

STANDBAST IN THE LORD
PHIL. 4:1

Introduction:

- A. Every verse of Scripture has context.
 - 1. Not necessarily one verse above and one below, but often times many verses.
 - 2. The context of every verse is the whole Bible.

 - B. In this verse, we must consider it with the truths written in previous verses.
 - 1. "stand fast in the Lord," a commandment for certain people.
 - 2. Saved, baptized, committed.

 - C. Paul recognized them as having a particular part in his life.
 - 1. They are "brethren."
 - 2. They are, "dearly beloved and longed for."
 - 3. They are, "my joy and my crown."
- I. GETTING READY TO "STANDBAST IN THE LORD."
JESUS TAUGHT US TO, "COUNT THE COST."
- A. Saved by the Grace of God. 3:3-6.
 - 1. Paul forsook and disclaimed all work of the flesh.
 - 2. He did not depend on an ordinance, on his race, on his genealogy, on keeping the law, on his zeal, on his own righteousness.

 - B. He was immersed after his new-birth. Acts.
 - 1. Acts 9:1-19.
 - 2. If you are saved, don't be afraid of baptism.

 - C. Seek to know Christ. v10
 - 1. "the power of His resurrection."
 - 2. "the fellowship of His sufferings."
 - 3. "conformable unto His death."

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- D. Lock-on to living for Jesus Christ.
 - 1. "forgetting those things which are behind."
 - 2. "press toward the mark."

- E. Keep on walking!
 - 1. Walk by the same "rule" that got you where you are!
 - 2. Walk by the same "mark" the same solid example...

I. NOW THAT YOU HAVE DONE THESE THINGS,
"STANDBY IN THE LORD..."

- A. What is it to stand fast in the Lord?
 - 1. It is not, "holding on."
 - 2. It is not, "putting up" with something.
 - 3. It is not ignoring something.

- B. It is boldly standing firm on the promises of God in the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - 1. When the flood of sorrow rolls in. Job.
 - 2. When the fire of persecution flames up. Hebrew children.
 - 3. When the doctrinal walls are crumbling down.
 - 4. When the multitudes turn back, and walk no more with you.

- C. Paul wrote of this earlier.
 - 1. Eph. 6:1.
 - 2. Rom. 8:35.

- D. Such people will be Paul's hope of a crown.
 - 1. Not the ones who have been saved.
 - a. "My joy and crown."