

Get Ready to Stand in the Fire

by Carter Conlon

To stand in the fire, one must have a strong inner core, a good conscience before God, and trust in God's sovereignty and goodness.

Duration: 42:41

Scripture: Acts 23:1, Acts 24:16, Ephesians 6:12

Topics: "Perseverance", "Spiritual Warfare"

Description

This sermon emphasizes the importance of having a conscience free of offense towards God and man, using the example of Paul standing in the face of persecution. It highlights the need to align our lives with the Word of God, resist anger and bitterness, and trust in God's strength to endure trials. The message encourages listeners to obey God, seek reconciliation, and stand firm in the midst of societal challenges and spiritual battles.

Transcript

Get ready to stand in the fire. Acts chapter 23 please. Get ready to stand in the fire.

Now folks this is a prophetic message. It's time to get ready. You don't have long to consider what you're about to hear today.

Now Father I thank you with all my heart for the profound truth of your Word. I thank you Lord for the strength that you give to ordinary people and that you would even consider partnering with frail humanity for the declaration of your truth. I ask you Lord to overpower the frailty of this human vessel, the limitations of this mind.

God Almighty the tremblings of this heart and I pray God that you just give me the power to speak in such a manner that your kingdom truly would advance solidly, soundly in the hearts of your people. This is not a time Lord for pep rallies. This is an hour for truth.

God Almighty help us to hear. Help me to speak it. I ask it in Jesus' name.

Acts chapter 23 beginning at verse 1. Get ready to stand in the fire. And Paul earnestly beholding the council. Now keep, the apostle Paul has been brought before the council of Pharisees, chief priests to be judged in a sense because he's standing for Christ.

This is our context. And Paul earnestly beholding the council said, men and brethren I have lived in all good conscience before God until this day. And the high priest Ananias commanded them that stood by him to smite him on the mouth.

Then Paul said to him, God shall smite thee thou whited wall. For sittest thou to judge me after the law and command us me to be smitten contrary to the law. And they that stood by said, revilest thou God's high priest.

Then said Paul, I wish not brethren that he was the high priest for it is written thou shall not speak evil of the ruler of thy people. The apostle Peter said, beloved in first Peter chapter 4 verse 12, beloved think it not strange concerning the fiery trial, which is to try you as though some strange thing happened to you. And Peter was aware that by the Holy Spirit a warning was coming to the Christian population of that generation that a great persecution was about to arise against them.

And Peter said, don't think this is strange when this kind of a thing begins to happen. Don't think it's out of God's control. Don't think it has no purpose.

Don't think it has no divine plan behind it. Don't think it's strange. If you know that God is in absolute control of everything, then you'll not be shaken by anything that happens.

There's a confidence, a trust that will be deeply planted within your heart, and you'll begin to understand that all things do work together for good. All things work together for a divine purpose. You see, a purpose that you and I may not fully understand.

At times we may not appreciate it, but it works together for good. 1989, I came home from an evangelistic crusade in eastern Canada where I'm telling other people about the goodness of God. I'm telling others about the blessing.

I'm telling them about the provision. I'm telling them about the protection of God. Came home from that season of traveling to the total loss of the physical structure of our home.

Fire department said it was one of the most incredible fires they'd ever seen. The house was completely burned. There was nothing left, not a single wall standing.

Everything fell into the foundation. An absolute, complete, and total destruction of my home. Came back from an evangelistic crusade.

I remember standing in my yard and the memories suddenly were flooding me. The comforts, the pictures, everything was gone. I had labored hard to rebuild what was an old log farmhouse into something that was a little more modern.

All the memories are gone. All of our pictures of our children, our family, everything that we'd accumulated up to that point in 1989 was gone. It was complete and total destruction of everything that we owned.

The songs of praise that were sung in that house. This was a house where praise was. We had an old piano in the living room and during one season there were many, many people who gathered there together and I remember the songs we used to sing.

The glory, the joy of the Lord that used to be in that house. Many people were taken into shelter there. One winter we had 17 people in our home.

A single mother and two children whose husband had died. Another who was in a difficult situation, a pastor that needed shelter to continue the work of God and others in that home. I looked at the what used to be the kitchen where Pastor Teresa and I were called into the ministry and where the Holy Spirit met me in a sovereign way.

A way that I have cried out to God for many years that he would do that again. So suddenly, so fearful, I'd never ever even anticipated that God could meet a person like that. Suffice to say it was an encounter with God that brought a deeper fear into my heart than anything I'd ever known in my lifetime.

