

FOR YOUR FAITH

FIGHT

Recently we've been talking about fighting for our faith. In a world where temptation seems to be everywhere and being a Christian is labeled as irrelevant and extreme, we have to resist the tides of the world and remain steadfast in our faith in Jesus.

So why do we have to fight for our faith?

Matthew 24:44; 2 Timothy 4:2-4

God is speaking to His people telling them to get **prepared** for the future. He explicitly states, "therefore you must also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect." This message isn't to scare us, but to exhort us to prepare, that we may be able to face whatever comes in the future. We want to be like athletes, who train year round, not only during their athletic season, so they can be prepared to perform their best.

Revelation 9:20, 16:8-11

If we're waiting for the current trend of society becoming increasingly antiparallel to the Word of God to reverse, it won't happen. Even after many terrible plagues and astronomical events, it is given for us to know that people still will not repent. Not only must we as Christians be prepared to fight for our faith in these circumstances, but we must also prepare that we can spread the gospel to the world, that they would repent!

Daniel 1

Daniel and the three Hebrew boys give a great example of how God wants us to be prepared to fight for our faith. They were of Judah, and their nation had just been conquered by King Nebuchadnezzar and the Babylonian empire. Whenever the Babylonians would conquer a nation, they would take select youth from noble families of the conquered people who were handsome, articulate, and intelligent, and put them through a program of reeducation so those youth would help further the empire. This reeducation process was designed to make them forget the traditions and ways of their homeland and become subservient to Babylonian culture, religion, knowledge, wisdom, and society.

People of God, this reeducation process is paralleled in our society today. Whether in our schools, in our media, in our entertainment, or in our politics, we consistently see structures being implemented to make it harder to hold a Christian viewpoint. We have to stand like Daniel, fighting for our faith, to not serve Babylon, but to serve God. Fight for your faith!