

How To Be Strong in the End Times—Part 1

PASTORS GEORGE & TERRI PEARSONS

DAY I—A Picture of the End Times

A. Introduction

- 1. In May 2024, we studied "End-Time Warnings and Instructions" for two weeks on the Believer's Voice of Victory broadcast.
- 2. Some of the things we covered:
 - a. God's Early Warning System
 - b. Refusing to Fear
 - c. The Authority of the Believer
 - d. The Four Walls of Protection
 - e. And other topics on being equipped in these last days of the Church age.
- 3. Since then, we've seen the signs of being in the throes of the end times grow even more intense. That isn't going to change.
- 4. So, we will continue to equip you to be an overcomer.
- 5. This series is really a companion to the broadcasts back in May.

Β. What Jesus Says About the End Times

- 1. We must be eager to hear what Jesus says about the times we live in *and* what's ahead.
- 2. Matthew 24:1-14 (NKJV)
 - a. Verses 1-2: "Then Jesus went out and departed from the temple, and His disciples came up to show Him the buildings of the temple. And Jesus said to them, 'Do you not see all these things? Assuredly, I say to you, not one stone shall be left here upon another, that shall not be thrown down.""
 - i. Jesus set up an opportunity to tell them—and us—what would come.
 - ii. Times will become more intense, high pressured and cataclysmic.
 - iii. As the world spirals deeper into darkness, we must escalate further into the light and power of God.
 - b. Verse 3: "Now as He sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, 'Tell us, when will these things be? And what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?"
 - i. Three questions: When? What is the sign of Your coming? And what are the signs of the end of the age?
 - c. Verses 4-5: "Jesus answered and said to them: 'Take heed that no one deceives you. For many will come in My name, saying, "I am the Christ," and will deceive many.""
 - "Take heed no one deceives you" means we have responsibility. i.
 - ii. Deception is mentioned first—this reveals that it is the overarching earmark of the end of the age.

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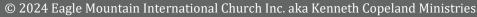




- d. Verse 6: "And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all *these things* must come to pass, but the end is not yet."
 - "See that you are not troubled" means you see to it. That's a constant effort, not always easy, and never automatic.
 - a) That's what we're here to help you do.
 - ii. Jesus indicates this will go on for a while.
 - a) "The end is not yet."
 - iii. So we must do what it takes to remain strong.
 - iv. Sometimes we fall short, fail, and want to blame God.
 - a) "Well, I did everything I know to do."
 - b) This means that, like Gloria Copeland said, "You don't know enough!"
 - iv. Ephesians 6:10 (AMPC): "In conclusion, be strong in the Lord [be empowered through your union with Him]; draw your strength from Him [that strength which His boundless might provides]."
 - a) He doesn't expect us to do things in our own strength.
 - b) We must allow Him to work in and through us.
- e. Verse 7: "For nation will rise against nation..."
 - i. *Nation* is translated from the Greek word *ethnos*, meaning ethnic groups of people or races.
 - ii. Across the world there is a rise of ethnicity against ethnicity.
 - iii. Strife and division are rampant.
- Verse 7: "...and kingdom against kingdom." f.
 - "Kingdom against kingdom" can be what we see as nations, but also it i. includes "realms," such as the financial realm, the political realm, education and others.
 - ii. Most notably, it is God's kingdom of Light versus the satanic kingdom of darkness.
 - iii. There is a kingdom fight of light against darkness at every level.
- g. Verse 7: "...And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places."
 - i. As a result—there will be natural and man-made calamities in the natural world—one after the other, many at the same time, in lots of places, with a cascading or domino effect.
- h. Verses 9-11: "Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name's sake. And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another. Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many."
 - i. These all have to do with people—person to person *pressures*—intense pressure that continues to build.
 - ii. 2 Timothy 3 also speaks of people and the end times.
 - a) Verse 1 (NKJV): "But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come."

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b) AMPC: "But understand this, that in the last days will come (set in) perilous times of great stress and trouble [hard to deal with and hard to bear]."

C. So What Are We To Do?

- 1. Proverbs 18:14 (AMPC): "The strong spirit of a man sustains him in bodily pain or trouble, but a weak and broken spirit who can raise up or bear?"
- 2. A strong spirit will get us through anything.
- 3. That's what these broadcasts are about—how to be *strong*—really strong—in the Lord and in the power of *His* might!