But yet there was a strange comfort with it. I can't explain it to you other than that way. It was in this house on the steps that led up to the living room that I wrote the song, I Love You Jesus.

Sat there with my guitar one day, newly saved, filled with the Holy Spirit, absolutely in love with God. The provision of God all around, the protection of God, the blessing of God was touching my home on every side. The faith of God was coming into my heart to trust him for the impossible.

In that house we not only fed people but we were fed supernaturally. Many of you know the story of how the Lord provided. It's the house that we were returning to after having spoken of the goodness of God to so many people.

To find everything materially and physically altered. There was only one thing left standing of my house. It was the fireplace and its chimney.

And it was still standing because it had been built and designed and equipped to stand in the fire. It stood there as an ominous reminder that one day everything that can be shaken is going to be shaken. That only that which cannot be shaken might remain.

Let me read it to you please from Hebrews chapter 12. I'll just read it to you for time's sake. Whose voice then shook the earth but now he's promising yet once more I shake not the earth only but also heaven.

And this word yet once more signifying the removing of those things that are shaken as of things that are made. Or in other words the things that can be shaken have been made by another source than by the hand of God. That those things which cannot be shaken may remain.

Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved let us have grace whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear for our God is a consuming fire. You know one day we get to heaven the scripture says that every man's work will be tried by fire to prove what kind of a work it really is. And I do believe that down here on this earth and perhaps in our generation much of what calls itself the house of God is about to be tested by fire to see whether or not it really is the house of God.

Paul said in Ephesians 6 12 and 13 we wrestle not against flesh and blood but against principalities against powers against the rulers of the darkness of this world against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armor of God that you may be able to withstand in the evil day and having done all to stand. Paul says take the whole armor of God.

Now later in Ephesians he begins to explain having your your loins gird with truth having the helmet of salvation on the sword of the Spirit shield of faith your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace. Talks about the totality of believing God of having received the kingdom of God and the Word of God and having embraced the commission of God. Paul knew from his own experience that half-hearted

lukewarm approach is to the things of God will not get you through folks.

You won't get through and I won't get through and having done all he said to stand. Now this structure that was stood to fire destruction of what I had once called home was not made of just ordinary material it was made of previously tested and proven substance. Actually fireplace mortar I don't know how many of you know this but it actually gets stronger the more the heat touches it.

Ordinary mortar used in the fireplace will begin to crumble it will crack it will dry out but there's a special ingredient that God puts in the mortar that's in a fireplace that when the fire touches it it gets stronger. The evidence of the true Christian life is that no matter what God brings against what God allows rather to be brought against us no matter what the enemy throws our way if Christ is in us if the right mixture of God's life as it is in us we become stronger by the fire we become deeper by the testings that are all around us. The brick that was there has been laboratory tested and it's been proven to endure through a thousand fires.

I thank God for that with all my heart. Could you imagine a contractor saying after building a fireplace in your home better get prepared to run. We got this brick pretty cheap and it's real pretty and it comes with a pamphlet with lots of promises but it's never been tested in the fire.

Could you imagine? You tell that man hold the match don't do this thing how how did you think you could build such a deficient structure in my home and somehow get away with it. I don't want fancy brick that has not been tested in the fire I want something that's been proven I want something that's it's gone through the the the laboratory testing that these kind of things have to go through I want something that is approved. Thank God for industry standards.

Think today about the number of people that are building a Christian life on fancy cheap bricks and pamphlets with promises but it's never been tested by the fire but I'm telling you it's going to be very very shortly tested by the fire and God says now we'll know every man's work what it's made of. We'll know we'll see what's standing when this is all over we'll see when difficulty comes what's left standing in my house that has claimed to be part of my kingdom. Think about airplanes for a moment and I'm very thankful for this particular illustration because I'm getting on one at 430 this afternoon.

I'm so thankful that they've been proven to be able to withstand the turbulence.

