

God Will Complete What He Has Started.

One of the virtues of faith or steps of faith is to believe that God who started a good work in you will complete it.

You must have that kind of faith to believe that God started it so he will complete it. God has got your back and He will hold you until it is complete.

Your assignment on earth that God has already prepared for you has been given by God and therefore God has a responsibility to ensure it comes to pass and that you complete it. *Philippians 1:6 [TLB] And I am sure that God who began the good work within you will keep right on helping you grow in his grace until his task within you is finally finished on that day when Jesus Christ returns.*

Paul was absolutely sure of this one thing that God would complete the task given to him on the day Christ returns. So the onus on Paul was to keep holding onto his faith in Jesus until every plan and purpose in God is fulfilled.

That's why he tells us to fight the good fight of faith in *1Tim 6:12 We have to fight to keep our faith. Try as hard as you can to win that fight. Take hold of eternal life. It is the life you were chosen to have when you confessed your faith in Jesus—that wonderful truth that you spoke so openly and that so many people heard. [2Tim4:7]*

In *Philippians 2:12 -13 12 My Christian friends, you have obeyed me when I was with you. You have obeyed even more when I have been away. You must keep on working to show you have been saved from the punishment of sin. Be afraid that you may not please God. 13 He is working in you. God is helping you obey Him. God is doing what He wants done in you.*

What Paul is saying is that if we say we are saved from sin from the power of sin and death then that salvation must express itself in progressive Christian living and upright character not only individually but through participation in God's corporate call to the local church. Our salvation must show in the manifestation of the fruit of the Spirit.

Have you found that in today's society confessing your faith and living out your faith has become a fight? It's not easy anymore.

Many are coming against what we believe and against what the bible teaches. People want a secular modern care free kind of living where all things are ok, a kind of life without much accountability for what they do.

We are living in times where standing up for Jesus is being questioned, preaching the gospel is being questioned. We are living in times where the scriptures are being twisted and interpreted for man's selfish pleasure and purpose to justify a life style that suits them.

We are living in times where people cannot endure this sound doctrine because they have turned their ears away from the truth and have turned aside to fables. *2Tim 4:3-4 says, 3 The time will come when people will not listen to the truth. They will look for teachers who will tell them only what they want to hear. 4 They will not listen to the truth. Instead, they will listen to stories made up by men.*

These are the times we are living in now church. [2Tim3:2] That's why 2Tim4 :2 tells to *preach the Word of God : Preach the Word of God. Preach it when it is easy and people want to listen and when it is hard and people do not want to listen. Preach it all the time. Use the Word of God to show people they are wrong. Use the Word of God to help them do right. You must be willing to wait for people to understand what you teach as you teach them.*

So how can we hold on to our faith and fight this good fight of faith till Jesus comes? To fight the good fight of faith means that we **abide in the Word by faith**, regardless of what we feel or what we think we understand. Jesus said, *"If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed."* John 8:31

The Bible tells us not to be overcome or bowled over by evil but overcome or bowl over evil with good (Rom 12:21)

Rom 6:11-12 tells us to be dead to sin (the act or state of missing the mark or standard God had for us/ Gods best, it came out of disobedience) but alive to God in Jesus. Eph 2:1 tells us this: In the past you were spiritually dead because of your sins and the things you did against God, in Vs 12 it says at that time you were without Christ alienated and strangers having no hope without God.

To fight the good fight of faith means that we **stand firmly anchored in the Word** in the power of the Spirit, reckoning ourselves dead to our feelings and our human reasoning, not letting sin rule in our mortal body by obeying its lusts.

We have to do what Jesus says: *"Anyone who wants to follow me must put aside his own desires and conveniences and carry his cross with him every day and **keep close to me!**"* (Luke 9:23) [**"Take up your cross and follow Me"** means being willing to die in order to follow Jesus. This is called "dying to self." It's a call to absolute surrender].

Paul also says the same thing: *"But if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live."* Rom 8:13 (*Demonstrate : The Spirit The Soul and The Body and how they function*).

Are we bombarded with things of sin, the flesh, with our own desires and feelings and lust? Yes! What's the solution to that? The Holy Spirit - to seek the Holy Spirit and His things and His ways and allow Him to be ruler over your feelings and emotions and lustful things and this ain't easy because there is a war going on with the Spirit and the flesh.

Paul says in Rom 7:21 because he faced this situation, It seems to be a fact of life that when I want to do what is right, I inevitably do what is wrong.

How many of us struggle with that? Paul struggled with that too. But Paul said I press on, I keep going, I keep pushing, I keep fighting as in Philippians 3:12 *I don't mean to say I am perfect. I haven't learned all I should even yet, but I keep working, pressing toward that day when I will finally be all that Christ saved me for and wants me to be.*

This tells us that we have not arrived in fact we are far away from arrived and there is much more learning and pushing and pruning and shaping and correcting and conflict managing that has to happen before I am what Christ gave His life for me to be.

So Friends, There is hope. No one has arrived but we are all on a journey of faith looking unto Jesus the author and perfecter of our faith. Be confident that God who started a good work in you will complete it when Christ returns. Keep the faith run the race set before you, never give up on God and His purposes. Look to the Holy Spirit to strengthen you and lead you in His ways in his path of righteousness.

Many people have strongholds in their lives, it is something they are addicted to drawn to even when they know they should not yet they give in to the addiction the craving and the desire - stronghold. Today you can break that stronghold in the name of Jesus and be set free.