

RHEMA

Week 4 - Just Keep Standing

(INTRO)

Proverbs 24:16 though the righteous fall seven times (No matter how many times (GNT), they rise again, but the wicked stumble when calamity strikes.

Romans 8:31 What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? 32 He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? 33 Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. 34 Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. 35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? 36 As it is written:

“For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.”

37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. 38 For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, 39 neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Transitional Phrase: Standing has less to do with how powerful you are more to do with the resilience of your decision!

If you're going to learn to stand... You need to know,

Circumstances do not dictate His power

OBSERVATION: We often see the love of God, or the acceptance of God, filtered through what is happening:

If it's good I must be good

If I'm blessed He must love me

If there's less hardship I must be walking in His favor

When OFTEN the OPPOSITE is TRUE!!

When the position of my life is rooted in Christ's love and acceptance, circumstances hold less power over my life!

LIST OF PAULS STRUGGLES

2 Corinthians 11: 23 I have worked much harder, been in prison more frequently, been flogged more severely, and been exposed to death again and again. 24 Five times I received from the Jews the forty lashes minus one. 25 Three times I was beaten with rods, once I was pelted with stones, three times I was shipwrecked, I spent a night and a day in the open sea, 26 I have been constantly on the move. I have been in danger from rivers, in danger from bandits, in danger from my fellow Jews, in danger from Gentiles; in danger in the city, in danger in the country, in danger at sea; and in danger from false believers. 27 I have labored and toiled and have often gone without sleep; I have known hunger and thirst and have often gone without food; I have been cold and naked. 28 Besides everything else, I face daily the pressure of my concern for all the churches. 29 Who is weak, and I do not feel weak? Who is led into sin, and I do not inwardly burn?

30 If I must boast, I will boast of the things that show my weakness. 31 The God and Father of the Lord Jesus, who is to be praised forever, knows that I am not lying.

Your struggles don't change His love

35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? 36 As it is written: “For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.” 37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

Q: What struggle comes back over and over and steals your ability to stand?

- Secret sin
- Discouragement, negativity, comparison

Truth: If your struggle is too much for God's love you must not

His love is not a license for continued and willful sin, it's a open invitation for forgiveness and transformation!

Standing is a decision not a feeling

38 For I am convinced....

What convincing do you need. What will it take for you believe. To put your full trust in God. To stop chasing a feeling, a high and fully commit.

There will come a time your faith is tested and it better be built on the reality of who He is, and not on the uncertainty of your emotions.

The moment you'll **need** to stand you won't **feel** like standing!

Example:

- Reference Paul's list
- Meshach, Shadrach, Abednego
- Jesus on the Cross

Our faith is battle tested and built to stand!

**Have the crowd repeat:
If it's built on Jesus it's built to stand!**

CLOSING: *Proverbs 24:16 though the righteous fall seven times (No matter how many times (GNT), they rise again, but the wicked stumble when calamity strikes.*

(CLOSING)

1. Salvation