I saw a documentary one time of how they test an airplane it's in a huge huge chamber they put the frame of the airplane in this chamber and then they begin to hit it from every side with shakings and winds and they do this for hours and days to see exactly how much that aircraft can withstand and I thank God for that because when I get up there and we hit the turbulence I want to know it's not the prettiness of the aircraft that's going to withstand the trial folks I don't care how pretty it looks I'm not flying in an airplane that's put together with carpenters glue but the fabric ingredients of its inner core will determine its outcome whether or not it can get through the storm and the turbulence that it's going to have to face there's got to be something more than just an exterior

prettiness there's got to be an interior structure that allows it to go through the difficulties and the buffeting's the trials it's not the prettiness and I thank God for that with all my heart all folks in the coming days some of the some of the prettiest Christians are going to head for the hills in the times we're going to be facing and it's the ones that that were not eloquent they were not speakers they they they they didn't look like much to the natural eye are going to be standing they're going to have a word they're going to

have confidence in God let me tell you why because they've been through the fire already they've had to go in the prayer closet and trust God for their bread they've had to pray their sons and daughters out of the hands of the devil they said of Paul in 2nd

Corinthians 10 10 his bodily presence is weak and his speech is contemptible but this man had an inner core that was given to him of God that proves to us today that ordinary people are able by the life of Christ within them to withstand everything that life adversity opposition and hell can throw at them in other words Paul was the industry standard of the Holy Spirit he was put into this chamber of testing and in this chamber of testing God proved through the life of Paul as Paul said it himself everything works together for good everything I've put in his hand he's able to keep until I get to the end of this journey Paul knew this he didn't know it just because he studied the scriptures he knew it because he lived through the trials of this life he'd walked through everything that hell

in this world could throw at him and he finished his course with joy and he had an inner belief in his heart that no matter where I stand no matter what I have to go through God is in control and I'm gonna finish this journey for his glory no matter what comes against us we're gonna finish this journey for his glory his glory go to 2nd Corinthians please chapter 11 with me if you will 2nd Corinthians chapter 11 now this is the industry standard of the Holy Spirit verse 24 of the Jews five times received I-40 striped saved one I mean five times he had 39 lashes to the whip across his back thrice that's three times I was beaten with rods once was I stoned thrice three times I suffered shipwreck a night in the day I've been in the deep that was in the ocean in journeyings often in perils of

waters in perils of robbers in perils of mine own countrymen in perils by the heathen in perils in the city in perils in the wilderness in perils in the sea in perils among false brethren in weariness and painfulness in watchings often in hunger and thirst and fastings and cold and nakedness and besides those things that are without that which comes upon me daily the care of all the churches folks Paul was put in this this testing chamber and he says elsewhere in 2nd Corinthians chapter 4 verses 8 and 9 we're troubled on every side but not distressed perplexed but not in despair persecuted not just forsaken cast down but not destroyed in verse 11 he says for we which live are always delivered unto death that means in places where ordinary men couldn't survive for Jesus sake that the life

also of Jesus might be made manifest in our mortal flesh Paul was saying we were delivered constantly into places where we could not survive in our own strength that the life of God would be made known in us and through us and then verse 15 he says all these things he says to the church were for your sakes God let me go through this for your sakes there has to be a voice on the other side of the storm that said this way it's all right you're going to make it you're not going to be overcome you're not going to be overpowered you're not going to be destroyed the floods will come against you the fires will burn on every side but God says he's going to walk with you through to the other side you are going to make it to the other side Paul was the one who's tested buffeted beaten went through

I don't know how many of us here today would want this testimony of this man but Paul at the end could even be in a prison after all of this he ends up in prison but he knows in his heart that the life of God and me cannot be triumphed over God puts a quill in his hand and he begins to write letters to his friends hallelujah to the Lamb of God that we are reading today being encouraged by today and so now let's go back to our opening text Acts 23 one here stands Paul he's standing in a society that has largely come to hate the testimony of Christ we are heading there very quickly folks he suddenly thrust headlong into the full fury of this world's hatred for God this is the fire I'm talking about today other physical situations you'll

get through I got through you'll get through you know

so easy to get bitter I could have stood in my yard said God this is how you reward me for taking in the homeless for praising you this is what you do take away everything everything everything that we had in this world that was precious to us except for our children thank God all these things are gone but folks I'm telling you I simply chose to trust him I chose to believe that everything God allows has a reason God knew I'd be in New York City God knew certain things had to happen certain things need to be taken away a certain trust had to be placed in my heart and there was no other way that trust could come but through the fire God knew that I'd be called to stand in some difficult circumstances there had to be a trust worked into my heart here's Paul standing facing the full fury of

the world's hatred of God he has revelation they have religion he has an open heaven this man of God he sees Christ sitting at the right hand of God his whole life is being viewed from heaven backwards to the earth he knows he's already in victory he knows he already sits there he pens it the book of Ephesians he's already in Christ at the right hand of God he knows he can't be disconnected from the head the head is already won the race therefore Paul could say we are more than conquerors through Christ who strengthens us Paul knew he could not be triumphed over by anything in this world he knew no circumstance that had come into his life was for a fruitless purpose he had revelation they had religion he is there for other people those that are judging him are there only for themselves

