Manly Saints

Prepared by Nathan L Morrison for Sunday May 12th, 2019

Text: I Cor. 16:13-14

### Intro

1. Once a person decides to be a Christian and obeys the gospel, then real responsibility begins…
	1. Eccl. 12:13-14: ESV & KJV says “Fear God and keep His commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.” NKJ: “…this is man’s all” (Jn. 14:15; 15:14).
2. In conclusion to his letter to the Corinthian saints, Paul states 5 duties of saints…
	1. I Cor. 16:13-14: “Be on the alert, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love.”
3. All men have the duty to obey God, and once they do, true duty to God begins!

#### ***Be Alert***

* 1. I Cor. 16:13: NKJV says, “Watch.”
	2. God’s people have always been called upon to “watch.” *(Ezek. 3:17: Ezekiel a “watchman”)*
	3. Saints are called to watch for, or be alert to many things…
		1. Elders are to watch for our souls – Heb. 13:17
		2. We are to watch for those we may teach – Jn. 4:35; Col. 4:2-4
		3. We are to watch for and be ready to resist Satan – I Pet. 5:8-9; Js. 4:7
		4. We are to watch for false teachers – II Tim. 4:3-5; I Jn. 4:1; Jude 3
		5. We need to watch our behavior: temper, speech and deeds – Js. 1:19; Phil. 1:27
		6. We must watch for and be ready for Christ’s 2nd Coming – I Thess. 5:6; Mk. 13:35-37; II Pet. 3:11-12
	4. Our lives are to be spent on the alert, that we may watch out for our souls and hasten the day of the Lord!

#### ***Stand Firm In the Faith***

* 1. I Cor. 16:13: “Stand firm in the faith!”
	2. Saints must learn to take a stand for the truth of the gospel – Eph. 6:10-11
	3. The armor of God is to give saints the strength to stand! – Eph. 6:13-14; I Jn. 5:4
	4. We must know the source of our strength is found in Christ – Phil. 4:1, 13
	5. Christians must stand up for the truth – Jude 3: “Contend earnestly for the faith.”
	6. The shield of faith (Eph. 6:16) will only work if we stand firm and use (fight with) it!

#### ***Act Like Men***

* 1. I Cor. 16:13: NKJ: “Be brave.”
		1. “Act Like Men” = *andrizomai [an-drid'-zom-ahee] (G407):* “To act manly; be a man: - quit (act) like men (“acquit like men”).
		2. In contrast to being weak or immature, be brave, be manly!
		3. In contrast to the weak-natured portrayal of men today, all saints must “be brave, and act like men,” to be “manly!”
			1. In the last few decades men have been made to feel somewhat ashamed for being “manly.”
			2. Phrase from 1990’s (that perhaps began earlier): “Get in touch with your feminine side,” that meant it was OK for men to show their emotions!
			3. Popular culture depicted men as being more feminine with some even enjoying typically female past-times (shopping, fashion, etc).
			4. A new phrase coined in 1994: “Metrosexual.” Webster’s says, “a usually urban heterosexual male given to enhancing his personal appearance by fastidious grooming, beauty treatments, and fashionable clothes.”
			5. Cambridge English Dictionary: Men usually spend lots of money on it!
			6. Mark Simpson, who coined the term, said, “Masculinity moisturised!” *(*[*http://www.telegraph.co.uk/men/fashion-and-style/10881682/The-metrosexual-is-dead.-Long-live-the-spornosexual.html*](http://www.telegraph.co.uk/men/fashion-and-style/10881682/The-metrosexual-is-dead.-Long-live-the-spornosexual.html)*)*
			7. Manly (masculine) men were constantly depicted in popular culture as Neanderthals, dim-witted brutes! *(Slight shift from that recently)*
			8. The 1990’s spawned marketing of a whole new array of hygiene products aimed at men (other than deodorants and colognes) – Not sinful
	2. This call to “Act like men” is not as our society typically depicts men, but as God created man in His image *(Gen. 1:26-27)!* To be brave, take a stand, ready for action *(I Pet. 1:13)*
		1. Eph. 4:14: We are to no longer be children, carried by every wind of doctrine.
		2. Titus 2:12: We are to live as lights: sensibly, righteously, godly *(Phil. 1:27; 2:15) – Takes strength and courage to stand out and be different from world!*
		3. Eph. 6:10-13: When the “smoke clears” to stand firm! Face it & defeat it!
	3. The life of a saint requires bravery & courage to weather life’s storms & temptations!

#### ***Be Strong***

* 1. I Cor. 16:13: “Be strong.”
	2. God has always expected His people to be strong – standing up for Him against all odds.
		1. Joshua 1:6-9: Joshua told to be “strong and courageous” for the tasks ahead.
		2. I Chr. 28:9, 20: David charged Solomon to be “strong and courageous!”
			1. David fought off lions and bears! *(I Sam. 17:34-37)*
	3. Elders, Deacons, Preachers, & all members must be strong! (Eph. 6:10)
		1. Christianity is for the strong – Heb. 10:35-39 *(I Cor. 16:13: Manly)*
		2. Paul told Timothy to “be strong” in Christ and teach others, and “endure hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ” – II Tim. 2:1-3
		3. It takes being strong and courageous to walk the path of righteousness and fulfill our duty to God! – Heb. 12:12-13
	4. Saints must be “strong and courageous” to faithfully serve the Lord!

#### ***Let All You Do Be Done In Love***

* 1. I Cor. 16:14: “Let all that you do be done with love.”
	2. Love should be our motive in all that we do! (I Cor. 13:1-3)
		1. Our love to God is seen in our obedience!
			1. Jn. 14:15: “If you love Me, you will keep My commandments.”
			2. I Jn. 5:3: “For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments.”
		2. Must have the right love: pleasures of life oft keep saints from loving God the way they should – II Tim. 3:1-5; I Jn. 2:15-17
		3. Saints know love is hard – must even love our enemies (Mt. 5:44-46)
		4. Our actions will demonstrate our love in all that we do – I Jn. 3:18
		5. We must love one another & bear each other’s burdens – Eph. 4:1-2; I Pet. 4:8
		6. We must speak the truth in love – Eph. 4:15; *II Tim. 2:24-26 (Reason for correction is that one may be saved)*
		7. We must have love for the truth; this is a problem with many people – II Thess. 2:10 *(Js. 1:21: In humility we can receive the word that can save souls!)*
	3. Love is our motive for serving God and loving our fellow man!

## Conclusion

1. May we strive to live our lives as saints ought to live! *(Eph. 5:3-4: There is a proper way for saints to behave!)*
2. Practicing these things in our lives will help us grow spiritually and we will be the kind of example to others God wants us to be! *(Mt. 5:16; Phil. 2:15)*
3. Be “manly saints”: Be alert, stand firm, be strong & courageous and do all things from love!
4. If you are not a Christian, you need to be! Repent and be baptized!
5. If a Christian in error, now is the time for correction! Repent & be renewed!
6. Whatever your requests, let them be made known ***NOW*** while we stand & sing!