Notes







How To Be Strong in the End Times—Part 1 PASTORS GEORGE & TERRI PEARSONS

DAY 2—Don't Be Gullible

A. We Must Stand Strong in the Face of Intense Situations in These End Times

- 1. Matthew 24:4-8 describes circumstances around us.
 - a. NKJV: "And Jesus answered and said to them: 'Take heed that no one deceives you. For many will come in My name, saying, "I am the Christ," and will deceive many. And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places. All these are the beginning of sorrows.""
 - b. Deception is the #1 earmark of the end times.
 - c. Jesus told us, "Take heed that no one deceives you" and be sure that "you are not troubled."
 - d. He has given us everything needed to do what He says is our part.
- 2. Matthew 24:9-14—It gets more personal.
 - NKJV: "Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name's sake. And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another. Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. And *because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold.* But he who endures to the end shall be saved. And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come."
 - b. Lawlessness hates any form of structure or goodness, God's laws and civil law.
 - c. Rebellion and lawlessness now abound—not just in people breaking the law, but also in those who refuse to enforce it.
 - d. The ones who do not let their love grow cold or become deceived, they will be saved and delivered.
 - e. The gospel will be preached in demonstration. It will come through those built up in spiritual strength to where God can use them.

B. 2 Timothy 3—Paul Warned Timothy About People and the End Times

- 1. Verse 1 (NKJV): "But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come."
 - a. AMPC: "But understand this, that in the last days will come (set in) *perilous times of great stress and trouble [hard to deal with and hard to bear].*"
- 2. Verses 2-3 (NKJV): "For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good."





- a. For means "because," or, "this is the reason why" hard times come. It's proportionate.
- b. Verse 3 (AMPC)—"without natural [human] affection (callous and inhuman), relentless...."
- c. A woman was heard saying, "I love killing babies. I've had over 40 abortions." Even if she was exaggerating, that's an example of being without natural affection.
- 3. Verses 4-5 (NKJV): "Traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!"
 - a. Many give themselves over to the flesh, exalting physical, emotional and sensual pleasure above all else.
 - b. "I can't listen to that. I won't put that into my heart."
 - c. What is normal to you, you don't resist.

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d. Watch and listen to things that build you up.

C. Word of the Lord Through Kenneth Copeland, Aug. 6, 2010, Southwest Believers'

Convention

"The world is in *serious* trouble. But for the household of faith and those who will cling to My Word...everything is going to be all right."

"The world, I'll tell you again, is in serious trouble. Some very hard things are coming, in different places around the world.... [Things are] on a downhill run that the world cannot stop. But, for the household of faith, everything's going to be all right. Everything is going to be all right."

"Oh, yeah—you'll have to make a stand. You'll have to fight the good fight of faith. But, when did you not have to do that?...

"Stand on My Word and it'll not come nigh you. Praise and worship My Name. Don't feed and *feed* fear and *feed* trouble into your life and into your mouth. No, no, no, no. Quit living in that house.

Get on back over here in the household of faith. Feed on My Word, not on the bread of sorrow. Feed on My Word. Look in My face. ... Praise and worship and preach the Word.... Your time has come. It is your time to excel. It is your time to do exceeding, extraordinary things.... Everything's going to be all right."

D. Paul Now Warns of Deceivers and Calls Out Gullible Women

- 1. 2 Timothy 3:6-7 (NKIV): "For of this sort are those who creep into households and make captives of gullible women loaded down with sins, led away by various lusts, always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth."
- 2. Anyone can be gullible, but here Paul specifically deals with gullible women.
- 3. Why are women called out? Because of the power of women.
- 4. After studying the original Greek words from the concordance, verses 6-7 could be translated this way:

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- a. For of this sort are they (more than one) which sneak into families and target gullible women loaded with offenses, who are then swept with different, questionable longings, constantly gaining more and more facts and knowledge but with no discernment, no light because of no truth.
- b. There wasn't a finer woman than Eve, but she became gullible. Satan is crafty and her strengths became her weaknesses. She began longing for the wrong things and was deceived.
- 5. It is the cruelty of Satan to target women.
 - a. It's not because women are deficient, but because of their strengths.
 - b. Satan turns the strengths that God put in us into vulnerabilities, thereby affecting the entire family—and to affect the family means to affect society.
- 6. The family is the core unit of any society—at any time.
 - a. Satan seeks to erode our foundations and destroy households.
 - b. Often the mother is the moral backbone in a family—she must maintain her place.
 - c. It's been said that the hand that rocks the cradle rules the world.
- 7. "Women, more than ever, we must pay attention! We have to be more holy, more pure, and more determined to stand in faith, strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.

