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Will You Stand Alone?

Matthew 26:33

Even if all are offended because of You, I will never be offended

If you were asked to guess which disciple made the declaration above, I am sure you would guess right. Yes, it was Peter. We all know how he always had something to say about everything. Well, this time I must say he was unto something very important.

Walking with the Lord is a beautiful journey – there is the singing, the miracles, faith and fellowship – it is easy and sweet to identify with Jesus but there are those times in the journey that offence comes, when the walk is not so easy and sweet because Jesus, your Lord and friend is attacked. Many believers never prepare for those times when Jesus would be under fire. Pause for a moment, search your heart, what would you do? Would you be willing to stand with Jesus? Yes? okay, will you stand alone even if all are offended? Now, we are getting somewhere.

In your walk with the Lord, it is usually in fellowship with other believers, and there is something about standing for the truth with other believers because you will draw strength from them and they from you but what about if you had to stand alone? What then? Yes, we are called to family and fellowship but there must also be that readiness/heart to stand alone even if others walk away!

Why must you have this readiness or heart to stand

alone? See, what Peter expressed in the verse above is a note of personal conviction. It is this personal strength/conviction that you actually supply to the body! So, you have to be ready with this heart to be able to truly be a part of the fellowship. Someone may need your conviction to strengthen their resolve, your obedience may be the rock upon which another will stand and so you must have it. So you see that the foundation of the fellowship is the readiness for every believer to stand alone.

In Ezekiel, God said, *“I sought for a man...”* – one person willing to stand in the gap even if others walk away. Beloved, this realization should cause you to take your walk with God seriously and be ready to say *“Lord, I am your man”*. God called Abraham alone—and blessed him. Lot lived among wicked and corrupt people, yet Scripture says he was righteous and deeply distressed by the sin around him (2 Peter 2:7). He stood alone.

The real question is not if you will face moments when you would have to stand alone, but whether isolation will cause you to compromise on the things that you believe. Can you be a one-person army for God when necessary? Consider Peter's bold declaration again, *“Even if all are offended because of You, I will never be offended”* (Matthew 26:33). Though Peter later stumbled, his heart showed a truth every believer must carry (and a truth he eventually mastered, because he was the first to go to the gentiles with the gospel when all others were afraid to do so)

Be ready to stand alone. Stand for your Lord. Stand for the fellowship. Hold the gate, defend the faith. you are his chosen vessel. Grace to your heart. Amen!

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