

STAND YOUR WATCH UNTIL YOU ARE CALLED HOME!

Selected New Testament Scriptures

There is coming a day in each of our lives when we are going to be “piped ashore” for the last time, our time of service here will be over, and we will be a Veteran in the Lord’s Army.

We will then stand before our Supreme Commander, Jesus Christ, and be judged on how we have “stood the watch”.

- **Romans 14:10-12**

How does the Bible tell us that we can “stand the watch” and finish our course well for the Lord?

The Apostle Paul understood the importance of using things from his readers lives that would relate the spiritual truths he was telling. (Jesus did this with parables)

- A farmer
- An athlete
- A soldier

Let me share with you today 5 things that Bible tells us to do to “stand the watch” and “finish well” for the Lord.

Avoid Worldly Entanglements - II Timothy 2:4

- Paul says to his son in the faith, Timothy, be careful that the nets of this life do not keep you from your duty.
- Our motivation is to please the one that has enlisted us (Jesus).
- Avoid the landmines.
- A good example of this is seen in the Gospels when Jesus goes to the seashore to enlist His disciples, “they put down their nets”.
 - **Mark 1:18** (some translations say they forsook their nets)

Deny Yourself – I Corinthians 9:25-27

- Think of the training that goes into preparing for an Olympic Event, and Paul would say that is for something that will perish, what we will be given by Christ will never perish.
- **“exercises self-control in all things.”**

- Jesus never sugar coated what it was going to take to be one of His disciples.
 - **Luke 9:23-26**
- You can buy an Olympic Gold Medal on E-Bay, but you did not earn it.

Be Prepared To Endure Hardships – **II Timothy 2:3 & 10**

- Share hardships “with me”.
- Paul says I endure “all things” for the sake of those that will need to hear the Gospel.
- **Psalm 23:4 “for you are with me.”**
- The Church grows deeper and deeper in its commitment to its King as it comes under heavier persecution.
- **"Never did the church so much prosper and so truly thrive as when she was baptized in the blood. The ship of the church never sails so gloriously along as when the bloody spray of her martyrs falls on her deck. We must suffer and we must die, if we are ever to conquer this world for Christ." - Charles Spurgeon**

Pray – **Ephesians 6:18**

- Pray at all times.
- Many will struggle with this thought, “what is God’s will for my life?”
 - **I Thessalonians 5:16-17**
 - Rejoice always.
 - Pray without ceasing.
 - Give thanks in everything.

Wear The Armor – **Ephesians 6:11**

- Put on the full armor of God (**the example of King Saul and David**).
- So that we can stand firm against the schemes of the devil.