

# “Stand Firm”

By Silvanus, a faithful brother as I regard him, I have written briefly to you, exhorting and declaring that this is the true grace of God. Stand firm in it. (1 Peter 5:12)

- *“Exhort” = To call one out for a purpose*
- *“Declaring” as a witness or a testimony*

The whole letter is exhortation and declaration; it is from a guy who was an eye witness and who says passionately, “I’ve been there! I’ve tasted suffering!” I’ve been with Jesus! I know what I’m talking about! I’m not writing theoretically.”

## 35 exhortations, imperatives

Hope fully. 1:13

Be holy. 1:15

Conduct yourselves in fear. 1:17

Love each other. 1:22

Be subject. 2:13

Honor everyone. 2:17

Keep your tongue from evil. 3:19

Honor Christ as holy. 3:15

Be self-controlled and sober. 4:7

Rejoice. 4:13

Don’t be surprised at fiery trial. 4:12

Entrust yourself to God. 4:19

Clothe yourselves with humility. 5:5

Resist the devil. 5:9

Stand in grace. 5:12

Greet with a kiss of love. 5:14

- *“This” = “Have written” = “The true grace of God”*
- *“God” = The origin of “this” = “true grace”*

As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace...in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. (1 Peter 4:10-11)

- *“True”?*

For certain people have crept in unnoticed who long ago were designated for this condemnation, ungodly people, who pervert the grace of our God into sensuality and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ. (Jude 1:4)

- *“Stand” = The opposite of “falling”*
- *“True Grace of God” is the grace that empowers us and doesn’t turn us into lawless sinners.*
- *The “true Grace of God” freely gives pardon (to become the people of God) and power to stand, to be defined by the 35 exhortations, to live holy lives.*

**As you focus on Jesus, who fulfilled every imperative,  
His Spirit will live through you!**

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