

Inspired Advice

1Cor.16:13

- A Command To Vigilance
- Direction To Firmness
- A Call To Be Courageous
- A Command To Boldness
- Motives to Heed This Advice

The title of the lesson is “**Inspired Advice**”, and we have such from [1Cor.16:13](#), which reads,

- “**Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit (or behave) you like men, be strong.**”

Good advice then, is good advice now.

From 1Cor.16:13 we are told “**Watch Ye**’, which is...

I. A Command To Vigilance

- The Bible says, “**TAKE ye HEED, WATCH and PRAY:** for ye know NOT when the **TIME IS**.
³⁴ For the Son of man, is **AS** a man **TAKING** a far journey, who **LEFT** his house, and **GAVE** authority to his servants, and to every man his work, and **COMMANDED** the porter to **WATCH**.
³⁵ **WATCH** ye therefore: for ye know NOT when the master of the house **COMETH**, **AT even**, or **AT midnight**, or **AT** the cockcrowing, or **IN** the morning:
³⁶ lest coming **SUDDENLY**, he **FIND** you sleeping.
³⁷ And what I say unto you, I say unto all, **WATCH.**” (Jesus said in [Mk.13:33-37](#))

Because we have a command to vigilance, we should...

A. Give Strict Attention, to Be Cautious, and to Be on Guard

- Paul said, “Ye are all the children of LIGHT, and the children of the DAY: we are **NOT** of the night, **NOR** of darkness.⁶ Therefore let us **NOT** sleep, as do others; but LET us **WATCH** and Be Sober.” ([1Thess.5:5-6](#))

Because we have a command to vigilance, we should...

B. Watch for, and Avoid Satan, Sin, and Error

- “Be **SOBER**, Be **VIGILANT**; because your **ADVERSARY** the devil, **AS** a roaring lion, walketh about, **SEEKING** whom he may **DEVOUR.**” ([1Pet.5:8](#))
- “**WATCH** and **PRAY**, that ye enter NOT into **TEMPTATION**: the spirit indeed is **WILLING**, but the flesh is **WEAK.**” ([Matt.26:41](#))
- “**BEWARE** lest any man **SPOIL** you, (which carries the idea of, stealing one’s crown) **BEWARE** lest any man **SPOIL** you, through **PHILOSOPHY** (of men), and vain **DECEIT**, **AFTER** the tradition OF men, **AFTER** the rudiments OF the world, and **NOT after Christ.**” ([Col.2:8](#))

Spiritual shepherds, or elders, were told,

- “**TAKE HEED** therefore unto yourselves, and to **ALL** the flock, over the which the Holy Spirit, hath made you overseers, to **FEED** the **church of God**, which He hath **PURCHASED** with His own BLOOD.
²⁹ For I **KNOW** this, that **AFTER** my departing, shall grievous WOLVES enter in **AMONG** you, **NOT** sparing the flock.
³⁰ Also **OF** your own selves, shall men **ARISE**, speaking **PERVERSE** things, to **DRAW AWAY** disciples after them.
³¹ Therefore **WATCH**, and remember, that by the space of three years, I ceased not to **WARN** every one, night and day, with **TEARS.**” ([Acts 20:28-31](#))
- “and **WITH ALL** deceivableness OF unrighteousness, **IN** them that **PERISH**; **BECAUSE** they received NOT the **LOVE** of the **TRUTH**, that they might be **SAVED**.
¹¹ And for this cause **God shall SEND** them strong DELUSION, that they should believe a **LIE**:
¹² that they **ALL** might be **DAMNED**, who believed NOT the **TRUTH**, but had **PLEASURE** in **UNrighteousness.**” ([2Thess.2:10-12](#))

Never forget, that...

C. Our Enemy is so Shrewd and Skillful

So, we need to WATCH,

- “lest Satan should **GET** an **ADVANTAGE** of us: for we are **NOT** ignorant of his devices.” ([2Cor.2:11](#))

Because we have a command to vigilance,

D. We Need To Guard AGAINST, Temptations of Every Kind

- “Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye **KNOW** these things before, **BEWARE** lest ye also, being **LED AWAY** with the **ERROR** of the **WICKED**, **FALL** from your **OWN** steadfastness.” ([2Pet.3:17](#))
- “Wherefore **LET** him that **THINKETH** he standeth, **Take HEED**, lest he **FALL**.” ([1Cor.10:12](#))

Because...

