



Ephesians 6:14

Stand Firm in Christ

by Bob DeWaay
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Stand!

Ephesians 6:14a (ESV)

Stand therefore...

- The last word in the Greek of verse 13 was "to stand" (having done all)
- "Stand" is imperative here
- This command is followed by 4 aorist participles: **having gird, having put on, having shod, having taken up**
- Jesus stood firm when Satan tempted Him to take action (Luke 4:1-13)

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Stand in Truth

Ephesians 6:14b (ESV)

...having fastened on the **belt of truth**

- This is an allusion to the Messianic prophecy of Isaiah 11:5
- Truth is mentioned six times in Ephesians
- There is no definite article in the Greek but it may still have the objective sense
- Previous usages in Ephesians show both objective and subjective usages of "truth"

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Stand in Christ's Righteousness

Ephesians 6:14c (ESV)

...and having put on the breastplate of **righteousness**

- This is an allusion to Isaiah 59:17
- This refers to our status in Christ, received by grace through faith (Eph. 2:8)
- Righteousness here has the objective meaning as it does in Eph. 4:24
- Satan is the accuser (Zech. 3:1-5)

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Implications and Applications

- To stand is to believe what God has said about our status in Christ and not look back
- The raging battle is always about the truth in which we must stand
- Only the righteousness of Christ will give anyone right standing before God

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Stand Firm in God's Salvation

Exodus 14:13-14 (ESV)

And Moses said to the people, "**Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the LORD**, which he will work for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall never see again. The LORD will fight for you, and you have only to be silent."

- In context Israel was complaining and wanted Egypt! (verses 10-12)

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Stand in Revealed Truth

2 Thessalonians 2:15 (ESV)

So then, brothers, **stand firm** and **hold** to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by our spoken word or by our letter.

- **There are two imperatives: stand and hold**
- **These truths were revealed through Paul**
- **The spiritual battle is over the truth of the gospel and the faith once for all handed down to the saints (Jude 3)**

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Stand Justified in Christ

Romans 3:25-26 (NASB)

...whom God displayed publicly as a **propitiation in His blood** through faith. This was to demonstrate His righteousness, because in the forbearance of God **He passed over the sins** previously committed; for the demonstration, I say, of His righteousness at the present time, so that **He would be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.**

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