"We must not live our lives trying to measure up to the image that the world tries to paint of a woman. We are to be clothed with the beauty of holiness, separated from the lifestyles of the world. We can demonstrate gracious decorum and enjoy lovely clothing without taking on the spirit of the world.

"We must be the moral antenna, the moral compass of righteousness to protect our family, to protect our husband and be a help to others.

"This doesn't mean that there's no responsibility for the man. But we are talking about the power of women to affect families and communities.

"How can we fend off bad times and stand against the attacks of the enemy? Men and women alike need to develop their spirits so that they can live strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. The stronger we are, the easier it is to laugh at adversity and stand in faith on the Word." —Pastor Terri Pearsons

Notes

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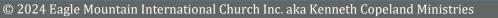
DAY 3—Why Develop Your Spirit?

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A. The Word of God Will Equip and Strengthen You to Walk Through Life Victoriously, Overcoming All Troubles

- 1. Matthew 24:3-8 (NKJV): "The disciples came to Him privately, saying, 'Tell us, when will these things be? And what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?' And Jesus answered and said to them: '*Take heed that no one deceives you*. For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will deceive many. And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. *See that you are not troubled;* for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places. All these are the beginning of sorrows."
 - a. Jesus has assigned you the responsibility to make sure you are not troubled and to "take heed that no one deceives you."
 - b. Satan is the master of deception, the father of lies (John 8:44).
 - c. You must take up the weapons God has given us to overcome.
 - d. In the same way you feed the physical body, you need to nourish your spirit within you.
- 2. Matthew 24:12-14 (NKJV): "And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. But *he who endures to the end shall be saved*. And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.
 - a. He who holds on to the laws of God, holds on to love, to Jesus—he will be saved.
 - b. We are to be witnesses to others of what an overcomer looks like.
- 3. Paul warned Timothy about the end of days.
 - a. 2 Timothy 3:1 (AMPC): "But understand this, that in the last days will come (set in) *perilous times of great stress and trouble [hard to deal with and hard to bear]."*
 - b. 2 Timothy 3:2-5 (NKJV) "For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self control, brutal, despisers of good, traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!"
 - c. People have made up their own form of godliness, rejecting God's ways and denying His power.
 - d. He urges us to get away from such people—do not let them talk into your life—in person or through media.
- 4. Hebrews 10:25 (AMPC): "Not forsaking or neglecting to assemble together [as believers], as is the habit of some people, but admonishing (warning, urging, and encouraging) one another, and all the more faithfully as you see the day approaching."

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- a. Some never put the Word of God and the people of God first.
- b. Be in church—especially now—Jesus is coming back soon.

B. Proverbs 18:14—A Strong Spirit Will Get Us Through Anything!

- 1. AMPC: "The strong spirit of a man sustains him in bodily pain or trouble, but a weak and broken spirit who can raise up or bear?"
- 2. The spiritual intensity of the days that we're in has increased.
- 3. The closer we get to the coming of Jesus, things will continue to heat up as the devil tries to make a last stand.
- 4. John 10:10 (NKJV): "The thief [Satan] does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I [Jesus] have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly."
- 5. A strong spirit will cause us to overcome physical attacks, financial problems, relational difficulties, job/career/ministerial setbacks, emotional challenges—everything the devil throws our way.
- 6. We can build a barrier, a force field, a wall of protection around us so when the storms of life hit, we stand like a rock—unshaken and unmovable.
- 7. Our spirits can become so rooted, grounded and established in the Word that we can actually repel disease, stop care, resist sin, override doubt, dissolve offense and block pressure.
- 8. We can build up our spiritual immune system to such a degree that sickness can't penetrate it, discouragement can't sway it, fear can't stop it, bad news can't move it and adversity can't affect it.