Paul has compassion they have hearts filled with resentment Paul is willfully given they are woefully violent Paul has inner power and all they have is a religion that is an outward display but itself is bankrupt of the power of God I want to share with you one of the chief ingredients in the life of Paul remember we started by saying the fireplace stood when the whole house burnt we talked about ingredients that are in the brick that are in the mortar that allowed that it was designed to stand in the fire I want to talk to you about why Paul could stand in the fire and why you and I will be able to stand no matter what comes our way in the days ahead I'm not talking about just physical circumstances they will be difficult enough but I'm talking about when a society turns against the

testimony of Christ Paul said in Acts 23 1 I've lived in all good conscience before God unto this day in Acts 24 16 he said it this way and herein do I exercise myself to have always a conscience void of offense toward God and toward men that's Acts 24 16 now this is what Paul say I live in God to have a conscience that is free from doing wrong doing wrong to the testimony of God and doing wrong to how God's life is to be revealed through me to other men I have a conscience that's free from offense and no matter how I feel I let God lead my life back in line with his truth but Paul wasn't perfect he made mistakes just like all the rest of us do but he had an inner core in him that said no matter where I find myself no matter what I find myself doing or how I find myself feeling he could

be led back to the truth that's the evidence of a true believer in Christ that's the mortar that you need to stand today that if you can hear his voice you don't harden your heart but you say oh God bring my life back in line with the truth if I'm out of measure if I'm in the wrong lane in this race if I'm driving at a speed I shouldn't be if God if I'm embracing something that's going to hurt the testimony that you've established in me then draw me back oh God help me to hear and so Paul stands and he makes a declaration this is the source of my strength in other words I've lived with a good conscience before God until this day he's not talking about when he was an unsaved pharisee he's talking about from the day he met Christ on Damascus Road I've lived with a good conscience and the

high priest Ananias commanded them that stood by to smite him on the mouth slap his face the devil hates this testimony hell hates this testimony hell fears this testimony of somebody that has a clean conscience that's walking in truth as much as we know it is as much as it's been revealed to us by the Holy Spirit we're walking in that truth and hell hates it when Paul says listen as much as I know I'm walking right before God the high priest says slap his face you better believe they hit it hard the high priest Ananias commanded them that stood by to smite him on the face now you see Paul responding like you and I would in that situation he was a man this is where Paul gets his understanding that there's no temptation taking no trial taking you but such as is common to man God will not

allow you to be tested above that you're able but with the trial with the temptation will be will make a way to escape that you might be able to bear it Paul would be tested just like we are in Asia he said in the book of Acts we despaired of life we were so pressed down we gave up the hope of even living unless Christ would be our life now Paul is standing there and I know this is a this is a godly man but he's a zealous man too he's an ordinary man and apart from the Spirit of God on him and you can see the flash of anger come upon him and he looks up at the man who commanded it and says God will smite you you whited wall you hypocrite for you sit to judge me after the law and you command me to be smitten contrary to the law he said God will smite you you hypocrite it would be like

being drawn into a courtroom in our generation and asked to put your hand on a Bible and swear that based on the content of it and how you revere it and consider it holy that what you're about to speak is the truth the whole truth and nothing but the truth and then being judged and charged by the court for believing actually believing the Bible this flash of anger comes over Paul and it can happen and it's it's a natural response injustices things that happen in society things that people say to us things we find out in the workplace that are going on behind our backs things that people close to us have said to us things that people have done to us when you get shortchanged in the city of almost every time you give gas if you get gas you ever notice you go get gas they'll they attend it

quite often would give you back you know six dollars it should be eight and just stands there looking at you and you just hold your hand out and they put the other two in your hand it's so easy to get angry at some of these things they're insignificant really and in the scope of eternity but it's so easy to get angry and verse forces and they that that stood by said revivalist out God's high priest and Paul said I wish not brethren that he was the high priest for it is written thou shall not speak evil of the ruler of thy people now thank God for the voice of the one who always stands by Paul knows and so does Satan the just like Samson if Satan can take away his separation into God he'll become as weak as any other man Paul says in my heart I always try to do right before God and before

