

STAND FIRM

Matthew 16:13-19

July 4, 2010

An old seaman said, *In fierce storms we can do but one thing. There is only one way (to survive); we must put the ship in a certain position and keep her there.*

There is only one way to be saved, by standing firm in faith in Jesus Christ the Son of the living God.

Christians, because Peter did not stand firm, does not give us permission to only hold faithfully to our Lord when it is convenient.

Obviously, turning from God in order to sin is not acceptable.

Stand firm in faith in Jesus Christ. Seek to honor Him in all that you say and do.

While we know what God's Word says, one of the challenges is understanding what it means for our lives, or, more importantly living it out each day.

"You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God". Do we really mean that? Or are we only saying the right words? If we say it, but do not mean it, whom are we fooling?

Floyd McClung ... asks the question: How have we crowded God out of the center? Then answers: By replacing Him with ourselves.

Our spiritual muscles become flabby and we are easy prey to temptation and sin.