- Even the **STRONGEST** have been overcome:Remember **Sampson** ([Judges 16:15-21](#)).
- Even the **WISEST** have been deceived:Remember **Solomon** ([1Kings 11:1-6](#)).
- And the **HOLIEST** have been trapped:Remember **David** ([2Sam.11:1-4](#)).
- Even the **BRAVEST**, have been frightened:Remember **Peter** ([Matt.26:69-75](#); [Matt.14:22-33](#)).

E. Also, we Need to Watch for Opportunities, to Do Good.

Not just for brethren, but for all, whom we can help.

- “**AS** we have therefore **OPPORTUNITY**, let us **DO GOOD** unto **ALL** men, **ESPECIALLY** unto them, who are **OF** the **HOUSEHOLD of FAITH**.” ([Gal.6:10](#))

If we, will **NOT** use, **LITTLE** opportunities,

we would **NOT** use, **GREAT** ones, **WHEN** they are presented to us.

- “He that is **FAITHFUL** in that which is **LEAST**, is faithful also in **MUCH**: and he that is **UNJUST** in the **LEAST**, is unjust also in **MUCH**.” ([Lk.16:10](#))

From 1Cor.16:13 we are told, “**Stand Fast In The Faith**”, which is...

II. Direction To Firmness

Which means to,

A. Be Firm, Persevere, Be Steadfast

- “**PUT ON** the **WHOLE** armour **OF** God, that ye **MAY** be able to **STAND**, against the **WILES** of the devil.” ([Eph.6:11](#))
- “Wherefore **TAKE** unto you the **WHOLE** armour **OF** God, that ye **MAY** be able to **WITHSTAND** in the evil day, and having **DONE ALL**, to stand.¹⁴ **STAND** therefore, **HAVING** your loins girt about with **TRUTH**, and **HAVING ON** the breastplate of **RIGHTEOUSNESS**,” ([Eph.6:13-14](#))

Because we have Direction To Firmness, we should...

B. Never Doubt, the Faithfulness of God

- “For **ALL** the **PROMISES** of God **IN** Him are yea, and **IN** Him Amen, unto the **GLORY** of God, by us.” ([2Cor.1:20](#))

With Direction To Firmness, there is...

C. No Uncertainty, Nor Indecision, But STEADFASTNESS

The Psalmist said,

- “Thy **Word**, have I **HID** in mine HEART, that I **might NOT**, sin AGAINST Thee.” ([Psa.119:11](#))

Faithful one’s, are Standfast IN Christ, Because He is the True Foundation.

- “For **OTHER** foundation, can **NO** man **LAY**, than that is **LAI**D, which **IS Jesus Christ.**” ([1Cor.3:11](#))

Children of God, are Standfast in the Gospel, Because it is the ONLY Standard.

- “Beloved, when I **GAVE** all **DILIGENCE** to write unto you of the **COMMON SALVATION**, it was **NEEDFUL** for me to write unto you, and **EXHORT** you, that ye **SHOULD** earnestly **CONTEND** for **The FAITH**, which was **ONCE** delivered unto the saints.” ([Jude vs.3](#))

The gospel was delivered, One time, for all time, is the idea; As there are no modern day revelations (read [Gal.1:6-9](#)).

The Bible says,

- “**LET** the **WORD** of Christ **DWELL** in you richly in **All WISDOM**; Teaching and Admonishing **ONE ANOTHER**, in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace **IN** your hearts **TO** the Lord.” ([Col.3:16](#))

...Which is our,

D. Only Means To OVERCOME

- Therefore, we should, “Be **SOBER**, **Be VIGILANT**; because your **ADVERSARY** the **devil**, **AS** a roaring lion, walketh about, **SEEKING** whom he may **DEVOUR**:⁹ whom **RESIST**, **STEDFAST** In The **FAITH**, knowing that the same **AFFLICTIONS** are **ACCOMPLISHED** in your brethren, that are in the world.” ([1Pet.5:8-9](#))

From 1Cor.16:13 we are told, “**Quit**” (or behave) **You Like Men**”, which is...

III. A Call To Be Courageous

A. Act Like Spiritually Mature ADULTS (avoiding anything childish, petty, or shallow).

Be wise (not poor in judgment) .

