

Defeating the Devourer

Greg Haswell | November 20, 2016

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¹ I want you to know how hard I am contending for you and for those at Laodicea . . . ² My goal is that they may be **encouraged in heart and united in love**, so that they may have the full riches of complete understanding, in order that they may know the mystery of God, namely, Christ, ³ in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

COLOSSIANS 2:1-3



Discouragement

⁵ No one will be able to stand against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you.

JOSHUA 1:5

⁶ **Be strong and courageous,** because you will lead these people to inherit the land I swore to their ancestors to give them. ⁷ **“Be strong and very courageous.** Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go.

JOSHUA 1:6-7

⁸ Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful. ⁹ **Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."**

JOSHUA 1:8-9

¹⁶ Then they answered Joshua, "Whatever you have commanded us we will do, and wherever you send us we will go. ¹⁷ Just as we fully obeyed Moses, so we will obey you. Only may the Lord your God be with you as he was with Moses. ¹⁸ Whoever rebels against your word and does not obey it, whatever you may command them, will be put to death. Only **be strong and courageous!**"

JOSHUA 1:16-18



Disunity

⁹ But **avoid** foolish controversies and genealogies and arguments and quarrels about the law, because these are unprofitable and useless. ¹⁰ **Warn a divisive person once, and then warn them a second time. After that, have nothing to do with them.** ¹¹ You may be sure that such people are warped and sinful; they are self-condemned.

TITUS 3:9-11

¹⁴ For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: "Love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁵ **If you bite and devour each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other.** ¹⁶ So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.

GALATIANS 5:14-16



**Declare Holy War
on these two fiery arrows**



**Take up the
shield of faith**

¹¹ Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes . . . ¹³ Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand . . . ¹⁶ In addition to all this, **take up the shield of faith**, with which you can **extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one.**

EPHESIANS 6:11-17

A hand holding a flaming torch, symbolizing the Gospel of Grace. The torch is lit and the flame is bright yellow and orange. The background is a dark grey, semi-transparent diamond shape.

"We're gonna need a bigger shield"

Listen to the Gospel of Grace

¹⁷ Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ.

ROMANS 10:17



"We're gonna need a bigger shield"

**Remember what He
has spoken to you**

¹⁸ Timothy, my son, I am giving you this command in keeping with the prophecies once made about you, so that **by recalling them you may fight the battle well,**

1 TIMOTHY 1:18



"We're gonna need a bigger shield"

Keep His testimonies

¹⁰ All the paths of the Lord are lovingkindness and truth
To those who **keep** His covenant and **His testimonies**.

⁵⁶ Yet they tested and provoked the Most High God,
And did not **keep His testimonies**,

² Blessed are those who **keep His testimonies**, Who
seek Him with the whole heart!

PSALM 25:10, PSALM 78:56, PSALM 119:2



Make up your mind

**"I'm not going to be used to
launch either of those arrows"**

But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called "Today," so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness.

HEBREWS 3:13

Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.

EPHESIANS 4:29

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