C. The Degree of Success We Experience Is Directly Connected to the Condition of **Our Spirits**

- 1. Your spirit is your inner man, the hidden man of the heart (1 Peter 3:4).
- 2. The Word of God will feed your spirit, building you up inside.
- 3. We've got the Word going all the time, listening to and watching faith-building messages.
- 4. Developing a strong spirit is like exercising in the gym. You get to a place where your spirit is so strong that you are able to lift heavier weights, by faith overcoming and removing mountains.
- 5. 3 John 2 (NLT): "Dear friend, I hope all is well with you and that you are as healthy in body as you are strong in spirit."

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How To Be Strong in the End Times—Part 1

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DAY 4—Your Spiritual Development Is Priority

A. Why Do We Need a Strong Spirit? Look Around!

- 1. The world's troubles are increasing—fast! Both Jesus and Paul said they would.
- 2. External circumstances. Personal circumstances. We are surrounded by pressure.
- 3. Paul said, "in the last days will come...perilous times of great stress and trouble...hard to bear" (2 Timothy 3:1, AMPC).
- 4. John 16:33: "In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world."
- 5. Jesus said we are supposed to be overcomers, full of joy, preaching, teaching, healing and having all our needs met! How?

B. Proverbs 18:14—A Strong Spirit Will Get Us Through Anything

- 1. AMPC: "The strong spirit of a man sustains him in bodily pain or trouble, but a weak and broken spirit who can raise up or bear?"
- 2. A strong spirit will cause us to overcome physical attacks, financial problems, relational/marital difficulties, job/career/ministerial setbacks, or emotional challenges.
- 3. Satan likes to use the "pile on" technique—throwing as much as he can at us.
- 4. Satan wants you to quit going to church and quit reading your Bible, so you become spiritually weak and circumstances roll right over you.
- 5. We can build up our spiritual immune system to such a degree that sickness can't penetrate it, discouragement can't sway it, fear can't stop it, bad news can't move it and adversity can't affect it.
- 6. This is wartime. We're in a spiritual war and we have to be trained. We have to be developed spiritually, just like soldiers are trained to do battle naturally.
- 7. Matthew 24:4, 6 (NKJV)—Jesus said, "Take heed that no one deceives you.... See that you are not troubled; for all these things must come to pass."
- 8. Things are coming. We must get ready, get stronger and be prepared. Our preparation today is for the things that will come.
- 9. We don't have to succumb to the curse of the Law and its collateral damage.
 - a. Galatians 3:13-14 (NKJV): "Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, 'Cursed is everyone who hangs on a [cross] tree'), that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith."
 - b. We "fight the good fight of faith" (1 Timothy 6:12).



C. Psalm II2—The Picture of a Strong, Established Heart

- 1. Verse 1: "Blessed is the man that feareth the Lord, that delighteth greatly in his commandments."
- 2. Verses 6-8: "Surely he shall not be moved for ever: the righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance. He shall not be afraid of evil tidings: his heart is fixed, trusting in the Lord. His heart is established, he shall not be afraid, until he see his desire upon his enemies."
- 3. 3 John 2 (NLT): "Dear friend, I hope all is well with you and that you are as healthy in body as you are strong in spirit."
- 4. Without proper care, our spiritual immune system will weaken, opening the door to the effects of the curse.
- 5. The lack of success is an indicator of a weak spirit.
 - a. This includes the effects of pressure:
 - Mental uneasiness, with thoughts going to What if... or What will we do? i.
 - ii. It can be panic, dread, sleeplessness, the loss of joy, a short temper, becoming suspicious.
 - iii. Decisions made are based on bad news, instead of being led by the Holy Spirit.
- 6. Our spirits must be fed, strengthened, trained, developed and exercised in the same way we do our bodies and minds.
- 7. Kenneth E. Hagin said that the Word of God is "faith food" to our spirits.
- 8. Romans 10:17: "Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."
- 9. We can become so spiritually strong that our mountain-moving faith will produce mighty results, unhindered by any force.
- 10. "When John said we should prosper and be in health, he added the phrase, 'even as thy soul prospereth.' Man is a spirit; he has a soul consisting of the mind, the will and the emotions; and he lives in a body. Thus, there is *spiritual* prosperity; there is *mental* prosperity; and there is *physical* prosperity.