- “Brethren, be **NOT** children in **UNDERSTANDING**: (howbeit in malice, be ye children), but **IN** understanding **Be MEN.**” ([1Cor.14:20](#))

Be decided (not wavering).

- “A **DOUBLE** minded man, is **UNSTABLE** in **ALL** his **WAYS.**” ([Jas.1:8](#))

Be courageous (not timid)

- Peter and John, said, “Whether it be right in the sight of God, to **HEARKEN** unto you, **MORE** than **UNTO** God, judge ye.
²⁰ For we cannot but **SPEAK**, the things which we have **SEEN** and **HEARD.**” ([Acts 4:19-20](#))

B. Demonstrates These Characteristics:

Such as, **UNSELFISH GENEROSITY.**

Which **RAISES** us above envy, selfishness, ugliness, and **MAKES** us quick to **FORGIVE**, and want to be **FORGIVEN**.

- “Charity (that is, **Love**) suffereth **LONG**, and **IS** kind; charity envieth **NOT**; charity vaunteth **NOT** itself, is **NOT** puffed up,⁵ doth **NOT** behave itself unseemly, Seeketh **NOT** her own, is **NOT** easily provoked, Thinketh **NO** evil;⁶ Rejoiceth **NOT** in iniquity, but **REJOICETH** in the **TRUTH**;
⁷ **BEARETH** all things, **BELIEVETH** all things, **HOPETH** all things, **ENDURETH** all things.” ([1Cor.13:4-7](#))

...Which **LEADS** us, to **SACRIFICE SELF** for others.

- “**IF** there **BE** therefore, **ANY** consolation **IN** **Christ**,
IF any **COMFORT** of **Love**, **IF** any **FELLOWSHIP** of the **Spirit**, **IF** any **BOWELS** and **MERCIES**,
² **FULFIL** ye my **JOY**, that ye **Be Likeminded**, having the **SAME** **Love**,
Being of **ONE** Accord, of **ONE** Mind.³ Let **NOTHING** **Be Done** through strife or vainglory;
but **IN LOWLINESS** of mind, **LET** each **ESTEEM** other **BETTER** than themselves.
⁴ Look **NOT** every man **ON** his **OWN** things, but every man also, **ON** the things of **OTHERS**.” ([Phil.2:1-4](#))

Cheerfulness is a Characteristic, of those who are spiritually mature.

- “**Rejoice** **IN** **The Lord**, **ALWAY**: and again I say, **REJOICE**.” ([Phil.4:4](#))

The spiritually mature, are **Courageous**,

Even in the midst of hardships, setbacks, disappointments, and persecutions.

- “**CASTING** all your **CARE** upon **Him**; for He **CARETH** for you.” ([1Pet.5:7](#))

[Psa.121](#) reads,

- “I will **LIFT UP** mine **EYES** unto the hills, from whence cometh my **HELP**.
² My **HELP** cometh from the Lord, which **MADE** heaven and earth.
³ He will **NOT** suffer thy foot to be **MOVED**: He that **KEEPETH** thee, will **NOT** slumber.
⁴ Behold, **He** that **KEEPETH** Israel, shall **NEITHER** slumber **NOR** sleep.

⁵ The Lord **IS** thy **KEEPER**: the Lord **IS** thy **SHADE** upon thy right hand.
⁶ The **SUN** shall **NOT** smite thee by day, **NOR** the moon by night.
⁷ The Lord shall **PRESERVE** thee from **ALL** evil: He shall **PRESERVE** thy soul.
⁸ The Lord shall **PRESERVE** thy going out, and thy coming in
from this time forth, and even for **EVERMORE**.”

The Bible says,

- “they that **WAIT** upon the Lord, shall **RENEW** their **STRENGTH**;
they shall **MOUNT UP**, with wings **AS** eagles;
they shall **RUN**, and **NOT** be weary;
and they shall **WALK**, and **NOT** faint.” ([Isa.40:31](#))

From 1Cor.16:13 we are told, "**Be Strong**", which is...

IV. A Command To Boldness

- "Finally, my brethren, be **STRONG** in the Lord, and in the **POWER** of His **MIGHT**.
¹¹ **PUT ON** the whole **ARMOUR** of God,
that ye may **Be ABLE** to stand, **AGAINST** the wiles of the devil." ([Eph.6:10-11](#))

This is how we are well-equipped, to meet the enemy.

