



WORD OF FAITH INT'L CHRISTIAN CENTER

TEACHING THE WORD. DOING THE WORK TOUCHING THE WORLD.

Be Strong in the Lord, Part 1

by Bishop Keith Butler | Bible Study Notes | Ministered Sun., 6/21/20

Introduction Summary

God is our Light in the darkness. This lesson is designed to strengthen Christians in the Lord, in the midst of the deception in the world today. We will learn *7 Keys to Perfection* that will aid in moving toward God's perfect will, thereby leading us to victory.

- I. Be strong in the Lord (Eph. 6:10-11).
 - A. Strong (Gk: *endunamoo*) means to empower, increase in, strengthened.
 - B. Lord (Gk: *kurios*) means supreme in authority, controller, master.
 - C. Power (Gk: *kratos*) means vigor, dominion, strength.
 - D. Might (Gk: *ischus*) means forcefulness, ability.
 - E. Be empowered in the supreme authority and in the dominion of His ability.
 - F. Dominion means control.
 - G. Stand against (Gk: *pros*) means face to face, no backing down.
 - H. Wiles (Gk: *methodeia*) means trickery.

- II. **1 Thes. 5:12-23:** God has a way to do things (Heb. 13:7).
 - A. **V13:** *Esteem* means to consider highly.
 - B. **V14:** We are to care for the weak and put up with everyone.
 - C. **V15:** Don't offer *tit for tat*.
 1. Our fight is not against people, but against demon spirits (Eph. 6:12).
 2. Satan's strategy is to get us to look at people as the problem.
 3. Since Christ is in us, we are not subject to Satan's lies.
 4. The devil motivated that officer to put his knee on that man's neck.

 - D. Believers have weapons to triumph over demon spirits (Eph. 6:12).
 - E. **1 Thes. 5:15:** Always look in the Bible for the good course to take.
 - F. Here are *7 Keys to Perfection*:
 1. **1 Thes. 5:16:** Rejoice evermore.
 - a. Rejoice whether you feel like it or not (Phil. 4:4).
 - b. Joy is an expression of faith.
 2. **V17:** Pray without ceasing (Phil. 4:6; Isa. 43:26; 55:10-11).
 - a. Return God's Word to Him, all day (Rom. 4:17; 10:17).
 - b. Continued prayer strengthens your faith.
 - c. When your faith is strong, you won't be deceived.
 3. **V18:** In everything give thanks (Phil. 4:6; 2 Cor. 4:17, 18).
 - a. Give thanks in the middle of the hurricane.

- b. Peace will guard your heart and mind (Phil. 4:7).
 - 4. **V19:** Quench not the Spirit: don't grieve the Spirit (Eph. 4:30).
 - a. The Holy Spirit is grieved (saddened) when we ignore Him.
 - b. He is in us to help us avoid the devil's traps (1 John 4:4).
 - c. We must spend time with Him so we can hear Him.
 - 5. **V20:** Despise not prophesying (1 Cor. 14:3; 14:39).
 - 6. **V21:** Prove all things; hold fast to that which is good.
 - a. Prove means to examine.
 - b. Keep the good part and throw out the bad part.
- III. Let's examine the Black Lives Matter organization, in light of Scripture.
 - A. I agree with eliminating police brutality, that justice should be colorblind, and everyone should get the same fair treatment.
 - B. Follow this link: [Black Lives Matter](#), to read paragraphs 15, 16, 20 and 21.
- IV. Compare their beliefs to the Bible (Gen. 1:27, 28).
 - A. That's science: the husband and wife (male and female) make another person.
 - B. Cleave means to pursue hard, run after and stick to (Gen. 2:20-25).
- V. This is God's view (Rom. 1:18-28).
 - A. V18-21: *Wrath* means anger. *Hold* means to suppress the truth.
 - B. Rejecting God's way darkens the human spirit. Receiving the Word lightens the human (1 Cor. 13:12-13).
 - C. V22: They became fools or stupid.
 - D. V23: He gave them up to their own ungodly desires.
 - E. V26: It is natural for a man and woman to desire one another.
 - F. V27: Schools are teaching that God's Word is wrong.
 - G. V28: A reprobate mind calls wrong right and right wrong.
 - H. Compare the world view with the Bible. Keep the good. Throw out the bad.
 - I. *Test* means try. Investigate it for yourself (1 John 4:1-4).
- VI. **1 Thes. 5:22:** Abstain from all appearance of evil.
- VII. **1 Thes. 5:23:** Peace means prosperity, quietness and comfort.
 - A. *Sanctify* means to make clean and holy, to purify or consecrate.
 - B. *Wholly* means complete to the end, absolutely perfect.
 - C. *Preserved* means to guard from loss or injury. *Blameless* means faultless.
 - D. The more we endeavor to do the *7 Keys*, the closer we walk in perfection!
 - E. Choose the Biblical view (Gal. 6:7-9; Deu. 30:19).

Closing Summary

Using the *7 Keys to Perfection* will help to preserve and keep you faultless. When the world is going one way, look to the Scripture to find God's way. Then decide to receive the Word. Receiving the Word strengthens you in the Lord Jesus Christ and in the power of His might. Choose God's way, because it is the only way to real peace and a life filled with joy.