"The Bold Life" part 3 January 22, 2012

Proverbs 21:29- Boldness is not a façade—rather, it is borne out of purposeful thinking ("gives thought to his ways" NIV); taking a "clear, principled course of life" ("directs his ways" KIV).

PROP- There are three principled dimensions to this "bold life."

- 1. <u>We are SEATED in heavenly places with Jesus</u> (Ephesians 2:4-7) [The posture of our heart; who we are internally]
 - Resting, trusting—confidence through "confiding in"
 - Listening to His voice
 - i.e., stereo headphones tuned to the intercession of Jesus and the intercession of the H.S.
 - Prayer becomes "prophetic declaration"—i.e., "When you pray, say..."
 - Luke 11- Bold in our interaction/intimacy with Him—as the direct result of knowing the strength of our friendship
- 2. We are WALKING worthy of His call (Ephesians 4:1)

[Our daily lifestyle; who were are as we interact with others]

- "Led by the Spirit"—living proof we are "sons (and daughters) of God"
- WALK, not just "talk." Because we are not "mere talkers" (Titus 1:10) due to the fact that we are "not mere men" (1 Corinthians 3:4)
- "This resurrection life you received from God is not a timid, gravetending life. It's adventurously expectant, greeting God with a childlike: 'What's next, Papa?'" (Romans 8:15 The Message)
- It's "keeping in step with the Spirit" (Galatians 5:25) (i.e., Exodus 14:13-15, Moses: "Stop and watch"; The Lord: "Move forward")
- 3. We have learned to STAND OUR GROUND in the middle of battle (Eph. 6)
 [An upright, active position; far from being passive or defensive]
 NOTE: Four times the command is given: "Stand" (v. 11-14)

(Ephesians 6:14ff) <u>Vital components of our STAND</u>:

a. Be truthful

"Truth"—"real"; be honest, live with integrity—be real with God and others (NOTE: The enemy works in darkness)

- b. Be righteous
- "Righteousness"—the "capacity to live with integrity"

- **It's "a gift" (Romans 5:17)** It is not produced by us—it is the God-given capacity to live right
- But it is also the "fruit" of yielding to the training (gumnazo) of the Lord (Hebrews 12:11)
 - Not condemnation: "You behaved badly—because you're still a 'bad person'."
 - Rather conviction: "You are way too awesome to behave like that. Address, confess, and repent (get a new mindset)!"
- c. Be peaceful (Remain in the place of peace)
- The sandals had cleats—kept you from losing your footing in battle
- Knowing that "flesh and blood" are not our enemies—we respond to people from the place of peace
- The "God of peace" crushes the enemy under our feet (Rom. 16:20)
- d. Be full of faith
- · Remember, this is a "fight of faith"
- Since faith comes by "hearing the (proceeding) word"—refuse to believe anything that is contrary to the Word of God and His promises to you
- e. Be confident
- Always remember: HE saved you. HE keeps you.
- Root your confidence in His ability to work mightily within you!
- f. Be attentive to His voice
- Logos- God's standard of truth (Hebrews 4:12) "able to judge..."
- Rhema- "God-breathed" revelation—timely, prophetically revealed by the Spirit (Ephesians 6:17)
- NOTE: He loves to breathe on the "logos" and make it "rhema"!
- "Take the prophecies spoken over you, and with them—fight the good fight of faith" (1 Timothy 1:18)

RESPONSE

Psalm 138:3- "When I called, You answered. You made me bold and stouthearted (gave me strength in my soul- KJV)."

- He is the ultimate BOLD ONE
- He will teach you to boldly sit (trusting Him), walk (following Him), and stand (resisting the enemy—watching him flee)!