

Holding Fast



by Charles Willis

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Holding Fast To The Head

1. Read Numbers 25:1–9 and Deuteronomy 4:3–4. What is meant in this context by “*held fast*”? What is the Hebrew definition?
2. How is this said in Deuteronomy 10:20 and 11:22? Compare with the same word use in Genesis 2:24.
3. Is holding fast the same as obedience? See Deuteronomy 30:19–20 and Joshua 22:5.
4. Read Joshua 23:5–13.
 - A. What words or phrases stand out in this text that point to the concept of holding fast?
 - B. What is meant by “*cling to the Lord*” (23:8)?
 - C. How does Joshua describe this in Joshua 24:22–24?
5. Read Psalm 63. What concepts or phrases within the Psalm help our understanding of verse 8?
6. How is Hezekiah an example to us (2 Kings 18:5–6)?
7. Define “holding fast” as used in Colossians 2:18–19. Give the meaning in the context.
8. What can we do in our daily life to help us hold fast to Jesus and God.

Retain The Standard

1. What are we to “retain” (2 Timothy 1:13)? What is the “standard”?
2. How is this stated in the following passages?
 - A. Philippians 3:15
 - B. Colossians 3:1
 - C. 1 Timothy 1:19
3. Why do we need to be stirred up and reminded?
 - A. 2 Peter 1:12–15
 - B. 2 Peter 3:1–2
 - C. Romans 15:15
4. What are we to be reminded about?
 - A. 1 Corinthians 4:17
 - B. 2 Timothy 2:14 (in context)
 - C. Titus 3:1–2
 - D. Jude 5 (in the context of verses 4–7)
 - E. Jude 17–21
5. In summary of this workbook, what lesson can be learned from Revelation 6:9?

Holding Fast To The Word

1. Read 1 Corinthians 15:1–2.
 - A. What are other English translations for “hold fast”?
 - B. What is the Greek definition? (If unfamiliar of how to find, try www.blueletterbible.org. Input the reference and click “tools”, then click on the reference number to the right of the word in the verse - G2722).
2. What is the importance of holding fast the Word?
 - A. 1 Corinthians 15:2
 - B. Philippians 2:15–16
 - C. Titus 1:9
 - D. Luke 8:15
3. What are we to hold fast to (2 Thessalonians 2:15; 1 Corinthians 11:2)? Explain.
4. Psalm 119:31 says “I cling to Your testimonies.” How do we do this? What attitude of heart does this require?
5. Be prepared to discuss the relationship between knowing the word of God and holding it fast.
6. What are some results of holding the word loosely?

Holding Fast Your Confidence

1. Where does our confidence come from? How do we get it?
 - A. Hebrews 10:22
 - B. Colossians 2:1–6
 - C. Hebrews 11:1
2. The *“hope that is in you”* (1 Peter 3:15) speaks of our confidence. How does confidence relate to making a defense of our hope?
3. Relate the importance of *“if”* from Hebrews 3:6 and 3:14. Why must the *“holding fast”* be *“firm”*?
4. How do we *“throw away”* our confidence (Hebrews 10:35–36)?
5. What do men falsely place their confidence in (contrary to Scripture)?
 - A. Philippians 3:3
 - B. Psalm 118:8–9
 - C. Isaiah 55:6–9
 - D. Galatians 1:7; 3:1; 5:7–10
6. How is the principle of the lesson described in 1 John 2:28?

Standing Firm

1. Define *“stand firm”* as used in 1 Corinthians 16:13.
2. How is this concept applied to the Galatians (see the context around Galatians 5:1).
3. What are we to *“stand firm”* in?
 - A. 1 Peter 5:12 (Explain)
 - B. 2 Thessalonians 2:15
4. In what way were the brethren told to *“stand firm in the Lord”* (Philippians 4:1; 3:17–21)?
5. What must we do to *“stand firm”* (Ephesians 6:10–17)?
6. What does *“standing firm”* have to do with the *“worthy manner”* (Philippians 1:27–28)? What descriptions of *“standing firm”* are given?
7. How is this described in Colossians 2:7? Compare this with Jeremiah 17:7–8.

Holding Fast To What Is Good

1. What is the standard for determining what is good (Psalm 25:8; Nahum 1:7)? Please explain.
2. Why can we not define for ourselves what is good?
 - A. Isaiah 5:20
 - B. Micah 6:8
 - C. Proverbs 14:12; 21:2
 - D. Ezekiel 18:24–32
3. How can we know if something is good (1 Thessalonians 5:21)?
4. How do we “*prove*” the will of God (Romans 12:2)?
5. How is the concept of “*holding fast*” seen in Romans 12:9?
6. Why do we not hold fast to what is good?
 - A. Consider Romans 7:21–23.
 - B. Galatians 5:17
 - C. 2 Timothy 4:3
7. Provide a few New Testament passages indicating something good to which we must hold fast.

Holding Fast Your Confession

1. What are we to confess (Matthew 16:16; Acts 8:37; 1 John 4:15)?
2. Why is confession necessary?
 - A. 1 John 4:15, 2:23
 - B. Matthew 10:32-33
 - C. Romans 10:9–10
3. Read Hebrews 4:14 and 10:23.
 - A. What assurances give us the confidence to confess?
 - B. Explain how we “hold fast” our confession.
4. What application of this idea is found in 2 Corinthians 9:13?
5. Why are some unwilling to confess Christ?
 - A. John 12:42
 - B. Luke 12:51–53
6. Discuss the connection between:
 - A. Faith (belief) and confession. How do we grow in our confession?
 - B. Confidence and confession. (Acts 4:29; 2 Corinthians 3:12)

Holding Fast Your Integrity

1. Define "integrity." Consider Hebrews 4:15.
2. Why does God commend Job?
 - A. Job 2:3
 - B. Job 2:9–10
 - C. Job 4:6
 - D. Job 27:6
3. What does God tell Solomon (1 Kings 9:3–5)?
4. What is the result of integrity?
 - A. Psalm 25:21
 - B. Psalm 26:1–3, 11
 - C. Psalm 15:1–2
 - D. Psalm 41:12
 - E. Proverbs 2:1–8
5. What application of this principle is made?
 - A. Psalm 101:2
 - B. Proverbs 11:3
 - C. Proverbs 3:5–6
6. Where should integrity be in our priorities (Prov. 19:1)?

Holding Fast To What You Have

1. What did the congregations have which they could hold fast to?
 - A. Revelation 2:25
 - B. Revelation 3:11
2. What will be the result if we fail to hold fast to what we have?
 - A. Revelation 2:25 and 3:11 (in context)
 - B. Romans 2:5–11
 - C. Hebrews 10:35–39
3. Discuss what causes backsliding.
4. What are we to continue in? Explain each example.
 - A. 2 Timothy 3:14
 - B. Acts 13:43
 - C. Acts 14:21–22
 - D. Romans 11:22
 - E. Colossians 1:23; 1 Timothy 2:15
5. What can we do to hold fast to what we have?
 - A. Matthew 26:41
 - B. 2 Timothy 2:15
6. What importance does Jesus place on this concept (John 8:31)?