

STAND! - The Shield of Faith

October 3, 2021 David Rhodes

Ephesians 6:10-16

"Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. ¹¹Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. ¹²For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. ¹³Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. ¹⁴Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, ¹⁵and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. ¹⁶In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one."

The Flexibility of Faith

Ephesians 5:16

"...take up the shield of faith..."

The Nature of Faith

Hebrews 11:1, The Voice

"Faith is the assurance of things you have hoped for, the absolute conviction

that there are realities you've never seen."

- **Biblical faith is in Christ**

Ephesians 3:10-12

"His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms,¹¹ according to his eternal purpose that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord. ¹²In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence."

- **Biblical faith rests in the love of God**

Ephesians 3:16-18

"I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, ¹⁷so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, ¹⁸may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ."

CH Spurgeon ~ *God is too good to be unkind and He is too wise to be*

mistaken. And when we cannot trace His hand, we must trust His heart.

- **Biblical faith taps into the power of God**

Ephesians 3:20-21

"Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, ²¹to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever!"

- **Biblical faith yields to the eternal purposes of God**

Ephesians. 3:11

"according to his eternal purpose that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord."

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