man Satan sends an emissary to slap his face knowing if I can take that out of him if I can put another spirit in him if I can get him speaking evil like other people are if I can take away his confidence his faith if I can take away his the kindness if I can take away if I can suddenly just infuse this man with anger we're living in a generation folks where nation are going to rise against nation culture against culture evil speaking has become and will continue to be an increased to be the normative communication of the hour Satan himself hates the testimony of those who are given to Christ who stand for mercy and redemption and for justice and what is right whose speech is balanced it doesn't mean we don't address the situation if you follow through Paul uses logical and reasoned

argument about his situation and there's nothing wrong with that but what the devil tried to infuse in him this is the fire I'm talking about try to put the fire of anger in his spirit this is an angry time angry voices are

everywhere we're living now in a society in this country is getting more and more bitterly divided by the hour the civility of speech is leaving accusation is taking its place outlandish things are being said on every side it's the enemies designed to draw you in to these battles that are not eternal folks they're not eternal battles you and I stand in the purpose of our life is for the glory of God and the souls of men there's no other reason we live yes we are good citizens and yes we can discuss issues that are going on in our day but we are not to cross that line

into anger and a godly speech and the devil knew if I can get that into this man I'm going to take away his strength but there's always a voice there were some tempered people that stood by and said Paul you're reviling God's high priest and in the New Living Testament here's what Paul said he said I'm sorry brothers I didn't realize he was the high priest Paul replied for the scriptures say do not speak evil of anyone who rules over you do not speak evil of anyone who rules over you it doesn't mean you can't address the situation doesn't mean you can't have an opinion but do not cross the line into evil if you cross the line Satan will succeed in putting another spirit upon you you'll be venomous violent and you'd be of no different spirit than those that were judging this man of God

there's a fire coming folks there's a fire coming to our society there's a fire long before any physical thing will be manifested there will be a spiritual fire civility is going out the window now accusing fingers are rising at every corner ultimately throughout history when everything gets to be spiraling out of control guess who gets the blame the church those who truly stand for Jesus Christ quite often will come to the forefront just like in Paul's case a man simply standing for the glory of God and for the souls of men I'm sorry brothers you see Paul could be brought back into line again he momentarily stepped out but the Holy Spirit could draw him back into line again that's what gave this man the power to stand in the fire a tender conscience that God could speak and the brothers

who stood by him could speak see Paul this isn't right this this flash of anger that's come into you is not right it doesn't represent the work of God in you draw back Paul and for Paul to say and this is a conversation that's going on on the side I don't know who is with him somebody who knew the truth and saw what was happening to him and he could say I'm sorry I didn't know he was a high priest because the scripture says do not speak evil of anyone who rules over you and so you see Paul suddenly drawing back into line with the Word of God and if you follow through I don't have the time but this incredible wisdom is suddenly given to him instead of yelling back at an arrogant angry high priest he draws back and wisdom is given to him that actually brings him out of the situation that

he's in at that moment now the question we ask ourselves today is what do the scriptures say about the trial you now find yourself in one of the greatest revivals that ever came to this world was in Wales in 1904 a revival of course that brought Pentecost as we know it into America in Azusa Street in the subsequent years the vessel of God used in that revival is a young man called Evan Roberts a Sunday school teacher minister and training actually and it came to the point in the nation that people were coming by the thousands to hear him speak he would never speak though until the Holy Spirit gave him a word one day people gathered to hear him speak in this and the story I read said there were I think about somewhere around 2,000 people had gathered the size of the sanctuary roughly and

they had gathered to hear him speak and he stayed in his seat and he stayed there and the silence grew almost uncomfortable in the gathering he stayed in his seat for quite a lengthy period of time and it's quiet everyone is nervous and finally he got up to the pulpit stood there and said obey God and sat down I want to suggest to you that the people already knew what they needed to do no further argument was

necessary these were not novices many of these were people who had been in the church for a considerable amount of time they knew the scriptures but you think about the numbers of people that were holding grievances against others some were stealing from their employers others were involved in lustful activities they all knew what to do and so really had come to the point where

there's nothing more to say the presence of God in the meeting was as thick as oil the Holy Spirit had been speaking to every heart and it came time to obey God the account I read of that particular meeting is that people were on their knees in the aisles in their seats came to altars were making wrongs right were reconciling to man and to God to have a conscience as Paul said free of offense towards God and man that's the key to the power to stand folks it's a conscience free of offense towards God and man so what do the scriptures say about where you are right now what do the scriptures say about what's coming out of your mouth what do the scriptures say about what you're touching with your hands when nobody else sees it but God what do the scriptures say about what you're watching with

