**Enduring Hardships, Cleaving To LORD Truly**

**ITimothy 6:12 Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.**

**Ecclesiasticus 4:28 Strive for the truth unto death, and the Lord shall fight for thee.**

(Fight for truth, fight for Christ truly, and the LORD will protect and defend us: **Matthew 7:13-14**)

**Matthew 10:22 And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake: but he that endureth to the end shall be saved.**

(We MUST endure this marathon race to the end, through the HARDEST of trials without wavering!
We have to blamelessly prepare our minds WITHOUT an EVIL EYE, to be aware most people INCLUDING many of those called brothers will resent truth and good deeds, and hate you for it.)

**Psalms 37:23 The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD: and he delighteth in his way.**

**:24 Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down: for the LORD upholdeth him with his hand.**

**:25 I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.**
(The LORD deals with each of us which serve Him in Spirit and truth, as with the Messiah, Esther and Job, etc.: **Hebrews 11th chapter**. He has our lives carefully ordered and watches over us, ESPECIALLY during hard times. Therefore, be strong in the LORD, and patient.)

**Ecclesiasticus 2:1 My son, if thou come to serve the Lord, prepare thy soul for temptation.**

**:2 Set thy heart aright, and constantly endure, and make not haste in time of trouble.**

**:3 Cleave unto him, and depart not away, that thou mayest be increased at thy last end.**

**:4 Whatsoever is brought upon thee take cheerfully, and be patient when thou art changed to a low estate.**

**:5 For gold is tried in the fire, and acceptable men in the furnace of adversity.**

(Apply these scriptures, and maintain this mindset and understanding everyday! James 1:1-5)

**IIPeter 2:7 And delivered just Lot, vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked:**

**:8 (For that righteous man dwelling among them, in seeing and hearing, vexed his righteous soul from day to day with their unlawful deeds;)**

[Like righteous Lot, we are angered by this wicked world, and those that follow it daily while condemning the righteous, but remain patient, it is ONLY temporary. **IJohn 2:15-17**]

**IICorinthians 4:16 For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day.**

**:17 For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory;**

**:18 While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal.**

(Be stronger each day; remember that we are going through these trials FOR A REASON: **IIEsdras 7:6-10**)

**IIEsdras 7:57 Then answered he me, and said, This is the condition of the battle, which man that is born upon the earth shall fight;**

**:58 That, if he be overcome, he shall suffer as thou hast said: but if he get the victory, he shall receive the thing that I say.**

**:59 For this is the life whereof Moses spake unto the people while he lived, saying, Choose thee life, that thou mayest live.**

(We are FOREWARNED, this life is a BATTLE, its a fight! Especially if we are RIGHTEOUS and meek in this evil, dog eat dog, devilish and deceitful world.)

**Proverbs 15:24 The way of life is above to the wise, that he may depart from hell beneath.**

(Matthew 6:20 But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal:

:21 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.) Hell = affliction, death, evil, sorrow, etc.

**Acts 14:22 Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.**
(Don’t accept being mistreated and bullied by evil people, but understand that we will be tried, and go through hardships brought about from some of those called “friends” “family” or “brother” and “sister”)

**Ecclesiasticus 12:8 A friend cannot be known in prosperity: and an enemy cannot be hidden in adversity.**

(Ecclesiasticus 6:7, Ecclesiasticus 4:27. NOT calling the wrong people friends, NOR trusting the wrong people, even if they are family, or refer to themselves as Israelites. They can be evil or toxic. Enemies will prey on you or kick you when you’re down, trick you, lie, etc. Choose friends wisely, NOT by youthful ignorance!)

**Isaiah 33:6 And wisdom and knowledge shall be the stability of thy times, and strength of salvation: the fear of the LORD is his treasure.**

(Understanding and wisdom is a treasure, to keep our minds stable, and necessary for our salvation!)

People SHOW us how to deal with them, and ye shall KNOW THEM by their fruits. We, True friends and BROTHERS WILL SHOW true love and be “friendly” fake friends will NOT show love and loyalty when it counts the most (Proverbs 18:24, IPeter 2:22-23). This is a hard battle, so foresee the evils prophesied to come upon us and this earth, and HIDE under the shadow of the Almighty God and our Messiah:

**Ecclesiasticus 22:21 Though thou drewest a sword at thy friend, yet despair not: for there may be a returning to favour.**

**:22 If thou hast opened thy mouth against thy friend, fear not; for there may be a reconciliation: except for upbraiding, or pride, or disclosing of secrets, or a treacherous wound: for for these things every friend will depart.**(Be NOT deceived, TRUE friends or “brothers” and “sisters” DO NOT do these things, EVEN THOUGH no one is PERFECT! **Christ TAUGHT us to be wise, NOT gullible and EASILY manipulated: MATTHEW 10:16**)

Be kind and CONSIDERATE even when you are in adversity! Look on the things of others also, NOT just yourself. Moreover, suffering for righteousness sake should make us MORE compassionate of others, NOT selfish and uncaring about the tribulations of brethren and others: **Matthew 9:36-37**!

ALL glory, honor and praises to our Almighty Father, Eternal Everlasting Power and LORD God, through His Only-begotten Son, our Savior, Redeemer, King and Lord Jesus Christ.

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