"To prosper spiritually, you must be born again. When you accept Jesus as your Savior and make Him the Lord of your life, your spirit is reborn and brought into fellowship with the Father, the Almighty God. This then puts you in a position to receive from Him *all* the things promised in His Word." —Kenneth Copeland, The Laws of Prosperity.

D. I Thessalonians 5:23—Man Is a Three-Part Being

- 1. "And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ."
- 2. Kenneth Copeland said that most misunderstandings of spiritual things are because of not knowing that foundational truth.
- 3. Brother Hagin developed a spirit consciousness by saying:
 - a. I am a spirit.
 - b. I have a soul (my mind, will and emotions).
 - c. I live in a physical body.
- 4. The body is the earth suit, tent, house, tabernacle, building.
- 5. The spirit is the life of the man.

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- a. The hand in the glove
- b. The knife in the sheath
- 6. The life that is in your body comes from your spirit, and the life that is in your spirit comes from God.
 - a. Romans 10:10: "For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."
 - i. We believe with the heart.
 - ii. All believing is with the heart—or spirit—of a man.

E. Ephesians 6:10—Be Strong in the Lord and in the Power of His Might

- 1. AMPC: "In conclusion, be strong in the Lord [be empowered through your union with Him]; draw your strength from Him [that strength which His boundless might provides]."
 - a. "Be Strong."
 - b. Don't just think *strong* like muscle strength.
 - c. *Strong* also means:
 - i. Able to *withstand great force* or pressure, not affected by hardship
 - ii. Able to exert great force, not easily disturbed, upset or affected, unflappable
 - iii. Possessing skills and qualities that create a likelihood of success, i.e. strong in math or science; strong in character—showing self-control and determination
- 2. Every believer has the potential to walk in a greater place of supernatural strength.
- 3. The stronger our spirit, the easier it is to receive, resist and stand.
- 4. The ultimate goal of developing a strong spirit is so we can be strong enough to strengthen others.
- 5. Joel 3:10: "...Let the weak say, I AM STRONG!"
 - a. This is where your spiritual workout begins! *Say* it!
- 6. A strong spirit will get you through anything.
 - a. Proverbs 24:10 (AMPC): "If you faint in the day of adversity, your strength is small."
 - b. Your spirit is weak.
 - c. NLT: "If you fail under pressure, your strength is too small."
- 7. The more you invest in the Word, spending time with the Lord, the quicker the return will come on that investment.

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DAY 5—Seven Benefits of a Strong Spirit

A. We Are Living in the End of Days-Also Called the End Times

- 1. Jesus said the signs of these days would be wars, of every kind—wars between races and people groups, wars between nations, wars between God's people and the kingdom of darkness.
- 2. He said to expect famines, plagues, earthquakes, in place after place, one on top of the other, growing in intensity.
- 3. He prepared us that persecution, and even family betrayals would escalate.
- 4. His greatest warning was for us to not be deceived! This was #1.
- 5. The Apostle Paul described the end of days to Timothy saying:
 - a. "But understand this, that in the last days will come (set in) perilous times of great stress and trouble [hard to deal with and hard to bear]" (2 Timothy 3:1, AMPC).
 - b. Why? Because people will be:
 - Utterly self-centered
 - Excessively greedy
 - Arrogant and self-boasting -
 - Blasphemous
 - Rebellious
 - Ungrateful
 - Unholy and profane
 - Without natural affection
 - Slanderers
 - With no self-control or moral standards
- 6. Yet in the midst of this, Jesus said in Matthew 24:6, "See that you are not troubled."
- 7. How can we do that? Go back to our foundation scripture: Proverbs 18:14.

B. Seven Benefits of a Strong Spirit

1. A Strong Spirit Will Get You Through Anything

- a. Proverbs 18:14 (AMPC): "The strong spirit of a man sustains him in bodily pain or trouble, but a weak and broken spirit who can raise up or bear?"
- b. A strong spirit will cause us to overcome physical attacks, financial problems, relational/marital difficulties, job/career/ministerial setbacks, emotional challenges—everything the devil throws our way.
- c. Proverbs 24:10 (AMPC): "If you faint in the day of adversity, your strength is small."
 - i. Your spirit is weak.
 - ii. NLT: "If you fail under pressure, your strength is too small."

