

## Take A Stand

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We live in a world today where many will not take a stand for what is right. But, as Christians, we have a duty to take a stand for principles of truth. We need courage to stand up and be counted!

Everyday, Christians somewhere face a "David and Goliath" challenge. They face a situation that is bigger, defying, and, influential (1 Samuel 17). Will they cut and run like the men of Israel (v. 24), or will they stand and fight like David (v. 48)? What about you, will you take a stand like David?

Joshua took a stand against the weakness of his brethren (Numbers 14:4-10; Joshua 1:6; 24:15). Esther took a stand against hatred, prejudice, and revenge (Esther 4:8-16). Daniel and friends took a stand against the pressure of their peers (Dan. 3:18; 6:10). Ezra and Nehemiah took a stand against the immorality of their brethren (Ezra 9-10; Neh. 13). John and Jesus took a stand against religious error (Mt. 3:1ff; 14:1ff; 15:1ff; 23:1ff). Peter and John took a stand against religious authority (Acts 4:19; 5:29). Paul took a stand against hypocrisy (Gal. 2:11). John took a stand against the self-willed, domineering local church bully (3 Jn. 9-10).

Christians need courage! Our courage must be based upon "the faith" of God's word (1 Corinthians 16:13; 2 Thessalonian 2:15; 1 Peter 5:12). Our courage needs the protection of God's armor (Ephesians 6:10-18). Our courage works better when we do it with other Christians (Philippians 1:27).

Courageous or cowardice, the choice is yours! But where will the cowards end up? Cowards will not end up in heaven with the courageous (Revelation 21:8). - Chris Reeves

## News & Notes

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- Our annual Vacation Bible School for all ages (including adults) will be June 4-8, 7 pm each evening.
- We are currently studying the book of Genesis in some of our classes. We have great Bible classes. Come check them out!

Warfield Blvd. church of Christ  
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Clarksville, TN 37043

Website  
WBCOC.org

Assembly Times  
Sunday: 9:30 am, 10:30 am, 6 pm  
Wednesday: 7 pm

Everyone Is Welcome!  
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## THE WARFIELD BULLETIN

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For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses.  
- 2 Corinthians 10:3-4 -

## That Little Word “Not”: *Adding to God’s Word*

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When God placed Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden, he told them that they could freely eat of any tree except the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. If they were to eat of that tree, they would die. God said: “You will surely die” (Genesis 2:16-17).

Sometime later, the Devil tempted Eve to eat of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. He said: “You will surely not die” (Genesis 3:1-5).

Do you see what the Devil did? He simply added the little word “not” to God said. The little word “not” added to God’s word by the Devil changed everything!

We are told several places in the Bible that God does not want us to change his word. We are told not to add to, or take from, the word of God (Deuteronomy 4:2; 12:32; Proverbs 30:5-6; Galatians 3:15; Revelation 22:18-19).

Let’s do a little experiment. What would happen if we added the little word “not” to Mark 16:16? First, let’s read Mark 16:16 from the Bible:

“He who has believed and has been baptized shall be saved; but he who has

disbelieved shall be condemned.” (NASV)

Now, let’s add the little word “not” at different places in this verse and see what we get.

1. “He that believes and is baptized shall not be saved.” There are those who do not believe in God and do not believe in salvation from sin. This is atheism and it is foolish to take this approach in life (Psalm 14:1; Romans 1:19ff).

2. “He that believes not and is not baptized shall be saved.” Some teach that God is so good that all will be saved in heaven regardless of how they live or what they do on earth. This is universalism and it ignores plain Bible teaching to the contrary (Matthew 7:13-14; 25:46).

3. “He that believes not and is baptized shall be saved”. Some teach that an infant is saved from his inherited sin because of the faith of his/her parents. This is infant baptism and this practice is done without any Biblical evidence of such (John 6:44-45; Romans 10:17; Hebrews 11:6; Acts 2:37-38; 18:8).

4. “He that believes and is not baptized shall be saved.” Many teach that a person is saved at the point when he believes in Jesus, before he is baptized. This is “faith

only” salvation and it is contrary to biblical truth (Romans 1:5; 6:17; Hebrews 11:4ff; James 2:24-26).

5. “He that believes and is baptized shall be saved.” This is what Jesus actually said and this is what the rest of the New Testament teaches (Mt.28:18-19; Acts 22:16; Gal 3:27; 1 Pet.3:21). This is biblical truth! This should be what we believe and teach!

How easy it is to change God’s word just like the Devil did by adding the little word “not” (Genesis 3:1-5; 2 Peter 3:16-18).

How easy it is to believe a lie when someone changes God’s word with one little word (Genesis 3:6-8; 2 Corinthians 11:3; 2 Thessalonians 2:10).

How serious a mistake it is to change God’s word just a little and then suffer the consequences for doing so (Genesis 3:9-24; Galatians 1:6).

How common it is for a good (religious) person to change God’s word just a little (Gen. 2:15-24; Mk. 7:1-13). So, let us all be content to simply hear God’s word without adding to it, taking from it, or substituting something else for it. - *Chris Reeves*