

Keep Fighting, Pressing, Hoping, Striving, Enduring and Overcoming for the Reward! Bro. Elijah

One of Satan's most destructive doctrines is the belief of being "saved" because it deceives people into thinking that they do not have to work for salvation. However, the Bible is clear in warning us that earning Salvation is a life long battle that will take everything we have. This fight for salvation is not easy but it is worth it because the ultimate Reward is to become God. The Bible is very clear that this glorious reward will only be given to us at the first resurrection, when Jesus returns. Therefore, it is impossible for anyone living to be "saved". Sadly, most Christians do not even know that they are in a battle, let alone that if we overcome the Battle, that we will be just like God.

FIGHT:

No living person is currently saved. If we were, we would not have to fight to receive eternal life. The first thing people need to realize is that they need to be keeping God's holy perfect law for salvation. Keeping those laws is how we evidence our faith to God. Once folks realize that, then they will learn that we have to fight to keep God's commandments perfectly until Jesus returns.

1 Timothy 6:10-14

King James Version (KJV)

10 For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

11 But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness.

12 Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life,

whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.

13 I give thee charge in the sight of God, who quickeneth all things, and before Christ Jesus, who before Pontius Pilate witnessed a good confession;

14 That thou keep this commandment without spot, unrebukable, until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ:

It is by God's love (sacrifice) that we all have the chance to be called the Son's of God through adhering to God's Word. Once we start to obey God, we become the Son's of God spiritually, but if we overcome to the end we will physically become the Son's of God and receive immortality. In adhering to God's uncut Word, we will be alienated from the world because the world does not know God. Hence, the world does not keep God's sabbath, feast days, dietary laws and does not know sound doctrine. Yet, they mock us for obeying God. Overall, those that hope in everlasting life will purify themselves through the keeping of God's law aka not sinning, like Jesus who became the Son of God at his resurrection.

1 John 3:1-4

King James Version (KJV)

3 Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.

2 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.

3 And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.

4 Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is

the transgression of the law.

We are to strive to not break God's law i.e. Not sin! The Lord is our advocate for us when we sin by mistake but not if we sin willfully, therefore we must fight to not sin. Jesus knew people would lie and say they know him without really knowing him. The only way to know God is to keep his commandments.

1 John 2

King James Version (KJV)

1 My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:

2 And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.

3 And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments.

4 He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

No one is saved from eternal death in the present. We are only saved from whatever we stop doing, but since there is a chance that we may backslide, no one can say that they have eternal salvation. If we do not keep in mind sound doctrine and go astray, our faith is in vain because it takes action to get salvation.

1 Corinthians 15:1-2

King James Version (KJV)

1 Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye

stand;

2 By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain.

PRESS:

Paul knew that he was flesh and blood and thus has not obtained everlasting life (salvation). If we make a mistake, we are not to dwell on it, but we need to repent and press toward immortality through walking in the Word of God.

Philippians 3:12-14

King James Version (KJV)

12 Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus.

13 Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,

14 I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

HOPE:

We are to keep the hope til the end for salvation by our obedience! When we start to walk in Truth we are in more jeopardy than those that don't know they have to obey God because they can still get on board whereas we have no excuse and are only options is to stay on board or jump ship. That is why we are warned to not turn to our former lusts i.e. disobedience, which shows we all have to turn from our former lusts to begin with!

1 Peter 1:13-14

King James Version (KJV)

13 Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and **hope to the end** for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ;

14 As obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance:

STRIVE :

It is going to take effort to get salvation! If you do not strive, you will not make it! Many people sadly think that all they have to do is believe and they will get eternal life, which is why they won't make it! People think they can worship God anyway and God will accept them. That is what Cain thought, and he was killed. Many fake Christians have convinced themselves that they are saved and thus will be in for a rude awakening when Jesus denies them access to his kingdom!

Luke 13

King James Version (KJV)

24 Strive to enter in at the strait gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able.

25 When once the master of the house is risen up, and hath shut to the door, and ye begin to stand without, and to knock at the door, saying, Lord, Lord, open unto us; and he shall answer and say unto you, I know you not whence ye are:

26 Then shall ye begin to say, We have eaten and drunk in thy presence, and thou hast taught in our streets.

27 But he shall say, I tell you, I know you not whence ye are; depart

from me, all ye workers of iniquity.

28 There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when ye shall see Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, and all the prophets, in the kingdom of God, and you yourselves thrust out.

29 And they shall come from the east, and from the west, and from the north, and from the south, and shall sit down in the kingdom of God.

30 And, behold, there are last which shall be first, and there are first which shall be last.

ENDURE:

The world as whole will not love, like, or know you when you start to live for the Jesus of the Bible through obeying his word. They will persecute you and hate you. But through all of this, we are instructed and warned that only those that ENDURE until the END will be SAVED! Therefore, no one is saved now, and it takes extreme action and effort to get salvation.

Mark 13:13

King James Version (KJV)

13 And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake: but he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.

OVERCOME :

We are to overcome by keeping the works (obedience to Jesus' doctrine and instructions) til the END in order to receive the reward of eternal Life! Our reward is predicated on overcoming, which means that there is a chance that we will not overcome. This proves that we have to fight,

hope, strive, endure, and press til the end!

