Stand Firm 4 December 2011

## Philippians 4:1

#### I. Attention.

- A. Stand for instruction, commission, inspection by your Captain.
- B. As God told Moses to do, so that he would hear the law (Deuteronomy 5:31)
- C. In order to be commissioned by God (Deuteronomy 31:14; Ezekiel 2:1)
- D. Stand and be judged (Ezra 10:14)
- E. Live in obedience to Christ

### II. Determination

- A. Be unmoved in the face of opposition or uncertainty.
- B. As God told Moses to do before Pharaoh (Exodus 8:20; 9:13; Jeremiah 17:19; 26:2; Philippians 1:10; Ephesians 5:11)
- C. Guard or watch (Judges 4:20; Nehemiah 7:3; Isaiah 21:6; 62:6-7; 1 Samuel 12:23; Ezekiel 3:17; 33:6)
- D. Confirm a promise (Psalm 119:38; Philippians 1:7; Romans 10:14-15)
- E. Stand and argue your case (Job 33:5; 1 Peter 3:15)
- F. Live in the power of Christ, the Holy Spirit within you. (John 16:7)

# III. Expectation

- A. Stand and watch what God does on your behalf.
- B. As Moses told Israel to do before the coming Egyptian army (Exodus 14:13)
- C. Live in expectation of his *present*, powerful work in the world
- D. Live in expectation of his return (see 1 Corinthians 9:25; 2 Timothy 4:8; James 1:21; 1 Peter 5:4; Revelation 2:10; 3:11; 4:4, 10)

### IV. Therefore: stand!

- A. Practical instructions yet to come (Philippians 4:2-8)
- B. Bear the cross! (3:18)
- C. Live as a citizen of heaven in the world! (3:20-21see also 2:14-15; 1:27-30)

### V. The one who stood

- A. So we're supposed to stand firm? Try hard? Not give up?
- B. You are a sign pointing to *the one who stands for you*. (Psalm 37; Romans 14:4; Jude 24; Ephesians 5:25-27)
- C. The Lord stood arrayed in armor to fight for his people. (Isaiah 59:15b-19; cf. Ephesians 6:10-20)
- D. The innocent prisoner stood before Pilate and said nothing. (Mark 15:4)
- E. Stephen (Acts 7:54-60; see also Matthew 26:64; Mark 14:62; Luke 22:69; Colossians 3:1; Hebrews 8:1; 12:2)