

## **Acceptable Fight**

*“Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.” (1 Timothy 6:12, New King James Version).*

This is the key Bible verse for our ***“Come and See”*** devotional today.

All creatures fight for survival, if faced by predators and threats of competition. Each of us has a natural instinct to face up to danger and impending threats. However, not all fights are worth fighting and we must choose our battles carefully. During the earthly ministry of Jesus Christ there was a critical time when, for the first time, He appeared vulnerable: this was when mortal men were sent to arrest Him as a result of His betrayal by Judas. The commotion that resulted during this hour of darkness at Gethsemane led Apostle Peter to use his sword to cut off the ear of one of the invading high-priest’s servants; however, Jesus rebuked him for fighting the wrong fight (read John 18, 10-11).

Our key Bible verse gives the words of Apostle Paul, who stated that the only acceptable fight for believers is to fight for faith. Faith is the platform on which successful lives are built, as the Bible confirms: *“Now the just shall live by faith: but if any men draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.”* (Hebrews 10:38, 21<sup>st</sup> Century King James Version). One element of that faith is to believe before seeing. Knowing this, the devil is committed to contesting every promise made by God concerning our lives. Every difficult situation we may face is intended to try our faith but our source of faith is through God’s Word. The battle of life boils down to a battle of words between ‘what God says’ and ‘what the devil says.’ This is the battle between Truth and Lies.

To fight the good fight of faith, we must all activate the promises of God and use God’s words to win our battles. If we all diligently search the Scriptures, then we will discover that divine provision exists, through the eternal promises of God, to help us face every threatening challenge. Faith was the only weapon that Jesus was able to give Peter in facing his challenges.

After every fight, the victor is usually recognised and listed as a winner. Here we must refer to Hebrews 11, often known as the Faith Hall of Fame, in which the deeds of renowned Biblical figures are cited; the Hall of Fame cites Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Sarah, to name only a few. Those people are not mentioned there because of their good wishes or intentions but because they won their battles and overcame their trials and misfortunes. They all fought the right fight (read Hebrews 11). Your own testimony is firmly tied to the doggedness of your faith and this is because you are not different from the patriarchs, who through faith, ‘obtained excellent reports’ (read Hebrews 11:2).

Let us pray: “Father, strengthen my faith to overcome all of life’s challenges, to the Glory of your name,” in Jesus’ Mighty Name, Amen.

### ***Bible References:***

*“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.”* (Hebrews 11:1, 21<sup>st</sup> Century King James Version).

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