

# MESSAGE

Occasion : Morning Worship  
Date : January 10, 2016 / October 9, 2016

**TITLE : WHAT THINGS TO HOLD FAST**  
Text/s :

1 Thess 5:21  
21 Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.  
KJV

Bible Reading :

John 15:4-11  
4 Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me.  
5 I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.  
6 If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned.  
7 If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.  
8 Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples.  
9 As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love.  
10 If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love.  
11 These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full.  
KJV

Song/s :

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## INTRODUCTION

The World of God is explicit in teaching us what things to get hold of or what things to be strong into.

2 Tim 1:12-14  
12 For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day.  
13 Hold fast the form of sound words, which thou hast heard of me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.  
14 That good thing which was committed unto thee keep by the Holy Ghost which dwelleth in us.  
KJV

1 Tim 6:20  
20 O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called:  
KJV

Note that there are contained here both positive and negative charges. Timothy, Paul's son in the faith, is instructed to keep certain things and avoid others. The word "keep" is a military word which might better be translated "guard." The word "avoid" implies more than merely refraining from contact. It has to do, instead, with actively and deliberately turning away from something.

Timothy is to guard that which has been committed into his care—by inference, something quite valuable—the complete gospel of Jesus Christ. "Hold fast the form of sound words, which thou hast heard of me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus. That good thing which was committed unto thee keep by the Holy Ghost" ([2 Timothy 1:13-14](#)).

The matter with the kind of Christianity today is that it is plagued with many side issues that are deemed important and which issues are become points of separation between churches and Christians. But of course, the Bible itself reveals this to us.

Heb 13:9

9 Be not carried about with divers and strange doctrines. For it is a good thing that the heart be established with grace; not with meats, which have not profited them that have been occupied therein.

(KJV)

We should know the things which should be "primary" and which things are "fringe." Fringe means marginal or secondary part.

2 Tim 2:23

23 But foolish and unlearned questions avoid, knowing that they do gender strifes.

(KJV)

On the other hand, the Bible commands us to hold "fast to faithful words" (Titus 1:9); to "keep that which is committed to thy trust" (1 Tim 6:20). We love the absolute essentials in our faith such as the Deity of Christ, the Authority of the Scripture, Salvation by Grace through faith, the Resurrection of Christ, etc.

Just what things should we hold fast on?

#### A) Hold fast the form of sound words

2 Tim 1:13

13 Hold fast the **form of sound words**, which thou hast heard of me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.

(KJV)

2 Tim 1:13

13 Hold fast the **pattern of sound words** which you have heard from me, in faith and love which are in Christ Jesus.

NKJV

2 Tim 1:13

13 Hold fast and follow the pattern of wholesome and sound teaching which you have heard from me, in [all] the faith and love which are [for us] in Christ Jesus.

AMP

**Take hold of the pattern of wholesome and healthy teachings you have heard from me in the matter of faith and love that is in Christ Jesus.**

2192 echo-

1) to have, that is, to hold; to have (hold) in the hand, in the sense of wearing, to

- have (hold) possession of the mind (refers to alarm, agitating emotions, etc.), to hold fast keep, to have or comprise or involve, to regard or consider or hold as
- 2) to have, that is, to own, to possess
    - a) external things such as pertain to property or riches or furniture or utensils or goods or food, etc.
    - b) used of those joined to anyone by the bonds of natural blood or marriage or friendship or duty or law, etc., of attendance or companionship
  - 3) to hold oneself or find oneself so and so, to be in such-and-such a condition
  - 4) to hold oneself to a thing, to lay hold of a thing, to adhere or cling to, to be closely joined to a person or a thing

2192 echo (ekh'-o); including an alternate form scheo (skheh'-o); used in certain tenses only); a primary verb; to hold (used in very various applications, literally or figuratively, direct or remote; such as possessions; ability, continuity, relation, or condition): KJV-- be (able, X hold, possessed with), accompany, + begin to amend, can (+-not), X conceive, count, diseased, do + eat, + enjoy, + fear, following, have, hold, keep, + lack, + go to law, lie, + must needs, + of necessity, + need, next, + recover, + reign, + rest, + return, X sick, take for, + tremble, + uncircumcised, use.

Rom 6:17

17 But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, **but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine** which was delivered you.  
(KJV)

Rom 6:17

17 By God's grace, you, who were once slaves to sin, obeyed from your heart the pattern of teaching to which you were exposed;  
CJB

Rom 6:17

17 But thank God, though you were once slaves of sin, you have become obedient with all your heart to the standard of teaching in which you were instructed and to which you were committed.  
AMP

1 Tim 6:3-5

3 If any man teach otherwise, and consent not to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to **the doctrine which is according to godliness**;  
4 He is proud, knowing nothing, but doting about questions and strifes of words, whereof cometh envy, strife, railings, evil surmisings,  
5 Perverse disputings of men of corrupt minds, and destitute of the truth, supposing that gain is godliness: from such withdraw thyself.  
(KJV)

1 Tim 6:3

3 But if anyone teaches otherwise and does not assent to the sound and wholesome messages of our Lord Jesus Christ (the Messiah) and the teaching which is in agreement with godliness (piety toward God),  
AMP

Titus 2:1-6

1 But speak thou the things which become sound doctrine:  
2 That the aged men be sober, grave, temperate, sound in faith, in charity, in patience.  
3 The aged women likewise, that they be in behaviour as becometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things;

- 4 That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children,
  - 5 To be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed.
  - 6 Young men likewise exhort to be sober minded.
- (KJV)

## B) Hold fast which is good

1Thes 5:21  
 21 Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.  
 (KJV)