But quality equipment is useless, unless we **KNOW** it, and are courageous enough to **USE** it.

A. So, Struggle To Remain Faithful; Persevere in Study, and Worship

- "For we wrestle **NOT** against flesh and blood,
but **AGAINST** principalities, **AGAINST** powers, **AGAINST** the rulers of the **DARKNESS** of this world,
AGAINST spiritual wickedness in high places." ([Eph.6:12](#))

We Should, Allow NO Trial, NOR Any Calamity, to DETER us.

- Paul said, "**NONE** of these things move me, **NEITHER** count I my life dear unto myself,
so that I might **FINISH** my course with **JOY**, and (finish) the ministry,
which I have **RECEIVED** of the Lord Jesus, to **TESTIFY** the Gospel, **OF** the **GRACE** of God." ([Acts 20:24](#))

Be sure, to NOT give way to Fear, NOR Discouragement.

- "And **LET** us **NOT** be **WEARY**, in well **DOING**:
for **IN DUE** season, we shall **REAP**, **IF** we faint **NOT**." ([Gal.6:9](#))

B. The Source of such Great Strength

- Is Christ, Who "...May **DWELL** in your hearts **BY FAITH**;
that ye, **BEING** Rooted and Grounded in **LOVE**," ([Eph.3:17](#))
- "For God hath **NOT** given us, the spirit of **FEAR**;
BUT (the spirit) of Power, and of Love, and of a **SOUND** mind." ([2Tim.1:7](#))

We CAN become increasingly STRONG .

- So, "**GROW** in Grace, and **IN** the Knowledge **OF** our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.
To Him **Be GLORY**, both **NOW** and **FOR EVER**. Amen." ([2Pet.3:18](#))

We CAN be Perseveringly STRONG.

- "Fear **NONE** of those things which thou shalt **SUFFER**: behold, the devil shall **CAST** some of you into prison,
that ye may be **TRIED**; and ye shall have **TRIBULATION** ten days:
be thou **FAITHFUL** unto death, and I will **GIVE** thee, a **CROWN** of **LIFE**." ([Rev.2:10](#))

First century christians **OVERCAME**,

- "...by the **BLOOD** of the Lamb, and by the **WORD** of their testimony;
and they loved **NOT** their lives unto the death." ([Rev.12:11](#))

C. The PRACTICAL Way, and The ONLY Way, is To DEVOTE ALL

- "What? know ye not, that your body **IS** the temple **OF** the **Holy Spirit**,
which is **IN** you, which ye **HAVE** of **God**, and ye are **NOT** your own? ²⁰ For ye are **BOUGHT** with a **PRICE**:
therefore **GLORIFY** God, **IN** your body, and **IN** your spirit, which **ARE** **God's**." ([1Cor.6:19-20](#))

Inspired Advice from 1Cor.16:13, says,

- “**WATCH** ye, **STAND FAST** in the Faith, **QUIT** (or behave) you like men, **Be STRONG.**” ([1Cor.16:13](#))

V. What Motives Do We Have, to Heed This Advice?

A. Our CAUSE is Good (the cause of Truth)

Jesus prayed to the Father,

- “**SANCTIFY** them through Thy **TRUTH**: Thy **Word is Truth.**” ([Jn.17:17](#))
- Jesus said, “to those Jews which Believed **ON Him**,
IF ye **CONTINUE** in My **WORD**, **then** are ye My disciples **INDEED**;
³² and ye shall **KNOW** the **Truth**, and the **Truth** shall make you **FREE.**” ([Jn.8:31-32](#))

Motives to Heed Inspired Advice from 1Cor.16:13?

B. Our CAPTAIN is Great

The Bible says that the...

- “Lord, **IN** the **BEGINNING**, hast **LAI**D the Foundation of the earth;
and the heavens, are the **WORKS** of Thine hands:” ([Heb.1:10](#))
- “For it became Him, **FOR Whom** are all things, and **BY Whom** are all things,
in **BRINGING** many sons unto **GLORY**,
to make the **CAPTAIN** of their **SALVATION**, perfect **THROUGH** Sufferings.” ([Heb.2:10](#))
- “Wherefore **He IS ABLE** also, to **SAVE** them to the uttermost, that **COME** unto God **BY Him**,
seeing He ever **LIVETH**, to make **INTERCESSION** for them.” ([Heb.7:25](#))

Motives to Heed Inspired Advice from 1Cor.16:13?

