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MAKING A STAND FOR GOD

I remember watching the movie “Chariots of Fire” years ago and saw the faith of Eric Liddell. He was a strong Christian and put God first in his life. He was the son of Scottish missionaries in China. He saw running as a part of his worship of the Lord. He ran in the Paris Olympics. He refused to train or compete on Sunday. He made a stand for God and his principles and won the 400-meter finals in the 1924 Paris Olympics. God honored him for making a stand for God.

In this age of “do whatever feels good,” it is definitely out of the world’s character for one to “not go” with the crowd and stand for righteousness. Often, as Christians we are not invited to things or even have people visit because they know what we stand for. I have had family members who chose not to visit us because I do not allow alcohol in my home. If someone visited and brought it with them, it is to their shame, because I was unaware of it.

Making a stand for God is shown to us in Acts where Stephen stood for Jesus, and he became the first martyr. He did not compromise his faith in Christ. There is no middle road when it comes to serving God. We are either all the way for him or against him.

The church of Laodicea was called lukewarm because it would not make a stand. It was neither hot nor cold. It could be called a “feel good” church, where the messages never offend anyone. There are plenty of those kinds of “churches” today in America and across the world.

Perhaps we need to watch “Chariots of Fire” again and determine that we will be the ones, like Eric Liddell, to not go along with the majority even if it costs us friends, family, or even our lives.

Dark days are ahead, and we will be tested to see who we stand for. In closing let us look at Matthew 19:29 which reads, ***“And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, FOR MY NAME’S SAKE, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life.”***

“...As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.” (Joshua 24:15.) We may not receive our rewards on this side of heaven, but when we make a stand for Christ, the rewards are great!