

## STANDING FIRM – NO MATTER THE COST

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If you're current on the news, Christians in America are under greater persecution nowadays versus generations of the past. At an unprecedented rate, we're seeing the rights of unBelievers supersede the rights of Christians. Yes folks, it's real and we can't hide our heads in the sand (so to speak) and pretend it doesn't exist. Coupled with such news, I've learned that numerous Believers – those with a celebrity-type status (i.e., well known) – have fallen away and are in satan's camp now. The Word of God said this would happen, and it is (ref. 2 Tim 3:1-7).

My Christian sisters and brothers, be careful that your principle connection is to and in the Word daily, connecting with other Believers and in prayer. The world as we know it will continue its spiral toward self-destruction before our Lord returns, but you and I must hold fast no matter the cost. We must stay connected with God, via our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and really live under the power and anointing of the Holy Spirit. You know the true test (or measure) of the validity of what a man or a woman is saying (yes, even those in the pulpit) is to see if it agrees with the Word or not. The world and its changing culture will continue to diverge from the truth of the Gospel.

God so loves you and me and He has the only blueprint for our lives that we should follow. Following Jesus, we can't go wrong and we'll remain in right standing with our Father. I'm reminded of the Gospel classic now ... "On Christ the solid rock I stand ... all other ground is sinking sand; ALL other ground is sinking sand."

Let's continue to stand firm on the solid rock of Christ. If you've drifted from The Rock, then it's not too late to return. Get back in the game (God's game) for we know who wins in the end. That's right, our Lord does. We're on the winning team. How do we know this, because we've read the end of the story; we know how it all ends. "For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so, we will be with the Lord forever (1 Thess. 4:16-17, NIV).

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