

THE

GOOD

FIGHT

*“I have fought the good
fight...”* – 2 Timothy 4:7

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“What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don’t they come from your desires that battle within you?” – James 4:1

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“They don’t bear the sword in vain.” – Romans 13:4

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Three qualifiers for a fight to be a good fight:

1. Evil foe – threatens the rights of others.
2. Courageous individuals – willing to sacrifice for the sake of the oppressed.
3. Fight must be winnable.

*“Be strong and courageous
for I will deliver Jericho into
your hand.”* – Joshua 6:1

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“For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground.” – Ephesians 6:12-13

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“have sufficient courage so that... Christ will be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death.” – Philippians 1:20 NIV

*“But thanks be to God!
He gives us the victory
through our Lord Jesus
Christ.”* – 1 Corinthians 15:57 NIV

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Paul – Temptations of the Flesh

“I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. For what I do is not the good I want to do; no, the evil I do not want to do – this I keep on doing.” – Romans 7:18-19 NIV

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“Dear friends, I urge you, as aliens and strangers in the world, to abstain from sinful desires, which wage war against your soul.” – 1 Peter 2:11

“I beat my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize.” – 1 Corinthians 9:27

*“To keep me from becoming
conceited because of these
surpassingly great revelations,
there was given me a thorn
in my flesh, a messenger
of Satan, to torment
me.” – 2 Corinthians 12:7*

“We were under great pressure, far beyond our ability to endure, so that we despaired even of life.” – 2 Corinthians 1:8b

“Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.” – Galatians 6:9

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“people who want to get rich fall into all kinds of temptations and traps.” – 1 Timothy 6:9

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“abstain from the evil desires that war against your soul.” – 1 Peter 2:11

*“I can do all things through Christ
who strengthens me.” – Phil. 4:13*

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*“Come to bed with me; no one
will ever know.”* – Genesis 39:7

*“I can’t do this thing and sin
against my God.”* – Genesis 39:9

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“You cannot be saved without first obeying the Law of Moses.” – Acts 15:5

“...hold firmly to the trustworthy message as it has been taught, so that he can encourage others by sound doctrine and refute those who oppose it. For there are many rebellious people, mere talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision group. They must be silenced, because they are ruining whole households by teaching things they ought not to teach – and that for the sake of dishonest gain... Therefore, rebuke them sharply, so that they will be sound in the faith.” – Titus 1:9-11 & 13

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*“You... were called to be free.
But do not use your freedom to
indulge the sinful nature.”* – Gal. 5:13

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*“stand firm in one spirit,
contending as one man for the
faith of the gospel without being
frightened in any way by those
who oppose you.”* – Philippians 1:27-28

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*“Go into all the world and
proclaim the good news.
Whoever believes and is baptized
shall be saved.” – Mark 16:15*

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“The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strong-holds. We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.” – 2 Corinthians 10:4-5 NIV

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“The sword of the spirit which is the word of God.” – Ephesians 6:17

“For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.” – Hebrews 4:12

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“Then... Paul filled with the Holy Spirit, looked straight at Elymas and said, ‘You are a child of the devil and an enemy of everything that is right! You are full of all kinds of deceit and trickery. Will you never stop perverting the right ways of the Lord? Now the hand of the Lord is against you. You are going to be blind, and for a time you will be unable to see the light of the sun.’ Immediately mist and darkness came over him, and he groped about, seeking someone to lead him by the hand.” – Acts 13:9-11 NIV

“were filled with jealousy and talked abusively against what Paul was saying.” – Acts 13:45

“who refused to believe stirred up the Gentiles and poisoned their minds against the brothers.” – Acts 14:2-3

“stoned Paul and dragged him outside the city, thinking he was dead.” – Acts 14:19

“The crowd joined in the attack against Paul and Silas, and the magistrates ordered them to be stripped and beaten... and imprisoned.” – Acts 16:22

“a silversmith named Demetrius, who made silver shrines of the goddess Artemis... this fellow Paul says, ‘our gods are not really gods at all.’” – Acts 19:24-26

“The whole city was aroused, and the people came running from all directions. Seizing Paul, they dragged him from the temple.” – Acts 21:30

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*“Woe to you when all men
speak well of you.”* – Luke 6:26

*“Don’t you know that
friendship with the world is
hatred toward God.”* – James 4:4

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“If it is possible, as much as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.” – 2 Timothy 3:12

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“In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.” – 2 Timothy 3:12

“...be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.” – Ephesians 6:10

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“Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be men of courage; be strong.” – 1 Corinthians 16:13

“But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.” – 1 Corinthians 15:57

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“there is in store for us the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award on that day – and not only to us, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.” – 2 Timothy 4:8

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