

BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH OF ERIE

SERMON OUTLINE

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#-6 Series: Philippians – : “Christ - “The Believer’s Joy”

TODAY’S MESSAGE:

“The Stand of the Saints”

As soldiers defending the faith we are called to duty. We do not hear too much about duty today, but Paul realized his responsibility and duty—not only to God, but to his fellow man as we see in *verses 24-26*.

Now we look at the “*Stand of the Saints*” from this passage as we conclude chapter 1. We are left here to stand-not sleep. We will notice several things about our stand.

I. THEIR CONDUCT-27

The word *conversation* is a political term that means *to behave as a citizen or our manner of living*. The word *becometh*. (27b) is a very graphic word meaning a **balance** or *having the weight of another thing*.

II. THEIR CONSISTENCY V-27b

I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast... (27) We need Christians today who would profess Christ in their life and stand with consistency. Our ecumenical times do not allow us to “stand” for much of anything lest we offend others who do not agree with us.

III. THEIR COOPERATION V-27c

The words **one spirit**, convey the idea of “*one soul*.” What the Church needs today is unity- people who are of one spirit.

While there will never be a Biblical unity between Bible believers and liberals there can and should be a precious unity among those of **like precious faith**.

Paul goes on to drive the ball home by exhorting believers that they are to be “**striving together for the faith of the gospel.**” (27e) The word striving carries the idea of contending in an athletic event. It speaks of teamwork whereby a group of athletes pull together and give it their all to defeat a common foe and win the game.

IV. THEIR COURAGE V-28

The life and ministry of the Christian is one of fearless perseverance. “*Terrified*” is a term that is used of the terror and frenzy of a horse that is frightened in battle.

V. THEIR CAUSE V-29

What a lesson this verse gives us! The word *given* comes from the same root as the English word *grace*. Even in the worst of situations, God has promised us that His grace is sufficient to meet the need (2 *Corinthians 12:6-9*)

VI. THEIR CONFLICT V-30

Paul had been maliciously persecuted for preaching the Gospel at Philippi, and he warned his followers that they would possibly suffer the same. The word **conflict**. (*agonia*) is the word from which **agony** is derived and it carries the idea of **struggling and wrestling**.

Paul had just said, “*For me to live is Christ.*” Now he is saying, “*For me to live is you.*” We don't love Christ if we don't love those God has committed to us. Loving Jesus expresses itself in concrete evidence as we touch the lives of other people. What Paul does for the Philippians will bring honor to Jesus (1:26). We ought to pray that whatever God allows us to do will bring someone closer to God and bring honor to Jesus Christ.