C. Our ARMOR is Perfect

- “For though we **WALK** in the flesh, we do **NOT** War after the **FLESH**:
⁴ (for the **WEAPONS** of our warfare are **NOT** carnal,
but **MIGHTY** through God, to the pulling **DOWN** of strong holds);
⁵ casting **DOWN** imaginations, and every **HIGH** thing that **EXALTETH** itself against the **KNOWLEDGE** of God,
and bringing into **CAPTIVITY**, every thought, to the **OBEDIENCE** of Christ;” ([2Cor.10:3-5](#))

Motives to Heed Inspired Advice from 1Cor.16:13?

D. Our PROVISION is Abundant

- “**BLESSED** be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
Who hath **BLESSED** us, with **ALL** spiritual **BLESSINGS**, in Heavenly places **IN Christ:**” ([Eph.1:3](#))
- “**ALL SCRIPTURE** is Given, by **INSPIRATION** of God, and **IS PROFITABLE** for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction **IN RIGHTEOUSNESS**: ¹⁷ that the **man of God** may be perfect (or complete),
thoroughly **FURNISHED** unto **ALL** good **WORKS.**” ([2Tim.3:16-17](#))

Motives to Heed Inspired Advice from 1Cor.16:13?

E. Our VICTORY is Certain

- “Nay, in **ALL** these things, we are **More** than **CONQUERORS** through Him, that **LOVED** us.” ([Rom.8:37](#))
- “To him that **OVERCOMETH**, will I **GRANT** to Sit **WITH** Me, **IN** My Throne, even as I also **OVERCAME**, and am SET down **WITH** My Father, **IN** His Throne.” ([Rev 3:21](#))

Motives to Heed Inspired Advice from 1Cor.16:13?

F. Our REWARD is Glorious

- “**TO** an **INHERITANCE** incorruptible, and undefiled, and that **FADETH NOT** away, **RESERVED** in Heaven for you,” ([1Pet.1:4](#))
- “**FIGHT** the good fight **OF FAITH**, **LAY HOLD** on Eternal **LIFE**, whereunto thou art also **CALLED**, and hast **PROFESSED** a good profession, before many witnesses.” ([1Tim.6:12](#))

VI. IN-CLOSING

True soldiers of Christ: **Be at Attention!**

- “**WATCH** ye, **STAND FAST** in the Faith, **QUIT** (or behave) you like men, **Be STRONG**.” ([1Cor.16:13](#))

Those not yet recruited: **Wake up!**

- “(For He saith, I have **HEARD** thee in a Time **ACCEPTED**, and in the day of **SALVATION**, have I **SUCCURED** thee: behold, **NOW** is the accepted **TIME**; behold, **NOW** is the day of **SALVATION**.)” ([2Cor.6:2](#))
- Peter said, “**REPENT**, and **Be BAPTIZED** every one of you, in the **NAME** of Jesus Christ, (that means, by His Authority) for the **REMISSION** of sins, (that means, for forgiveness of repented past sins) and ye shall receive the **GIFT** of the Holy Spirit.” ([Acts 2:38](#))
(**NOT** the Holy Spirit Himself, but that which the Holy Spirit **GIVES**, the **Free Gift of Salvation**)

The Bible says,

- “And such **WERE** some of you: but ye are **WASHED**, but ye are **SANCTIFIED**, but ye are **JUSTIFIED** in the **NAME** of the Lord Jesus, and **BY** the Spirit of our God.” ([1Cor.6:11](#))
- “**LET** us **DRAW NEAR** with a true **HEART**, in **FULL** assurance of **FAITH**, having our **HEARTS** sprinkled **FROM** an evil **CONSCIENCE**, and our bodies **WASHED** with pure **WATER**.” ([Heb.10:22](#))
- “And now why tarriest thou? (that is, why wait) arise, and **Be BAPTIZED**, and **WASH** AWAY thy sins, calling on the **NAME** of the Lord.” ([Acts 22:16](#))

If you have a spiritual NEED, won't you COME without delay,
While together, we stand and sing.

Source: Sermon Outline by Derrel Shaw
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