

Remaining Strong

Definition: strong – to be solid, robust, tough, powerful; having the power to perform demanding physical tasks or having great influence, able to withstand great force or pressure.

Scripture Reading:

“Have I not commanded you? Be **strong** and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.” / “For you have a shelter for me, a **strong** tower from the enemy.” / “With a **strong** hand, and with an outstretched arm, for His mercy endures forever”. / “In the fear of the LORD there is **strong** confidence, and His children will have a place of refuge.” / “The name of the LORD is a **strong** tower; the righteous run to it and are safe.” / “Beat your plowshares into swords and your pruning hooks into spears; let the weak say, ‘I am **strong**.’” / Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is **stronger** than man.” / Therefore, I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecution, in distresses, for Christ’s sake. For when I am weak, then I am **strong**.” / “Finally, my brethren, be **strong** in the Lord and in the power of His might.”

Joshua 1:9; Ps 61:3; 136:12; Pro 14:26; 18:10; Joel 3:10; 1 Cor 1:25; 2 Cor 12:10; Eph 6:10

Discipleship Directive:

Our **strength** as disciples does not come because of who we are, but our **strength** comes from the Lord who made heaven and earth. I am **strong** because He is **strong**, for I have given my life totally to Him. The good news is that when we are weak, He is **strong**, and He can impart that **strength** to us for His purposes. The Lord Himself is our place of refuge and a **strong** tower. The Lord has set His Spirit to watch out like a search light and to show us which direction the enemy is coming from. He has given us the Holy Spirit to empower us and fill us so that we can be **strong** in battle. We are at war, the enemy is all around us and it is not a time to be waver, but it is a time to take up the full armour of God. To take the plows and pruning hooks and turn them into swords and spears, and the stand up and say, “I am **strong** in the LORD”! Even when we as a disciple go through the valleys of sickness, despair, and are cursed and persecuted because of whom we serve, the Lord Jesus Christ in spite of all this is still **strong** in all areas and in all things. That even when we are at our weakest point and wanting to give up and surrender, we just need to look up once more, because our redemption draws near, a redemption that is a **strong** tower for all who believe. We just need to reach out in faith and He through His **strength** will turn the raging seas into calmness and peace. Disciples we need to stand up and be firmly planted on the Rock of Christ Jesus, for when we have the fear of the Lord filling our heart, we can have “**strong confidence**” that He is able to overcome all things that we face in life.

Dedication Prayer:

Dear Lord Jesus Christ,

I come as your disciple and ask in faith that when I am weak that You will make me strong. I need to be filled again with the power and strength of the Holy Spirit. Lord I need to be focused once again and to take up the full armour and look to you who is my strong tower. That as I look to you that you will give me your command and show me what I should do and what direction I should go, because You are my strong tower. Help me to be strong in faith even when I am undergoing sickness and despair. Help to be strong when people curse me and persecute me because of my faith and love for you. Lord I want to be a Joshua that when I look across the river and see all the enemies that I remember that you have commanded me, “Be **strong** and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go”.

Your servant,
