

THE FIGHT OF FAITH

JUNE 5, 2024

1 TIM. 6:11-12

Before instructing Timothy to flee and fight, Paul reminds him of those who turned away from their faith (1 TIM. 1:19-20). He spoke of others departing from the faith (1 TIM. 4:1). He also mentions casting off their first faith (1 TIM. 5:11-15).

Faith is a Fight

This means our faith will be opposed by forces that need recognized and identified in order to be resisted. It also means living by faith won't be easy. No fight ever is.

Four Charges

- 1.) Flee. Run away from. It involves fight and flight. Jesus said to cut sin off or flee from what causes us to sin.
- 2.) Follow. Run to or pursue. Righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, and meekness.
- 3.) Fight. Faith is a fight with words. Jesus said faith is released by speaking. We are to speak the truth as Jesus did. "It is written" is our offensive weapon.
- 4.) Lay hold. To seize and take hold of what is ours (JOSH. 18:1-3). Complacency won't cut it. There must be a driving desire to experience our inheritance and become the people God wants us to be.

Enemies to Faith

- 1.) Pride - PR. 16:18 Lucifer, Eve and Nebuchadnezzar agree.
- 2.) Worldly lusts - 1 JOHN 2:16-17
- 3.) The Flesh - GAL. 5:16-17 Passivity, complacency, etc.
- 4.) The Mind - 2 COR. 10:3-5 Guilt, condemnation, inferiority, etc.
- 5.) People - NUM. 33:55 NLT Avoid strife, contentions, etc.
- 6.) The devil - 1 PET. 5:6-9 What steals, kills, and destroys.

Conclusion: - God has called us to stand up and fight, not to be complacent or passive about our pursuit of our inheritance in Christ. The fight of faith involves fleeing, following, fighting, and laying hold of what Jesus sacrificed His life for us to have.