Revelation 2

King James Version (KJV)

25 But that which ye have already hold fast till I come.

26 And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations:

27 And he shall rule them with a rod of iron; as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to shivers: even as I received of my Father.

TAKE HEED! These action verbs are important to do until the end because it is possible to depart from the Lord and the faith at any given time! Thus, we are not saved now!

Hebrews 3

King James Version (KJV)

12 Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God.

13 But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.

14 For we are made partakers of Christ, if we hold the beginning of our confidence stedfast unto the end;

We need to be reminded to stay on board and keep God's commandments every day because it is possible to backslide and sin willfully, and if we do, we will NOT get salvation. Admonition: The punishment of Jesus is much worse than that of Moses! Our Faith will

help us to overcome!

Hebrews 10

King James Version (KJV)

22 Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.

23 Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)

24 And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works:

25 Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.

26 For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins,

27 But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries.

28 He that despised Moses' law died without mercy under two or three witnesses:

29 Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?

36 For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise.

38 Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.

39 But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of

them that believe to the saving of the soul.

Principles = Basics. We are to "Grow in Grace" by learning how to please God more and more. By striving to obey God and overcome, we are hoping to be Perfect! We are warned not to backslide! If we go out the back door and lose our mind, like king Saul, it is impossible to repent and walk in the truth again. Therefore, no one is saved and we must press and endure til the end!

Hebrews 6

King James Version (KJV)

1 Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God,

2 Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.

3 And this will we do, if God permit.

4 For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost,

5 And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come,

6 If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame.

7 For the earth which drinketh in the rain that cometh oft upon it, and bringeth forth herbs meet for them by whom it is dressed, receiveth blessing from God:

8 But that which beareth thorns and briers is rejected, and is nigh unto

cursing; whose end is to be burned.

9 But, beloved, we are persuaded better things of you, and things that accompany salvation, though we thus speak.

We need to know and understand that we are in fight against SATAN For our SALVATION! Jesus prayed for Peter because it is possible for our Faith can fail! Peter was confident that he was ready to ride and die for the Lord but to his surprise the Lord foretold him that he would deny the Lord. People have the same mentality when it comes to salvation and they don't even know the truth!

Luke 22

King James Version (KJV)

31 And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat:

32 But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren.

33 And he said unto him, Lord, I am ready to go with thee, both into prison, and to death.

34 And he said, I tell thee, Peter, the cock shall not crow this day, before that thou shalt thrice deny that thou knowest me.

Paul knew that he was not saved and that he had to fight til the end! The people of the world that strive for mastery are disciplined and temperate. However, they are striving for degrees and titles that are corruptible. We are striving for an incorruptible crown and thus, we have to be even more disciplined and strive harder to meet God's standards. God's standard is his law!

1 Corinthians 9

King James Version (KJV)

24 Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain.

25 And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible.

26 I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air:

27 But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.

We will be blessed if we endure until the end! Our Reward will include rulership with Jesus! Some people's actions may show that they are weary of serving God. This is why we that know better need to always keep these action verbs in mind. Jesus showing us another example of how we can be serving him one day and out the back door the next. The more we know the more responsibility we have to do the right thing or else!

Luke 12

King James Version (KJV)

40 Be ye therefore ready also: for the Son of man cometh at an hour when ye think not.

43 Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing.

44 Of a truth I say unto you, that he will make him ruler over all that he

hath.

45 But and if that servant say in his heart, My lord delayeth his coming; and shall begin to beat the menservants and maidens, and to eat and drink, and to be drunken;

46 The lord of that servant will come in a day when he looketh not for him, and at an hour when he is not aware, and will cut him in sunder, and will appoint him his portion with the unbelievers.

47 And that servant, which knew his lord's will, and prepared not himself, neither did according to his will, shall be beaten with many stripes.

48 But he that knew not, and did commit things worthy of stripes, shall be beaten with few stripes. For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required: and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more.

We will receive salvation at the end, only if we keep the commandments.

Revelation 22

King James Version (KJV)

12 And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.

13 I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last.

14 Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.

We must continually repent, especially if we fall. God hates the false doctrine from Rome (deeds of the Nicolaitanes), so it is important that

we expose them and stay away from them. However, it takes more than refuting false doctrine to get salvation. We must OVERCOME our evil thoughts and the world by doing GOOD WORKS until the end in order to receive Salvation!

Revelation 2

King James Version (KJV)

5 Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent.

6 But this thou hast, that thou hatest the deeds of the Nicolaitanes, which I also hate.

7 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God.

10 Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.

11 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; He that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death.

16 Repent; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth.

17 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it.

24 But unto you I say, and unto the rest in Thyatira, as many as have not this doctrine, and which have not known the depths of Satan, as they speak; I will put upon you none other burden.

25 But that which ye have already hold fast till I come.

26 And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations:

We need to be mindful to remember to do good and repent from wickedness. We can get our name blotted out of the book of life if we don't overcome! If we keep God's Word in a way that pleases him, we will not have to go through the hour of temptation.

Revelation 3

King James Version (KJV)

3 Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast, and repent. If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee.

4 Thou hast a few names even in Sardis which have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with me in white: for they are worthy.

5 He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels.

10 Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth.

11 Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown.

12 Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I

will write upon him my new name.

19 As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.

20 Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.

21 To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne.

22 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.