### Take hold of the things which are beneficial.

Rom 12:9  
 9 Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; **cleave to that which is good.**  
 (KJV)

Titus 2:7-8  
 7 In all things shewing thyself a **pattern of good works**: in doctrine shewing uncorruptness, gravity, sincerity,  
 8 Sound speech, that cannot be condemned; that he that is of the contrary part may be ashamed, having no evil thing to say of you.  
 (KJV)

2 Cor 9:8  
 8 And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may **abound to every good work**:  
 (KJV)

Col 1:10  
 10 That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being **fruitful in every good work**, and increasing in the knowledge of God;  
 (KJV)

II Th 2:17  
 17 Comfort your hearts, and **stablish you in every good word and work.**  
 (KJV)

1 Tim 6:18  
 18 That they do good, that they **be rich in good works**, ready to distribute, willing to communicate;  
 (KJV)

272 2 katecho-

- 1) to hold back, to detain, to retain
  - a) from going away
  - b) to restrain, hinder (the course or progress of)
    - 1) what hinders Antichrist from making his appearance
    - 2) to check a ship's headway, that is, to hold or head the ship
  - c) to hold fast, to keep secure, to keep firm possession of
- 2) to get possession of, to take, to possess

2722 katecho (kat-ekh'-o); from 2596 and 2192; to hold down (fast), in various applications (literally or figuratively): KJV-- have, hold (fast), keep (in memory), let, X make toward, possess, retain, seize on, stay, take, withhold.

Phil 4:8

8 Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, **whatsoever things are of good report**; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, **think on these things.**  
(KJV)

### C) Hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing firm unto the end

Heb 3:6

6 But Christ as a son over his own house; whose house are we, if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm unto the end.  
(KJV)

**Take hold of the joy and confidence (firmly till the end) that come with the hope that we have as God's people.**

Heb 3:1-6

1 Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus;

2 Who was faithful to him that appointed him, as also Moses was faithful in all his house.

3 For this man was counted worthy of more glory than Moses, inasmuch as he who hath builded the house hath more honour than the house.

4 For every house is builded by some man; but he that built all things is God.

5 And Moses verily was faithful in all his house, as a servant, for a testimony of those things which were to be spoken after;

6 But Christ as a son over his own house; whose house are we, if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm unto the end.

KJV

Num 12:7

7 My servant Moses is not so, who is faithful in all mine house.

KJV

Heb 3:6

6 But the Messiah, as Son, was faithful over God's house. And we are that house of his, provided we hold firmly to the courage and confidence inspired by what we hope for.

CJB

Heb 11:24-27

24 By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter;

25 Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;

26 Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward.

27 By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible.

KJV

Heb 3:6-14

6 But Christ as a son over his own house; whose house are we, if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm unto the end.

7 Wherefore (as the Holy Ghost saith, To day if ye will hear his voice,

8 Harden not your hearts, as in the provocation, in the day of temptation in the wilderness:

9 When your fathers tempted me, proved me, and saw my works forty years.

10 Wherefore I was grieved with that generation, and said, They do alway err in their heart; and they have not known my ways.

11 So I swear in my wrath, They shall not enter into my rest.)

12 Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God.

13 But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.

14 For we are made partakers of Christ, if we hold the beginning of our confidence stedfast unto the end;

KJV

Heb 6:18-19

18 That by two immutable things, in which it was impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us:

19 Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast, and which entereth into that within the veil;

KJV

Gal 6:9

9 And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

(KJV)

Col 1:23

23 If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, and which was preached to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister;

(KJV)

Heb 10:35

35 Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompence of reward.

(KJV)

#### **D) Hold fast the profession of our faith**

Heb 10:23

23 Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)

(KJV)

Heb 10:23

23 So let us seize and hold fast and retain without wavering the hope we cherish and confess and our acknowledgement of it, for He Who promised is reliable (sure) and faithful to His word.

AMP

#### **Take hold of the statement and testimony of youth faith without any room for doubt!**

Heb 10:23-25

23 Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)

24 And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works:  
25 Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.  
KJV

1 Cor 15:1-4

1 Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand;  
2 By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain.  
3 For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures;  
4 And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:  
KJV

Rev 2:4

4 Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love.  
KJV

II Th 2:15

15 Therefore, brethren, stand fast, and hold the traditions which ye have been taught, whether by word, or our epistle.  
(KJV)

Heb 4:14

14 Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession.  
(KJV)

2902 krateo-

- 1) to have power, to be powerful, to be chief, to be master of, to rule
- 2) to get possession of
  - a) to become master of, to obtain
  - b) to take hold of
  - c) to take hold of, to take, to seize, to lay hands on one in order to get him into one's power
- 3) to hold
  - a) to hold in the hand
  - b) to hold fast, that is, not discard or let go, to keep carefully and faithfully
  - c) to continue to hold, to retain
    - 1) used of death continuing to hold one
    - 2) to hold in check, to restrain

2902 krateo (krat-eh'-o); from 2904; to use strength, i.e. seize or retain (literally or figuratively): KJV-- hold (by, fast), keep, lay hand (hold) on, obtain, retain, take (by).

Gal 5:1

1 Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.  
(KJV)

## E) Hold fast that which you have

Rev 2:25

25 But that which ye have already hold fast till I come.

(KJV)

Rev 2:24-25

24 But unto you I say, and unto the rest in Thyatira, as many as have not this doctrine, and which have not known the depths of Satan, as they speak; I will put upon you none other burden.

25 But that which ye have already hold fast till I come.

KJV

**Take hold that which you already have as a work of God.**

Rev 3:11

11 Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown.

(KJV)

krateo