your eyes what you're tasting with your lips where you're going with your feet what you're gathering in your heart folks the question simply is what did the scriptures say can you be brought in line with the scriptures can I speak to you today as a friend who stands by it says listen what you're doing is not right I thank God that Paul wasn't so religious that he couldn't hear the voices they might have been just attendants maybe just some youngsters that were called more or less to stand around and give him some support I don't know they were but whoever they were he listened to them my question to you today is can you listen can I come beside you can I whisper into your ear can I can I speak to you about where you are right now can I tell you that if you don't listen you won't get

through the fire you'll be swallowed in this in the coming times of evil speech and anger and aggression and interracial hatred will swallow you unless the Holy Spirit can draw you now and if you have a heart that says God bring my life in line no Paul could have reasonably said hey listen I know what you're saying but look what he just did look at the mark on my face I believe that's why Jesus had turned the other cheek because it's much more than just taking a slap on the face that's involved here it's the complete loss of the heart of God the testimony of God among men and the power to stand in an evil day Bible says to walk in unity one with another they never said it was going to be easy it's a choice it's not a feeling because there's a single person in this church that you

studiously avoid just one and you know we can justify and say well hey come on there's 8,000 people here what God have an issue about the fact that I just don't want to be in the same room with that person well because that person is part of the body of Christ that person is your brother your sister in Christ whether or not they're manifesting the fruit of the Holy Ghost if they have crossed that bloodline they're related to you that's why it's a big issue remember the scripture says if you bring your gift to the altar which is your I see it as your life your totality if you if you bring that to the altar and there remember that your brother has ought against you leave your gift and go be reconciled and then come and offer your gift it's that serious how you and I respond now will

determine whether or not we'll stand in the fires that are yet to come I don't know about you but I want a conscience that's free of offense to God and man it doesn't mean I'll always get along with everybody but do everything I can to get along I'll do everything I know obviously Paul never became a great companion or friend of Ananias the high priest but he allowed his life to come back in line with the Christ who went to a cross for you and for me my question today again is what did the scriptures say about your situation what do they say about your trial are you complaining about the unjustness of God when he has allowed

something into your life for a reason a divine reason a purpose that is way beyond what we can understand with our natural mind you see I've lost everything and I've

seen God keep me matter of fact I've lost it more than one time and so through those fires there's at least a measure of understanding in my heart today that you'll get through it too whatever we have to lose in the coming days we will not lose Christ we will not lose the promises of God we will not lose this promise of provision and protection and keeping us we will not lose any of that we may lose a lot of other things but we will not lose that I guess it's time to just give an altar call and would you would you let the Holy Spirit bring your life in line with the Word of God would you do that by moving forward and coming to an altar today because I believe that's significant that's it's a step towards God Lord this is not right in my life but God I'm coming because I hear you

whispering to me and I'm going to make I'm going to trust you for the strength to make this right if that's in your heart today we're going to worship and I'm gonna ask you to get out of your seat make your way to this altar and we're just going to thank God for coming and speaking to our conscience and bringing our lives back in line with his word again would you stand please balcony you can go to either exit make your way down here main sanctuary slip out of where you are in the annex if you could stand between the screens please that'd be much appreciated I'm coming to get right with God every backslider would you please get home to God stop playing games get home to God do it now don't wait you who are in ungodly relationships what does the Word of God say about that stop waffling and

make a decision God will give you the strength to get out of these things those that are doing things and practices that you know are wrong step out for your soul's sake step out and make it right with God today just do that let's gather together we're going to worship and I know that you're going to come out of this with a heart of rejoicing oh what a wise choice you're making today the very first thing that happens is when when you allow the Holy Spirit to bring your life back in line with truth is your eyes are open to the wisdom of God Paul had an otherworldly strength kept him through to the end he's he is my hero of the faith I want my life to finish like his in victory trusting God no matter what the situation I'm going to pray with you today that God give you the courage to do the

things that he's speaking to your heart right now whatever it is that you need to do do it don't put it off too long because it can become easier to walk in compromise the longer that you walk in it do what God is telling you to do today and God will give you an incredible wisdom let's pray together Lord Jesus thank you for speaking to my heart and showing me an area in my life where I'm not in line with the Word of God thank you Jesus for giving me the courage and the humility to admit my fault and turn back to you for the strength to live to do and to speak in a manner that glorifies God thank you that your promise to me our eyes of faith an open heaven and a victorious life that cannot be taken down that will stand when everything around me is being tried by fire I will stand and give

glory to God oh God thank you for this in Jesus mighty name

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