

**Phil 3:12** *“Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I **press on**, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me.*

**Vs 14** *“I **press toward** the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.”*

### **3 Areas of Ground**

- 1. Losing Ground**
- 2. Taking Ground**
- 3. Holding Ground**
- 1. Losing Ground**

**Mark 4:16-17** says, *“These likewise are the ones sown on stony ground who, when they hear the word, immediately receive it with gladness; and they have no root in themselves, and so endure only for a time.*

*Afterward, when tribulation or persecution arises for the word’s sake, immediately they stumble.”*

**Notice:** Tribulation, trouble, and persecution arise for the word’s sake—they are designed to dislodge the word from your life.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Cor 10:35** *“For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. <sup>4</sup> For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, <sup>5</sup> casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ,”*

**2 Cor 4:1** *“Therefore, since we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we do not lose heart.”*

**Pro 4:23** *“Keep your heart with all diligence, For out of it spring the issues of life.”*

**Luke 8:15** “The good ground are they which, in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, guard it and bring forth fruit with patience.”

**Mark 4:15** “And these are the ones by the wayside where the word/seed is sown. When they hear, Satan comes immediately and takes away the word that was sown in their hearts.”

## 2. Holding Ground

**Ecc 8:4** “Where the word of a King is, there is power”

- **The Biblical Authority of Jesus and the Church**

We must have a command of the Word of God!

-Jesus quoted Scripture to stump the religious leaders Mt **22:34-46**

-Jesus quoted Scripture to rebuff Satan with Biblical Authority **Luke 4:1-3**

**Ps 119:89** “Forever, O LORD, Your word is ‘**settled**’ in heaven!”

Hebrew; **SC 5324 nāṣab** “to stand, **be stationed**”

**TWOT 1398** pillar, station, post garrison, army,

To take one’s stand, stand firm,

“Illustrated in God’s order to **Moses** to “station himself by the rivers brink to meet Pharaoh.”

**Ex 7:15** “Go to Pharaoh in the morning, when he goes out to the water, and you shall **stand/nāṣab** by the river’s bank to meet him; and the rod which was turned to a serpent you shall take in your hand”

(To station yourself as a pillar in heavenly places and meet Pharaoh/Satan with the Rod, the very Word of God!)

*1 Chron 18:1-3 After this it came to pass that **David** attacked the Philistines, subdued them, and took Gath and its towns from the hand of the Philistines. <sup>2</sup> Then he defeated Moab, and the Moabites became David's servants, and brought tribute.<sup>3</sup> And David defeated Hadadezer king of Zobah as far as Hamath, as he went to **establish/nāṣab** his power by the River Euphrates.*

***Moses and David** both mighty men of war were appointed to stations and to be pillars against the enemies of God! Both earthly and heavenly places. Without the Bible people do not have access to the power of the Word of God. The Devil wants to distort and diminish its value and its true meaning. He does not want people reading it or studying it in any way.*

***Acts 19:9** Paul, reasoning daily in the School of Tyrannus, This continued for two years so that ALL who dwelt in Asia heard the Word of the Lord Jesus”*

*The demonic, principalities and powers were confronted by stationed/appointed men with the Rod of the Word of God!*

***Acts 19:12** “diseases left them and evil spirits went out of them” When the Word of God is illuminated in the hearts and minds of people, transformation takes place.*

***Col 1:23** “continue in the faith, grounded and steadfast”*

***Col 2:7-8** “rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving.*

***2 Sam 23:12 Nkjv** “But he, Shammah, **stationed** himself in the middle of the field, defended it, and killed the Philistines. So the LORD brought about a great victory.*

**When we are in a time and season**

- **Of prolonged battles**

**Ps 28:7 Nlt** *“The LORD is my strength and shield. I trust him with all my heart. He helps me, and my heart is filled with joy. I burst out in songs of thanksgiving.”*

- **Of People against me**

**Ps 35:1** *“O LORD, oppose those who oppose me. Fight those who fight against me.”*

- **Pressures**

**Ps 143:11-12** *“For the glory of your name, O LORD, preserve my life.*

*Because of your faithfulness, bring me out of this distress. <sup>2</sup> In your unfailing love, silence all my enemies and destroy all my foes, for I am your servant.”*

**Eph 6:11** *“Put on all of God’s armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil.*

### **3. Taking Ground**

**2 Sam 23:20 Nlt** *“There was also Benaiah son of Jehoiada, a valiant warrior<sup>[a]</sup> from Kabzeel. He did many heroic deeds, which included killing two champions<sup>[b]</sup> of Moab. Another time, on a snowy day, he chased a lion down into a pit and killed it.”*

His name means *“Yahweh has built up”*

I am a finisher!