

HOLD FAST

I. Six areas of **HOLDING FAST** that are the personal responsibilities of every Believer:

A. #1 Hold Fast to "**GOOD THINGS**" 1 Thess. 5:21

1. Def Hold Fast: to retain, seize on, keep in memory, possess, take, hold down

B. Not everything that comes into our life is good: only hold fast to things that come from God

1. This requires **discernment**: 1 Jn 4:1 "Test the spirits whether they are of God"

a. we do not test manifestations, prophetic words, doctrine by our emotions

b. Bottom line: does it line up with The Word of God

2. James 1:16 "Every good & every perfect gift is from above...."

a. quit accepting & unwrapping the gifts the devil sends your way

b. But be open to the Gifts of the Holy Spirit & all Jesus paid the price for you to obtain on the Cross

II. #2 Hold Fast to The Word / Promises of God:

A. 1 Cor 15:1-2 "Hold fast the word"

1. The devil is out to steal the seed of God's word from your heart & mind:

2. Parable of The Sower: Matt 13:18- 23

a. Note vs 19 "wicked one / devil / comes & snatches away what was sown in his heart (word)"

b. vs 19 lacks understanding/ does not understand what the Word is saying or how to apply it

c. vs 20 Stony ground: type of hard heart not open to the truth of God's Word

d. vs 21 speaks of shallow Christians who make no effort to study the word: "no root" thus unable to overcome trials

e. vs 22 describes the carnal minded believer who is more concerned about the affairs of this world and make no effort to seek the Kingdom of God & putting Jesus first in life

f. vs 23 speaks of believers who have learned to hold fast to the Word of God

B. If the devil can steal the seed of God's word...he can steal everything else God has given you:

1. Rev 3:11 "Hold Fast what you have, that no one may take your crown

a. from your rewards in glory to your: salvation, peace, joy, healing, children, ministry

C. 2 Tim 1:13 "HOLD FAST the pattern of SOUND WORDS"

1. Def Sound: true doctrine

a. this goes along with discernment.....without knowledge of The Word your discernment will not properly work:

(1) 2 Tim 3:16 & 17.....2 Tim 4:3....1 Tim 4:1

(2) Examples of Sound Doctrine: Doctrine of Christ 2 Jn 9 & Apostles Doctrine Acts 2:42

III. HOLD FAST to your **CONFESSION**:

A. Heb 4:14 "Let us hold fast our confession"

1. Jesus lived a holy & victorious life on earth...defeated the devil, death, hell & grave & now sits at the right hand of the Throne of God our Father as our Intercessor & **HIGH PRIEST**

a. Ron 8:37 "Gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ"

2. No matter what we face in life continue to keep confessing Jesus & the Word Heb 10:23

IV. Heb 3:3 "Hold Fast the **CONFIDENCE**"

A. Def Confidence: out spokenness, frankness, bluntness, assurance

1. Speaking of our confidence in our God

a. confidence in the Holy Spirit moving on our behalf

b. confidence in the power of the shed Blood of Jesus

c. confidence in the fact that Grater is He that is in you than he that is in the world 1 Jn 4:4

d. confidence that "By His stripes you were healed" 1 Peter 2:24

e. Philp 1:16 "Being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ"

2. Don't waver but have confidence in God & His Word James 1:6-8

3. Prv 3:26 "For The Lord will be our confidence"

V. HOLD FAST in the awesome power of **JESUS NAME**

A. Rev 2:13 "...and you hold fast to **My name** (Jesus)"

1. The church in Pergamos was located in the midst of Satan's stronghold (throne), so the Apostle John reminds these believers of one of the Keys of The Kingdom of God in order to defeat the powers of darkness: **Jesus Name**

a. Phil 2:9 "God also has highly exalted Him (Jesus) giving Him the name which is above every name"

2. As Believers we have been seated higher than the powers of darkness

a. Eph 2:6 "And raised us up together, & made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus"

VI. How long must we Hold Fast?

A. Rev 2:25 "But hold fast what you have **till I come**"

1. Hold Fast to: good things, the Word / Promises of God / your confession of faith, your confidence in The Lord hold fast & declare the Name of Jesus

B. Gal 6:9 "Let us not grow weary in while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not loose heart"

1. Now is not the time to get weary, give up, quit, or resign: time to hold fast & reap your harvest