

I Am Standing With...

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Notes for lesson "I Am Standing With..."

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I want us to look at this statement. "I Am Standing With _____."

When it comes to things spiritual there are only two answers that can be given.

Either, I am **standing** with God or I am **standing** with Satan.

One thing we know for sure is that we can not stand with both at the same time.

Jesus said in Matthew 6:24....

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Mammon. Mammon is a name given to an idol that was worshipped as the god of riches. The Jews used the word to denote wealth. The meaning is, you cannot serve the true God, and at the same time be engaged in obtaining the riches of this world.

And John says it this way in I John 2:15-16...

This has been a choice for everyone since Adam and Eve. Will I serve God? Or will I serve Satan?

We usually do not put it in those terms. Very few will stand up and admit that they will serve Satan, but that is exactly what we are doing if we are not serving God faithfully.

Look at I John 1:5-7...

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If we are walking in the light (doing the commands of God) then we are **standing** with God, but if we are walking in darkness (the ways of the world) then we are **standing** with Satan.

It is not always easy doing what is right. The world is full of enticements. Satan does his best to keep us from walking in the light and Standing with God. But it can be done as we see in the following examples.

Let's begin by looking at Joshua and Caleb....

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If you remember, God had delivered Israel out of Egyptian slavery by bringing 10 plagues upon the land of Egypt and parting the Red Sea so they could cross. God's presence was seen in a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire at night. He fed them and He protected them. Now they are ready to enter the Promised Land that God had promised to their Father Abraham. In Numbers 13-14 we read where God told Moses to send spies into the Promise Land and bring back a report. So Moses sent 12 men, one from each tribe, to scout out the land.

After forty days they came back with one cluster of grapes that was so large it had to be carried between two of them on a pole. They also brought some of the pomegranates and figs.

And they made this report.....

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This truly is a sad story about the lack of faith of God's people. God, through miracles, had delivered them out of Egyptian slavery, across the Red Sea and taken care of them up to this point. Now, the majority of the people, including 10 of the 12 spies, are rebelling against God.

They had a decision to make, either to **stand** with God or **stand** with Satan. Sadly, the majority decided to **stand** with Satan.

God was so upset that he made all of them wander in the wilderness for 40 years. Everyone that was 20 years and older, except Joshua and Caleb, would die and not enter the Promised Land.

Notice, that even though Joshua and Caleb did the right thing and **stood** with God they also had to suffer because of everyone else's lack of faith. But in the end they did enter the Promise Land.

Now, let's look at some others who decided to **stand** with God when everyone else was **standing** with Satan.....Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego

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In **Daniel 1:1**, we read, "In the year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came to Jerusalem and besieged it."

Then Nebuchadnezzar told his men to bring him, "young men in whom there was no blemish, but good looking, gifted in all wisdom, possessing knowledge and quick to understand, who had ability to serve in the King's palace, and whom they might teach the language and literature of the Chaldeans."

Some of those chosen were, Shadrach, Meshach, Abed-Nego, and Daniel. We read in **Daniel 1:17**....

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Then in **Daniel 2** we read that Nebuchadnezzar had a dream that no one could interpret except Daniel. After Daniel interpreted the Kings dream we read in **Daniel 2:48-49**.....

This caused some problems with the Chaldeans who were jealous of the success of these young Jewish men. First, let's look at what happened to Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-Nego.

In **Daniel 3:1** we read that....

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Then he made a decree which stated.....

Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-Nego had a decision to make; will we **stand** with God or **stand** with Satan? They chose to stand with God. When they refused to worship the gold statue the Chaldeans went before the King and said....

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Because of their decision to **stand** with God, He was honored and proclaimed throughout the land.

Now, let's look at what happened to another young man.....Daniel...

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Now, it is several years later. God has removed King Nebuchadnezzar from his throne because of pride and his son, Belshazzar became King. But Belshazzar was no better. He also failed to honor God so he was killed and Darius the Mede became King.

King Darius had three governors, one of whom was Daniel, who "distinguished himself above the governors, because an excellent spirit was in him; and the king gave thought to setting him over the whole realm."

Daniel 6:3

Then the Kings men, "sought to find some charge against Daniel concerning the kingdom; but they could find no charge or fault, because he was faithful; nor was there any error or fault found in him.

Then these men said, "We shall not find any charge against this Daniel unless we find it against him concerning the law of his God."

Daniel 6:4-5

So they had the King sign a decree that stated, “that whoever petitions any god or man for thirty days, except you, O king, shall be cast into the den of lions.”

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Finish reading, then say, Daniel **stood** with God when everyone else was **standing** with Satan. Here we have seen great servants of God willing to **stand** with God no matter the consequences! Even if it meant death!....

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Yes, Joshua and Caleb – Shadrach, Meshach, Abed-Nego and Daniel had great courage, strength, but most of all they had great faith in Almighty God and was willing to **stand** with Him when everyone else was **standing** with Satan.

What about you? Where are you standing?....

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I want us to look at this statement once again. “I Am Standing With _____.”

Every one of us are either **standing** with God or **standing** with Satan.

Make this statement to yourself and fill in the blank.....

So, what is your answer?

With whom are you **standing**?

If you are not **standing** with God then you are **standing** with Satan.

Won't you **stand** with God now?