Stand FIRM United in Christ ~ Philippians 4:1-3

→ Scripture Reading Phil. 3:20-21, 4:1-3

INTRODUCTION

May godly believers in the church provide you with many Examples to follow. 3:17 May we be broken and full of tears over those who live as Enemies of the cross. 3:18 May the wonders of our Citizenship in heaven fill us with Eager Expectation. 3:20 May we stand firm and remain Faithful to Christ Jesus in all we do and say. 4:1 BKC

Standing FIRM IN the Lord ~ Philippians 4:1

¹ Therefore, my brothers, you whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, that is how you should STAND FIRM in the Lord, dear friends!

IMPLICATIONS

→ Because of you are a CITIZEN of Heaven - Do Not GIVE UP

- 1...that is how you should STAND FIRM in the Lord, dear friends!
- **1 Corinthians 15:57-58** (NIV) But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory THROUGH our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁵⁸ Therefore, my dear brothers, STAND FIRM. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.
- ⁵⁸ Always work enthusiastically for the Lord, for you know that nothing you do for the Lord is ever usele**ss**. (NLT)
- **1 Corinthians 16:13** (NIV) Be on your <u>guard;</u> STAND <u>FIRM</u> in the faith; be men of <u>courage;</u> be <u>strong</u>. ¹⁴ Do everything in <u>love</u>.

NEVER Give Up... LABS

- be on GUARD
- stand FIRM
- refuse to be MOVED
- be COURAGEOUS
- be STRONG
- let LOVE motivate you
- nothing you DO for the Lord is USELESS

→ Because of you are a CITIZEN of Heaven - Be FAITHFUL

Philippians 1:27-28 (NIV) Whatever happens, CONDUCT yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Then, whether I come and see you or only hear about you in my absence, I will know that you STAND FIRM in one spirit, contending as one man for the faith of the gospel ²⁸ without being frightened in any way by those who oppose you...

Get ALONG in the LORD ~ Philippians 4:2-3

² I plead with Euodia and I plead with Syntyche to agree with each other in the Lord. ³ Yes, and I ask you, loyal yokefellow, help these women who have contended at my side in the cause of the gospel, along with Clement and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the book of life.

To live above with the saints we love - Oh, that will be glory.

But to live below with the saints we know - Well, that's another story. PTW

TAKE AWAY ??

- ¹ ...STAND FIRM in the Lord, dear friends.
- ² I plead with Euodia and I plead with Syntyche to AGREE with each other IN the Lord.
- ² I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to live in HARMONY IN the Lord. (NAS)
- ^{2:21} For everyone looks out for his own interests, not those of Jesus Christ. (NIV)

To WORK in HARMONY...

- Same GOAL
- Work TOGETHER
- DEFER to Each Other
- Don't Worry about WHO gets the CREDIT

Philippians 2:1-4 (NIV) IF you have any encouragement from being <u>united with Christ</u>, IF any comfort from His love, IF any fellowship with the Spirit, IF any tenderness and compassion,

- ² then make my joy complete BY being like-minded, having the <u>same love</u>, being <u>one in spirit</u> and <u>purpose</u>.
- ³ Do <u>nothing out of selfish ambition</u> or vain conceit, but in HUMILITY <u>consider others better than yourselves</u>.

HUMILITY does not mean putting ourselves down but rather lifting others up. HNTC

- ⁴ Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of OTHERS.
- ^{2:5} Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: ⁶ Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, ⁷ but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. ⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death even death on a cross! (NIV)
- ² I plead with... you to AGREE with each other IN the Lord.
- ² I URGE... you to live in HARMONY IN the Lord. (NAS)