

# Daily Devotional by Dr. Gloria P. Holmes

Women's Ministry Leader - Bethel Missionary Baptist Church

Reverend Dr. RB Holmes, Pastor

## "Gateway to God's Glory in the Midst of the Coronavirus Pandemic"

### "STAND FAST"

*"Therefore, my brothers and sisters, you whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, dear friends." Philippians 4:1*

There is an old hymn of the church that asks a profound question: *"Am I a Soldier of the Cross?"* The last verse says: *"Sure I must fight if I would reign; Increase my courage, Lord; I'll bear the toil, endure the pain, supported by Thy Word."* If you are a believer in Jesus Christ, then you are a soldier of the cross and you must take a stand on the Lord's side. Certainly, there are seasons of life when one trial after another seems to pile right on top of us. As a matter of fact, this coronavirus pandemic season is a perfect example. Not only are we grappling with this monstrous and scary disease, but all around us, we see hatred and hate crimes, racism, sexism, unjust police shootings and other malicious acts, road rage and raging tempers, demonic actions and attitudes, environmental disasters, economic distress and sin on every hand. These things are ungodly and are signs of spiritual warfare; a battle is raging between good and evil. We fight one battle; we think it's over, but here comes another one. The fiery darts keep coming; the lions are roaring; the storms are raging - all at the same time. It can be depressing and seem hopeless until we remember that there is a God in Heaven. I am so glad He sits high but looks low. And guess what? Our Almighty God, who is Sovereign, tells us through the Apostle Paul in Philippians 4:1 - *"Stand firm in the Lord!"*

Christians understand that we must rely on God in all seasons of life. We understand that it is critical to our spiritual success to stand fast in the Lord during spiritual warfare. The Enemy is waging war against God and God's people, but we who are believers know that God is winning. Therefore, as a soldier of the cross and a follower of the Lamb, we must consistently apply the word of God to our lives. *"Finally, my brothers and sisters, be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes."* (Ephesians 6:10) Of course, Paul explains further that *"We are not wrestling against flesh and blood, but against principalities and the powers of this world's darkness. We are fighting against the spiritual powers of evil in the heavenly world."* (Ephesians 6:12) Furthermore, we understand that spiritual battles are only won by spiritual methods. *"So, He said to me, This is the word of the Lord to Zerubbabel, not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit, says the LORD Almighty."* (Zechariah 4:6) In summary, the gospel artist, Donnie McClurkin, beautifully expresses this spiritual concept in his song—"Stand." Here are some of his lines: *"What do you do when you've done all you can, and it seems like it's never enough. Child, you just stand; watch the LORD see you through. Don't give up in the storm; you just stand."* Well, here we stand facing some questions. Will I choose to really believe God and take Him at His Word? Am I a soldier of the cross?

#### Prayer

Almighty God,  
We know that You are a battle axe in the time of a battle! Truly, You are a very present help in the time of trouble. We are living in troubling times, but we are determined to stand fast in the power of Your might. We are soldiers in Your army, and we proclaim that the battle is Yours. We praise your Holy name. Amen!

#### How will you respond to today's message?

---

---

---

---

---

---

---