

August 3, 2025
Philippians 1:27-30
“It Has Been Granted To You To Believe And Suffer, Therefore-Stand Firm”

Principles And Practical Application

There is enough opposition from without. Believers must **conduct** their lives in a manner that is appropriate/worthy of the gospel. What is the gospel's value? The very life of Jesus. Whether someone has eyes on you or not, live as if they do. In all reality the Lord has His eyes on you at all times. One's integrity or character is truly measured by what one does whether anyone is looking or not.

God grants believers courage to **stand firm** in the midst of their struggles.

What is involved to be **a good citizen of heaven**? To be blameless, innocent, above reproach as a child of God in the midst of a crooked and perverse world. How do I know what is required to live this kind of life? You must **be a dedicated student of the Word of God**. You must read and heed the Word.

To stand firm is to **stand your ground**. No matter the danger or opposition. A good soldier does this even to the point of death on the battlefield. **Romans 14:4** says it best, be alert, stand firm, act like men. God long ago met His quota of wimps. *Charles Lyons* What better way to demonstrate one's salvation than to totally trust God?

To live godly lives the church must not cater to itching ears, see **II Timothy 4:3**. This means calling out sin, calling for repentance, a call to holiness, a plea for humility among its members; by this the church will please God.

II Timothy 3:12 says that all who desire to live godly lives in Jesus will be persecuted. Face these challenges like a gladiator, not frightened like a startled horse. Be prepared.

Both Judas, **John 17:12**, and the Antichrist, **II Thessalonians 2:3**, are called “the son of perdition.” Perdition means to perish; this is not to be taken as annihilation/cease to exist. This destruction in **verse 28** is the eternal assignment to hell and damnation.

Application:

Living in the midst of a hostile world, God's Word instructs believers to stand firm in their faith. When the body of believers is as one they are in harmony with one other. They do not back down when opposition comes against Truth. It has been granted to every Child of God to believe and to suffer. Prepare yourself citizens.