Closing Words

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.** She who is at Babylon, *who is likewise chosen, sends you greetings, and so does Mark, my son.* Greet one another with the kiss of love. *Peace to all of you who are in Christ. 1 Peter 5:12–14 (ESV) Who are the* elders?

Who was Silvanus?

Where was Babylon?

What is the kiss of love?

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, *1 Peter 1:3–4 (ESV)*

How can I stand firm?

1. To stand firm, I must understand God's pattern for my life.

Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, 1 Peter 5:6 (ESV)

2. To stand firm, I must know God cares for me.

casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you. 1 Peter 5:7 (ESV)

3. To stand firm, I must understand the enemy against me.

Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, *seeking someone to devour.* Resist him, firm in your faith, *knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world. 1 Peter 5:8–9 (ESV)*

4. **To stand firm, I must <u>believe</u> God's <u>promise</u> about my final <u>future</u>.**

And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen. 1 Peter 5:10–11 (ESV)

1 Peter

Hope in Hard Times

Stand Firm

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