

Fighting For The Right

(by Reed Linam on May 16, 2012)

We need to remember to do the right thing. Have you heard the poem: "Right is Right" by Hugh Clough? It goes like this:

*For Right is Right, since God is God,
And right the day must win;
To doubt would be disloyalty,
To Falter would be sin,*

I wonder if Mr. Clough was thinking about **I Timothy 6:11-16** when he wrote this poem. Paul encourages us to fight the good fight of faith. Read the text with me....

There are several places in the Bible that tell us to fight the good fight of faith. In fact, it is a favorite phrase of the apostle Paul. **Jude 3** also challenges us to contend for the Faith! But what does that mean? I think it means looking to the example of those who have already fought the battle.

Consider Caleb and Joshua in **Numbers 13-14**. There are at least two things I admire about those men. The first thing is their confidence. They were confident in fighting because they knew God would be with them. Even if we are in the minority we must not fall to the majority if the majority is wrong! They were two of only a handful of others able to enter the promised Land. And, the rest of the others that witnessed those events, and entered the promised land, were probably so young they barely remembered the event. Another thing we see in Caleb and Joshua is their courage. They had courage as spies and later when they entered the Promised Land. Joshua was told just before the children of Israel were to enter the promised land to be courageous in **Joshua 1:6-9**. He took that to heart.

Think about David, when he was a young boy. He would be remembered as the kid who fought the Giant. Even though he was short in stature, was not short in courage. **I Samuel 17:26-37** tells how he gained the victory. God was with him!

We need to consider the zeal of men like Phinehas the son of Eleazar. He demonstrated his zeal for what was right when one of the children of Israel in his day. In **Numbers 25:3-13** we read how he stood up to all the people and refused to watch them sin.

Finally, we need to consider Christ. Paul said in **Philippians 4:13** "*I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength.*" Jesus is our commander and chief. **Ephesians 6:10-18** tells us that He is our general leading the charge as we take up the armor of God.

I would like to share one more poem with you before we close our lesson....

Dare To Do Right (by George Lansing Taylor)

*Dare to do right! Dare to be true!
You have a work that no other can do,
Do it so bravely, so kindly, so well,
Angels will hasten the story to tell,*

*Dare to do right dare to be true!
Other men's failures can never save you;
Stand by your conscience, your honor, your faith;
Stand like a hero, and battle till death.*

*Dare to do right! Dare to be true!
God, who created you, cares for you too;
Treasures the tears that his striving ones shed,
Counts and protects every hair of your head.*

*Dare to do right! Dare to be true!
Keep the great judgment-seat always in view;
Look at your work as you'll look at it then-
Scanned by Jehovah, and angels, and men.*

*Dare to do right! Dare to be true!
Cannot omnipotence carry you through?
City and mansion and throne all in sight-
Can you not dare to be true and do right?*

*Dare to do right! Dare to be true!
Prayerfully, lovingly, firmly pursue,
The path by apostles and martyrs once trod,
The path of the just to the city of God.*

When we read **I Timothy 6:11-16** and think about all those great characters of the Bible we see a common theme. We need God's help if we are going to fight for the right! Are you willing to let God help you? Do you believe in Him? Have you accepted the sacrifice of Jesus, the Son of God, to take your place? Have you been baptized into Christ Jesus for the forgiveness of your sins? If you have a need tonight, please come now, while together we stand and sing...