

## **Stand Firm in The Faith to be able To Stand (Isaiah 7: 1-9)**

Concerning the alliance of Rezin and Pekah- kings of Aram and Israel against the King of Judah, the Lord YAHWEH had this to say to him: Calm down and be quiet; don't be afraid or fainthearted because of these two smoldering stubs of firebrands (vs. 4); it will not happen; it will not occur (vs.7); **if you do not stand firm in your faith you will not stand at all** (vs. 9b). So it happened that they couldn't succeed. That's right, "They could not succeed". The phrase, could not, implies that they tried, but were void of power. The confederacy planned against Ahaz King of Judah could not succeed because the Lord emphatically had said that it would not happen; it would not occur. It was emphatically because He had said it twice. Two against one is powerless when the Lord YAHWEH is not on their side. In Lamentations of Jeremiah chapter three verse thirty-seven we have the confirmation: Who is there who speaks and it happens, unless the Lord has ordained it? And Paul confirms it: If God is for us, who is against us? He did not even spare His own Son, but offered Him up for us all (Romans 8:31-32). After the Lord had told Ahaz that the confederacy was not going to happen, He gave him a warning: If you do not stand firm in your faith, you will not stand at all (vs.9b). YAHWEH had given His word, and now Ahaz had to stand firm on these words to believe in faith on which he had to stand before the enemies, if he had to stand at all.

How does one know that God is on his side when the storm arises against him? The psalmist prayed, Search my heart O God and see if there is any wicked way in me and lead me in your righteousness (Psalm 39). A search of the heart will be necessary for one to know which side the Lord is on. Jeremiah in his lamentations said, "Do not both adversity and good come from the mouth of the Most High? Why should any living person complain, any man, because of the punishment for his sins" (Lamentations 3:37-39). YAHWEH will never take a stand to defend us, when sin is the cause of our pain. When the plans from the evil one are without basis, they will not succeed against us, for we are secured in God's shelter. Before His ordeal the Lord YAHSUA, made sure to warn Peter by telling him to persevere in prayer for him not to fall into temptation, and in another occasion, Yahshua warned Peter by saying: Simon, Simon, Look out! Satan has asked to sift you like wheat; but I prayed for you that your faith may not fail; and when you have turned back, strengthen you brothers (Luke 22:31). In the hour of his temptation, because Peter did not stand firm on his ground of the warning words of the Savior; He had no faith to believe them; he sided with the devil, instead, and fell into temptation to sin against his friend. Denying knowing someone is to reject the person as part of one's life. Many children are suffering the rejection of their parents in denying knowing them, when abandoned and alienated from them; denial knowing the person is the abandonment of one's relationship with the one he or she is denying. In the case of Peter, it was pure fear- the works of the devil in his life.

YAHWEH said, "If you do not stand firm in your faith, you will not stand at all"! It is faith that assures us the equilibrium we need to stand firm. "But I prayed for you **that your faith will not fail**". The phrase, "that your faith will not fail" connects with the words of YAHWEH to Isaiah, "If you do not stand firm in your faith, you will not stand at all". Faith, is the rock we must stand

on; faith is that which moves mountains; faith is that which overcomes the world and faith is the main weapon to face the principalities, which will quench the inflammable darts of the enemy; With faith, one will have the readiness of feet shod, standing the ground with the ability to use the two edge sword –the Word of YAHWEH against the power of the enemy when he comes to attack; he will be girded with the belt of truth, redeeming the time to fulfill the command; protected with the helmet of salvation, his mind will be concise and clear to pray at all times. And that's how one will be able to stand firm in the faith!

If you are hurting today, remember that the devil will do nothing against you without the permission from YAHWEH. If your trials are not the result of sins in your life, remember the words from YAHWEH given to Isaiah: "It will not happen; it will not occur; but if you do not stand firm in your faith, you will not stand at all"; you will not be able to withstand the temptation. Peter warned us concerning the prowling of the devil, trying to devour us. He said, "Be sober! Be on the alert! Your enemy, the devil, is prowling around like a roaring lion, looking for anyone he can devour; resist him firm in the faith" . . . (I Peter 5:8-9a). The writer to the Hebrews had these to say: "Consider Him, Who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, so that you won't grow weary and lose heart; in struggling against sin, you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood" (12:3-4).

In your trials, consider these words found in Hebrews 12:5b: "My son, do not take the Lord's discipline lightly, or faint when you are reproved by Him; for the Lord disciplines the one He loves and punishes every son whom He receives (Vs.5b-6) and pursue peace and holiness so that no root of bitterness springs up, causing trouble and by it defiling many" (Vs. 14,15). When in bed in the hours of the night, consider that your mountain is moveable; its size is only the size of a mole hill; you will only need to get rid of the mole, and for that you will need to exercise your faith. YAHWEH says, "Calm down and be quiet; don't be afraid or fainthearted because of these two smoldering stubs of firebrands" (Isaiah 7: 4). "Smoldering stubs of firebrands" should be the way we should look at our problems.

In the prayer the Lord YAHSHUA taught the disciples, He said, "And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil". The evil of temptation is when we fall into it. Temptations will always come to us, but YAHSHUA gave us instruction how not to fall in it. Pray, He said, so that you will not fall into temptation. The full armor of YAHWEH is not complete without prayer. **Stand firm in your faith, or you will not stand at all!**

**THINK ABOUT IT!**