

## MESSAGE

Occasion : Lighthouse Enrichment Development Classes  
Venue : Lighthouse BBC Tatalon / Online  
Date : January 15, 2023

**TITLE : STANDING FAST, SERVING GOD AS FREE IN 2023**

Text/s :

“Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage” (Gal 5:1).

“As free, and not using your liberty for a cloke of maliciousness, but as the servants of God” (1 Pet 2:16).

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## INTRODUCTION



Acts 1:6 When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?

Acts 14:26-28

26 And thence sailed to Antioch, from whence they had been recommended to the grace of God for the work which they fulfilled.

27 And when they were come, and had gathered the church together, they rehearsed all that God had done with them, and how he had opened the door of faith unto the Gentiles.

28 And there they abode long time with the disciples.

1 Corinthians 11:18-20, 33-34

18 For first of all, when you come together as a church, I hear that there are divisions among you, and in part I believe it.

19 For there must also be factions among you, that those who are approved may be recognized among you.

20 Therefore when you come together in one place, it is not to eat the Lord's Supper.

33 Therefore, my brethren, when you come together to eat, wait for one another.

34 But if anyone is hungry, let him eat at home, lest you come together for judgment. And the rest I will set in order when I come.

1 Corinthians 14:23, 26

23 Therefore if the whole church comes together in one place, and all speak with tongues, and there come in those who are uninformed or unbelievers, will they not say that you are out of your mind?

26 How is it then, brethren? Whenever you come together, each of you has a psalm, has a teaching, has a tongue, has a revelation, has an interpretation. Let all things be done for edification.

## Review

### Our Theme for 2022

**“Being Faithful and True in 2022” to “Standing Fast, Serving God as Free in 2023”**

*Rev 22:6,7 “These sayings are faithful and true...blessed is he that keepeth...”*

### 2022 1st Quarter Focus

**Knowing Him Who is True, Being in Him Who is True**

*1 John 5:20*

*“...that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true...”*

### 2022 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Focus

**Being Faithful as Stewards**

*1 Cor 4:2*

*“...it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.”*

## 2022 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Focus

### Shining the True Light

1 John 2:8

*“...a new commandment I write unto you, which thing is true in him and in you: because the darkness is past, and the true light now shineth.”*

## 2022 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter of 2022

### “Working the Faith, Stewarding the Grace and Shining the True Light”

*“Those things, which ye have both learned, received, heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you” (Phil 4:9).*

## Our Theme for 2023

### “Standing Fast, Serving God as Free in 2023”

“Standfast...being made free from sin, and become servants to God...”

“Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage” (Gal 5:1).

“...now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life” (Rom 6:22).

“As free, and not using your liberty for a cloke of maliciousness, but as the servants of God”  
(1 Pet 2:16).

## Synopsis/Brief

**Standing fast** – We need a platform in which we should be able to stand as God’s people, as Ekklesia. On this platform we stand fast. We climb the stairs to this platform, ready, equipped by what we have learned.

On this platform is our Service to God. It is on this platform where we are to stand and there to stand fast. These are two distinct things. We are primarily servants of God. We are not servants for our own selves. And while we want to serve people, we are first of all, servants of God. It is to Him that we appear first and foremost. Not before people. And we have been freed to be such. We need to make a good performance of our being made His servants.

As such, we need to be freed from many reservations, doubts, double-mindedness, disappointments, limitations, weaknesses of our whole being, of our spirit, soul and body.

We need to be freed from wrong concepts of how to deliver our services, our ministries. We need to be reminded that on that platform of our services, we need to give ourselves wholly, even sacrificially, being willing to give rather than take. We need to be intentional.

- 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Focus –

### **Standing fast in the faith and being strong.**

“Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong” (1 Cor 16:13).

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Focus
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Focus
- 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Focus

## **BODY**

### **✓ The Challenge to Stand Fast**

1 Corinthians 15:1 Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand;

Romans 5:2 By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

1 Peter 5:12 By Silvanus, a faithful brother unto you, as I suppose, I have written briefly, exhorting, and testifying that this is the true grace of God wherein all of you stand.

2 Corinthians 1:24 Not for that we have dominion over your faith, but are helpers of your joy: for by faith all of you stand.

Ephesians 6:11-17

11 Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

13 Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

14 Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;

15 And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;

16 Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.

17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:

**Phil 4:1**

**4 Therefore, my brethren dearly beloved and longed for, my joy and crown, so stand fast in the Lord, my dearly beloved.**

**KJV**

1 Cor 16:13-14

13 Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong.

14 Let all your things be done with charity.

KJV

Phil 1:27-29

27 Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ: that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel;

28 And in nothing terrified by your adversaries: which is to them an evident token of perdition, but to you of salvation, and that of God.

29 For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake;

KJV

2 Thess 2:15

15 Therefore, brethren, stand fast, and hold the traditions which ye have been taught, whether by word, or our epistle.

KJV

## ✓ The Challenge to Serve the Lord as Free

Romans 8:2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.

Rom 6:18

18 Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.

KJV

Rom 6:22

22 But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life.

KJV

Romans 7:18-25

18 For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not.

19 For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do.

20 Now if I do that I would not, it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me.

21 I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me.

22 For I delight in the law of God after the inward man:

23 But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members.

24 O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?

25 I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin.

1 Cor 7:22-23

22 For he that is called in the Lord, being a servant, is the Lord's freeman: likewise also he that is called, being free, is Christ's servant.

23 Ye are bought with a price; be not ye the servants of men.

KJV

Gal 5:13

13 For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another.

KJV

James 1:25

25 But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.

KJV

## CONCLUSION