high. **Luke 24:49**
- Be filled with the Spirit **Ephesians 5:18**
- Be strong in the Lord and His mighty power **Ephesians 6:10**

➤ *I can't even stand without You holding my hand.*

Strength to stand comes from humbling ourselves and standing in His strength alone

Pray continually for the presence and power of the Holy Spirit -

- Towards you - **Ephesians 1:19**
- In you - **Ephesians 3:20**
- Through you - **Ephesians 6:10**
- For of Him and through Him and to Him are all things, to whom be glory forever. **Romans 11:36**

STAND IN HIS TRUTH

Put on the belt of truth, take up the shield of faith, and the Sword of the Spirit... Ephesians 6:14-17

- If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed, and you will know the truth and the truth shall make you free. **John 8:31-32**
- For the word of God *is* living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. **Hebrews 4:12**
- All scripture is God breathed and useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness. **2 Timothy 3:16 NIV**

STAND WITH YOUR FULL "WAIT" ON HIM

- Sometimes the most courageous thing to do is to stand and wait
- Do not be afraid. Stand still and see the Salvation of the Lord, which He will accomplish for you today. **Exodus 14:13**
- You will not *need* to fight in this *battle*. Position yourselves, stand still and see the salvation of the LORD, who is with you, O Judah and Jerusalem!' Do not fear or be dismayed; tomorrow go out against them, for the LORD *is* with you. **2 Chronicles 20:17**
- I waited patiently for the Lord; He inclined His ear to me and heard my cry. He also brought me out of the miry clay and set my feet up on a rock... (A firm foundation) **Psalms 40:1-2**
- I would have lost heart, unless I had believed That I would see the goodness of the Lord In the land of the living. Wait on the Lord; Be of good courage, And He shall strengthen your heart; Wait, I say, on the Lord!" **Psalms 27:13-14 NKJV**

Psalm 37 - Wait on the Lord, and the wicked will be cut off. (6 times in verses 2,9,22,28,34,38.)

STAND IN PRAISE

- You will not *need* to fight in this *battle*. Position yourselves, stand still and see the salvation of the LORD, who is with you, O Judah and Jerusalem!’ Do not fear or be dismayed; tomorrow go out against them, for the LORD *is* with you.” **2 Chronicles 20:17**
- Then the Levites of the children of the Kohathites and of the children of the Korahites stood up to praise the Lord God of Israel with voices loud and high.” **2 Chronicles 20:19**

STAND IN PRAYER

- And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and petitions. Be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord’s people. **Ephesians 6:18-19 NIV**
- The Lord is near to all who call on Him, to all who call on Him in truth. **Psalm 145:18**
- As for me, I will call upon God, And the Lord shall save me. Evening and morning and at noon I will pray, and cry aloud, And He shall hear my voice. *He has redeemed my soul in peace from the battle that was against me, for there were many against me.* **Psalm 55:16-18**

STAND IN HIS PRESENCE

While the Bible confirms the truth that demons can afflict humanity, it also speaks to the fact that Christians have authority and power over demons and need not be defeated by them. The proper mindset for victory is to be Christ-centered.

- ... submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and He will draw near to you... **James 4:7-8**

Come boldly into His presence every morning. Let His name be the first cry out of your mouth. Welcome His presence to start your day. Then live through the day aware of His presence, listening to Him and praying always in the Spirit (your spirit speaking with His Spirit).

- Wake up praying “Holy Spirit fill me with Your Presence. I cannot stand alone.”
- Let us then come boldly to the throne of grace that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need. **Hebrews 4:16**
- The joy of the Lord is our strength. It is in His presence we find joy.
- Blessed are those who have learned to acclaim You, who walk in the light of your presence, LORD. **Psalms 89:15**
- You will fill me with joy in Your presence **Psalms 16:11**
- The joy of the Lord is your strength **Nehemiah 8:10**

The scriptural way to see things is to set the Lord always before us, put Christ in the center of our vision, and if Satan is lurking around, he will appear on the margin only and be seen as but a shadow on the edge of the brightness. It is always wrong to reverse this – to set Satan in the focus of our vision and push God out to the margin... the best way to keep the enemy out is to keep Christ in ... It is not the praying sheep Satan fears, but the presence of the shepherd.

STAND FOR OTHERS

- Stand in the river until all have passed over.
- **Joshua 3:17** The priests carrying the ark of the covenant of the Lord stood firm on dry ground in the middle of the Jordan, while all the Israelites passed over on dry ground.
 - **Ephesians 4:11-16** Equipping believers to stand in faith and help others to stand.
 - When I call to mind the genuine faith that is in you that was first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am persuaded is now in you also. **2 Timothy 1:3-5**
 - The older women...be teachers of good things. **Titus 2:3**

STAND IN VICTORY

- And this is the victory that has overcome the world – our faith. **1 John 5:4**
- Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling...
Jude 1:24
- In all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. **Romans 8:37**
- *But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.* **1 Corinthians 15:57**

Finally...

STAND - Looking only to Jesus the author and finisher of our faith! **Hebrews 12:2**

STAND - Looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ. **Titus 2:13**

REFLECTION:

- In what areas of your life have you been struggling to stand?

- What idols, distractions, lies, fears, or hurts are keeping you from standing in God's love, peace, joy, identity, purpose, and victory?

- What has the Holy Spirit revealed to you today which will help you to STAND?

- Choose at least one area to STAND and one scripture which you will ask the Holy Spirit to make real in your life to help you to STAND.
