

Romans 11:29-30

For the gifts and calling of God [are] without repentance. 30 For as ye in times past have not believed God, yet have now obtained mercy through their unbelief:

What does it mean to be a witness for Jesus Christ? What does it mean to take the witness stand? Picture in your mind a court scene where witnesses are called to the stand. [Discuss].

Is it a somber occasion or a time to joke and play around? People are there to give witness to evidence of action or character.

No, there is a serious mindset and an accountability of words and actions that heavily weigh into the process.

*“In law a **witness** is someone who, either voluntarily or under compulsion, provides testimonial evidence, either oral or written, of what he or she knows or claims to know about the matter before some official authorized to take such testimony” - Wikipedia*

We have a blessed calling from God our Father and Lord Jesus Christ, and we will be held accountable for our words and actions as we take **the witness stand of life**.

What are you standing for? How do people see you? How does your witness stand witness in the Heavenly court?

Let us consider the points below and have an **Encouraging Discussion**

- There must be a calling from the Lord
- There must be understanding of that calling
- There must be words say and actions to perform
- There must be power to endure the calling

Jeremiah 23:21-40	Stand in God’s counsel
Jeremiah 1:8-9	God will put words in your mouth
Matthew 10:19-20	God will put words in your mouth
Isaiah 55:8-13	God’s word does not return void; beware of the thorns (Matthews 13:22)
Matthew 5:33-37	In this world, there a swearing in ceremony or process; but we are commanded otherwise; let ours word be truthful

1. Israel was called to be a witness

Exodus 19:4-6	
Isaiah 43 and 44	God has an expectation from you – fulfill it completely – notice God’s plea for Israel to come to understand their calling
Exodus 3:16 and 4:10-16	God will put words in your mouth; what comes from your mouth
Luke 6:45 and Mark 7:18-23	heart?
Psalm 19:14 and Proverbs 4:23	Let our words be acceptable to the Lord

2. The Disciples were called to be a witness

Matthew 10
Luke 9 and 10

Jesus gave His disciples the words to say and the action to take and they took the witness stand for Him, and we are to follow the same pattern. They were challenged and we are to be challenged as well.

Consider your walk today – what is it telling the world?
Are we doing the same works, and does our testimony stand

3. Those who are healed were called to be a witness

Mark 5:1-20 We are to tell of His goodness and mercy – this is your witness
Matthew 8:23-34

Luke 8:43-48

Mark 5:24-34 The woman with the issue of blood – she had to testify of the truth and power of God – she could not hid in the church (do we hide in the crowd or church?)

4. Those who reject the calling to be a witness

Matthew 8:18-22 Are we making any excuses for answering the calling?
Matthew 10:11-15 The calling of the disciples to do a powerful work – powerful witness
Luke 10:5-12 Dusting your feet in unwanted territory

- Jesus give the words to say and the works to be done
- Jesus evaluated the actions of the disciples
- Jesus made correction in them where necessary
- We are to follow these actions
- How are you doing?

5. The Holy Spirit is a witness

God gives His Spirit to those who obey Him. We must not walk in defiance of God's word. We are on the witness stand and our words and actions are weighed by God. Let us be sure to properly represent Him way of life.

Acts 2:36-42 Repent of sins and be baptized and receive the Holy Spirit
Acts 5:29-32 Look to Jesus and obey Him
John 16:7-11 The Holy Spirit will convict people of sin, righteousness and judgment
Acts 24:24-27

6. The acts and testimony of two witnesses

Revelation 11:1-19

- They were born for a particular season – where will be the rest of the church of God?
- They faithfully stood and exercise the power of God – in word and in deed
- They gave their lives – and they were rewarded with the resurrection to life again

7. Your calling to be a witness

John 17:20	Jesus prayed that we would believe as the disciples believed
Matthew 28:19-20	Jesus commanded pass His words on to the next generation
Psalms 19:14	
Exodus 19:6	Kingdom of Priests
1 Peter 2:1-9	Royal Priesthood
II Peter 2:10	Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall:

God our Father and Lord Jesus have given is all that we need to be faithful witnesses of His word and works.

Ephesians 6:10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.

[Rev 2:7, 11, 17, 26 KJV] 7 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that **overcometh** will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God. ...
11 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; He that **overcometh** shall not be hurt of the second death. ...

17 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that **overcometh** will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth [it]. ...

26 And he that **overcometh**, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations:

[Rev 3:5, 12, 21 KJV] 5 He that **overcometh**, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels. ...

12 Him that **overcometh** will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, [which is] new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and [I will write upon him] my new name. ... 21 To him that **overcometh** will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne.

[Rev 21:7 KJV] 7 He that **overcometh** shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.