

## Hold Fast

“Yet if [anyone suffers] as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in this matter. For the time [has come] for judgment to begin at the house of God; and if [it begins] with us first, what will [be] the end of those who do not obey the gospel of God? Now ‘If the righteous one is scarcely saved, where will the ungodly and the sinner appear?’ Therefore let those who suffer according to the will of God commit their souls [to Him] in doing good, as to a faithful Creator.” (1 Peter 4:16-19 NKJV)

Some of the readers of this message have experience a wonderful stirring of the Lord during the weekend’s events. Others have been refreshed on this recent Lord’s Day in churches across America. What a blessing it is to take time and worship our great God and King.

However, now is the time to hold fast! You are likely already feeling the effects of working among the children of wrath. Hold fast to your commitments, hold fast to your repentance, and do so by holding fast to Christ. Maybe you have already stumbled in some way this day, if so, humble yourself now and hold fast for the rest of the day.

You must understand that God is glorified by your suffering when you suffer as a Christian. Commit yourself then, as the passage says, to Christ in doing good, as to a faithful Creator.

Meditate if you will for a moment on the word faithful. God has made many marvelous promises to you. He does not promise, as a man, who may not because of his limitations, be able to keep his word for God is infinitely faithful and sovereign over every circumstance. There is no shadow of turning in Him, and there is no situation beyond His control.

That should give you great comfort in your struggle against sin. God will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able (1 Cor. 10:13). However, dear child of God you must hold fast! You must seek your way of escape. God will provide a way for you to flee your temptation, but a mind set on enjoying sin will never even look for freedom.

If you have made a covenant with God, hold fast to it for the Lord does not desire that you fail in your commitment. He will be your comforter, your guide, and your bulwark. As Joshua admonished, “Choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve,” and never look back, but hold fast. Amen.