

**“Stand Firm”**  
**Philippians 3:17-4:1**  
**Sermon Series: “Joy Invincible”**

**Main Idea: Stand firm in trusting and living for Jesus because of the hope we have in Him.**

Explanation of this idea: “Therefore” connects the verses together (chapter/verse divisions are artificial) so 4:1 gives the practical application. It is a command to be obeyed based on the truth that has been presented. Doctrine is never for the purpose of head knowledge but is always for practical application.

I say trusting because the Greek word means, “Stand firm, meaning steadfast in the faith and profession of Christ” (Spiros Zodhates). However, I also say living because of the emphasis on “walk” in verses 17-18. “Walk” refers to lifestyle, and he is contrasting living a godly lifestyle with an ungodly one.

**What is this hope that can enable us to stand firm?**

**1. Stand firm because Jesus has made us a citizen of heaven (v.20).**

-Colossians 1:13-14, John 3:1-3

-John Mac Arthur writes, “We belong to the Kingdom under the rule of our heavenly King, and obey heaven’s laws.”

**2. Stand firm because Jesus is coming back (v.20).**

-Literal return, secondary issue besides

-1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, Revelation 19:11-16

**3. Stand firm because Jesus will glorify us (v.21).**

-Romans 8:23, 29-30; 1 John 3:2

**A. Heaven is a perfect place illuminated by the glory of God (Revelation 21:1-4, 22-27).**

**B. We are spiritually perfected (Colossians 1:22, Jude 24, Ephesians 5:27).**

**C. We are physically perfected (1 Corinthians 15:35-41).**

-Our current bodies are corrupted by the effects of the fall and subject to disease and death, but our glorified bodies are incorruptible, which means they are immune to disease and death (v.42).

-Our current bodies are dishonorable but our glorified bodies are glorious (v.43).

-Our present bodies are weak, but our glorified bodies are powerful (v.43).

-Our present bodies are natural, fashioned after Adam but our glorified bodies are spiritual, fashioned after the resurrection body of Jesus (v.44-49).

-On earth, something is wrong with everything. In glory, nothing is wrong with anything.

**4. Stand firm because Jesus will bring all things under His rule (v.21).**

-1 Corinthians 15:23-28

-Millennial Kingdom

-Necessary for justice and judgement

-He sets everything right and restores everything to what it is supposed to be.

**-Apply to Christians:**

-1 Corinthians 15:58

**-Non-Christians:**

-Do you want to go to heaven?

-A better question is do you want Jesus?

**Romans 3:23, 6:23, 5:8, 10:9, 10:13**