

YOU CAN'T WIN IF YOU DON'T FIGHT

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1st Timothy 6:12

To some people fighting is a natural instinct. To others, it is a reaction to an action that is done against their will. Depending on which category you fall into, **FIGHTING** is an inevitable consequence we must all do during this life.

The fight that is being referred to is not physical. It is **MENTAL!** It is impossible to win anything in this life if you **REFUSE** to fight. To fight means to **NOT** follow your feelings, yet do what is **NECESSARY**.

FIGHT THE FEELING

Your feelings are flaky. They are impulsive reactions to your current conditions. They are misleading. Feelings

are meant to make you compassionate to another person's troubles. They are not to be used as a crutch to make excuses for yourself.

When you use your feelings as a catalyst for making excuses you waste time in progressing. You will deprive yourself of achieving your goals. You will deny yourself the pleasure of living a quality life.

Feelings can override practical knowledge and in a lot cases it usually does. If you allow this to happen, life will cheat you of its rewards. **REWARDS ARE GIVEN TO THOSE WHO FIGHT, NOT THOSE WHO FOLLOW FEELINGS.**

IT'S NOT EASY BUT IT'S NECESSARY

1st Timothy 6:12 says, "*Fight the good fight of faith, grabbing hold of the life that continues forever. You were called to have that life when you confessed the good confession before many witnesses.*"

As Kingdom citizens we are instructed to **FIGHT** the good fight of faith. The good fight is the battle of **NOT** following what is accepted by the world. In this context of scripture the word fight is defined as a "*conflict*."

A conflict is a collision or a disagreement. Most importantly, it means to be **CONTRADICTIONARY**! Is the devil the greatest adversary to a Kingdom citizen? No.

The devil is our adversary but he is **NOT** a factor to our progress nor is he our greatest adversary. The greatest adversary to a Kingdom citizen is **RELIGION** and **RELIGIOUS** people.

Religion hates transformation. However, it loves tradition. Religious people love the idea of God but they hate the lifestyle that it requires. When King Jesus walked the earth He had one encounter with Satan in Mathew chapter 4.

However, in the books of Mathew, Mark, Luke and John He had **MULTIPLE** encounters with the Pharisees and Sadducees whom were the religious leaders of that time. These religious people plotted, schemed and planned continuous evilness against King Jesus.

They were the direct opposition to the work of King Jesus. When He healed people they questioned His motives. When He cast out devils they accused Him of being a devil.

King Jesus was a **CONTRADICTION** and in conflict to what the Pharisees and Sadducees stood for and what they wanted to accomplish. The religious people tried everything they could to stop Him.

This is the fight you will have to fight if you are a Kingdom citizen. The fight is against the **CULTURE** of **RELIGION** and **RELIGIOUS** people. Religious people believe the fight is against the world. It's **NOT!** Our mission is to **WIN** the world.

God came to save the world, not fight it. John 3:16 says, *"God loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son so that whoever believes in him may not be lost, but have eternal life."* NCV. His fight was against religion.

Our job as Kingdom citizens is to destroy the strongholds that religion has on people. Such as...

- You needing the churches **PERMISSION** to do what God put on your heart to do.
- Serving the needs of the church **BEFORE** your own family.
- Neglecting your priorities to **ACCOMMODATE** your religion's agenda.
- Prioritizing the voice of your spiritual leader **OVER** the voice of God.

The list can go on and on. However, a religious stronghold controls a person's mind and thoughts with their agenda instead of God's will. As Kingdom citizens, your train of thought should be different, your behavior should be different and your motives should be different.

FOR EXAMPLE:

- Religious people are focused on going to Heaven. Kingdom citizens are focused on having **DOMINION** on the earth.
- Religious people talk about death. Kingdom citizens talk about **LIVING**.
- Religious people talk about the great bye and bye. Kingdom citizens talk about taking **OVER THE LAND**.
- Religious people are trying to make it to Heaven. Kingdom citizens are **FIGHTING** to take over the **WORLD**.

When the Apostle Paul talked about fighting the good fight of faith he was talking about fighting the evil stronghold of religion that he had to overcome himself while delivering others in the process.

**FIGHT THE CULTURE OF RELIGION SO YOU CAN
PARTICIPATE IN SAVING THE WORLD AS KING
JESUS DID.**

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