

FirstFruits Gathering At Harvest Christian Church

Be Strong – Stand Firm December 15, 2020 Suzi Armstrong

Life today, the new era we are entering, the amount of rhetoric we hear daily, stress, demands, importance of what is happening in the earth today requires on-going strength. The Bible says that as believers we go from strength to strength, faith to faith and glory to glory. We receive strength through Christ, through hope and joy; we are strengthened in the place of courage. God's time is not linear but cyclical. Know that there is fresh strength today and again tomorrow to stand firm and receive the promises of God.

There is strength in the anointing of God that is on us. Father told Jesus, I have anointed you, or given you all of the strength needed, to preach the good news. There is an anointing that is on us from the Father that brings strength for right now! Strength to stand. Strength to endure. Strength to advance.

1 John 2.20, 27 NIV

But **you have an anointing** from the Holy One...the anointing you received from him remains in you...**that anointing is real, not counterfeit** – just as it has taught you, remain in him.

Isaiah 10.27 TPT

²⁷ In that day the Lord will remove the heavy burden from your shoulders and break off the yoke of bondage from your necks because of the **heavy anointing upon you!**

Psalm 23.4-5 TPT

⁴ Lord, even when your path takes me through the valley of deepest darkness, fear will never conquer me, for you already have! You remain close to me and lead me through it all the way.

Your authority is my strength and my peace.

The comfort of **your love takes away my fear.**

I'll never be lonely, for you are near.

⁵ You become my delicious feast even when my enemies dare to fight.

**You anoint me with the fragrance of your Holy Spirit;
you give me all I can drink of you until my heart overflows.**

Psalm 92.10 TPT

¹⁰ **Your anointing has made me strong and mighty.**

You've empowered my life for triumph

by pouring fresh oil over me.

Galatians 3.27 TPT

²⁷ It was faith that immersed you into Jesus, the Anointed One, and now **you are covered and clothed with his anointing.**

The anointing that comes from God is powerful and real. It is representative of God's favor and presence in your life. The anointing of God is filled with strength – strength to endure and strength to finish, strength to overcome and strength that leads to victory! You are anointed of God! Empowered and enabled!

Anointing is the burden-removing and yoke-breaking power of God! Anointing is what empowers you to function supernaturally – enabling you to do supernatural things. The anointing of God saturates you with strength to run the race and finish strong. The anointing is a barrier between you and the forces of evil operating around you.

Exodus 14.13-14, 31 NIV

¹³ Moses answered the people, "**Do not be afraid. Stand firm** and you will see the deliverance the LORD will bring you today. The Egyptians you see today you will never see again. ¹⁴ **The LORD will fight for you; you need only to be still.**"

³¹ And when the Israelites saw the mighty hand of the LORD displayed against the Egyptians, **the people feared the LORD and put their trust in him** and in Moses his servant.

Ephesians 6.10 Amp

¹⁰ In conclusion, **be strong in the Lord** [draw your strength from Him and be **empowered through your union** with Him] and in the power of His [boundless] might.

2 Peter 1.3 TPT

³ **Everything we could ever need for life** and complete devotion to God **has already been deposited in us by his divine power.** *For all this was lavished upon us* through the rich experience of knowing him who has called us by name and invited us to come to him through a glorious manifestation of his goodness.

Prayer over Michigan and the United States of America taken from Psalm 35.1-8.

Contend, O Lord, with those who are contending with this nation; fight against those who fight against Your divine purpose for this nation. Take up shield and buckler, arise and come to the aid of our nation. Brandish spear and javelin against those who are corrupt and divisive.

Lord, You are our deliverer and savior! May those who seek to disgrace this nation be put to shame; may those who planned the ruin of this nation be turned back in dismay. May they be like chaff before the wind, with the angel of the Lord driving them away; may their path be dark and slippery, with the angel of the Lord pursuing them. Since they hid their traps for this nation without cause, may ruin overtake them by surprise!

May truth prevail and righteousness flow throughout our land. Let the scales of justice weigh the evidence fairly and truth be upheld. The hope of this nation is in the Lord – may it be true that this nation trusts in the Lord!

Last week Lord, You gave us a sign that the sound barrier was broken – what was resisting truth would no longer be able to resist. We say to Michigan and to our nation, be strong – stand firm in righteousness for the Lord God Almighty loves justice and hates iniquity!