

FOR YOUR FAITH

FIGHT

John 3:16-17

From Genesis to Revelation, is a story of God wanting to dwell in an intimate relationship with His children. Out of love, God created the world, provided all mankind needed, and gave them dominion over it. With this in mind, fighting for our faith is not about setting up a religion or a set of do's and do not's, but about us living as God's called out, set apart people.

Romans 11:1, 13-20

God's plan was to establish a nation: Israel—not just a land, but a people. Paul was reminding Gentile Christians that they are now grafted in to this people, the called out children of God. As such, they ought to live in a way that reflects the God of Israel. To live in this way is to fight for our faith!

Exodus 19:5

Again, we see the Lord designating His people, the children of Israel, as a set apart group. They were to be a "kingdom of priests," being an example for the other nations of the earth of how to live for God. Like Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, who were always distinct from everybody else, we are to be God's distinct example to the world. Satan doesn't want you to be distinct—to show your faith.

Deuteronomy 6:4-6

This passage, which exhorts the children of Israel to love the Lord God with all their heart, soul, and might, was quoted by Jesus in Mark 12:29-30. It is a summation of how we fight, for our faith. Let's define some Hebrew terms:

kodesh: holy; literally, set apart, like parents setting their kids apart from everyone else. God blesses His set apart group. We fight by knowing that we are that set apart group, and acting accordingly.

ahav: love; means to give, as in John 3:16-17. Loving means being in a state of, "I will give."

lavavka: heart; the will and the mind. This includes our good inclinations, the spirit (Galatians 5:22), and our evil inclinations, the flesh. We must crucify those animal instincts, as God's *kodesh*.

nefsheka: soul; a person's life force (Mark 14:36)

modeka: might; literally means greatly/vastly. Indicates our wealth, money, and resources. Giving is our worship to God. We aren't loving God if we aren't giving to Him.

Leviticus 19-20

These chapters deal with the ways God's people ought to conduct themselves, living set apart from the ways the world lives. It's time for us as people of God to represent our flag, by standing for what God stands for. It's time for us to fight for our faith!

9 Ways to Love Others

1. Let your love be genuine, not fake
2. Always treat people with respect
3. Always seek the best for people
4. Join in with others' pain
5. Greet people with friendliness
6. Give people the benefit of the doubt
7. Assist people physically
8. Assist people with small loans and gifts
9. Never consider yourself better than another

Loving in this way shows that we are God's chosen people. We fight for our faith through our conduct—through living the way God called us to.