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- d. If you stand firm and succeed under pressure, your spirit is strong.
- e. Ephesians 6:10 says, "Be strong in the Lord." This shows us it's in our control if we are strong or not. That's what the broadcasts are here to help you with.

2. A Strong Spirit Will Help You Receive From God

- a. The stronger your faith, the more you can accomplish.
- b. "You can't catch much with a Snoopy fishing pole."
- c. The stronger the pole and line, the bigger the fish you will catch.
- d. The stronger your spirit is, the easier it becomes to receive.
- e. Hebrews 6:12—Through faith and patience (endurance, constancy, standing your ground) we inherit the promises.

3. A Strong Spirit Will Help You Hold On to What You Receive

- a. Galatians 6:9 (AMPC): *"Let us* not lose heart and grow weary and faint in acting nobly and doing right, for in due time and at the appointed season we shall reap, if *we* do not loosen and relax our courage and faint."
 - i. Picture yourself like this!
 - ii. Then refuse to be or do anything differently!
- b. Hebrews 10:23: *"Let us* hold fast the profession of our faith *without wavering;* (for *he* is faithful that promised)."
 - i. This is why and how we can be strong.
 - ii. *Hold fast* (GK) = keep firm possession of
 - iii. AMPC: "Let us seize and hold fast and retain without wavering...."
- c. Demonstrating giving a book
 - i. Too weak to receive
 - ii. Too weak to hold onto
 - iii. Too weak to keep holding
 - iv. Strong enough to keep
- d. Ask the Lord to help you recognize when you're weak.

4. A Strong Spirit Will Help You Resist the Devil and Temptation

- a. Ezekiel 16:30: "How weak is thine heart, saith the Lord God, seeing thou doest all these things...."
- b. Proverbs 16:32 (NKJV): "He who is slow to anger is better than the mighty, and he who rules his spirit than he who takes a city."
 - i. *Spirit* is also translated *life*—and sometimes can also mean *anger*.
 - ii. He who rules over his inner man—his mind, will and emotions—is mightier than someone who only controls others.
- c. Ephesians 6:10-11: "Be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might...that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil."
 - i. Verse 11 (AMPC): "That you may be able successfully to stand up against [all] the strategies and the deceits of the devil."
 - ii. "Be strong in the Lord." Alone you are no match for the orchestrated forces of the demonic world. But Jesus is more than enough.
 - iii. Be strong in who you are in Him.

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5. A Strong Spirit Will Help You Help Others

- a. Romans 15:1: "We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak..."
- b. Luke 22:31-32: "And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat: But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou are converted, strengthen thy brethren."
- c. Verse 32 (BBE): "Make your brothers strong."

6. A Strong Spirit Will Help You Withstand Impact and Pressure

- a. Example: Skyscrapers in San Francisco are designed to absorb the shock of earthquakes.
- b. Luke 6:47-49—The storm could not shake the house.
 - i. NKJV: "Whoever comes to Me, and hears My sayings and does them, I will show you whom he is like: He is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock. And when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently against that house, and could not shake it, for it was founded on the rock. But he who heard and did nothing is like a man who built a house on the earth without a foundation, against which the stream beat vehemently; and immediately it fell. And the ruin of that house was great."
 - ii. Going to the Word, hearing the Word and doing the Word are how you grow and succeed.
 - iii. You must invest in your spiritual growth. There is no "drive-through window" for spiritual growth.
- c. James 1:2-4—Pressure on faith puts the force of patience to work.
 - i. NKJV: "My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing."

7. A Strong Spirit Will Build a Protective Barrier Around Your Heart

- a. The stronger the spirit, the harder for sickness to penetrate.
- b. Discouragement can't sway it.
- c. Fear can't stop it.
- d. Offense can't enter it.
- e. Psalm 112:6-8: "Surely he shall not be moved for ever...He shall not be afraid of evil tidings: his heart is fixed, trusting in the Lord. His heart is established...."

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