The tide of blood in me
Hath proudly flowed in vanity till now.
Now doth it turn and ebb back to the sea,
Where it shall mingle with the state of floods,
And flow henceforth in formal majesty.

- William Shakespeare

The Protection of the Gospel

Each believer must stand fast, strive together, and suffer for the protection of the gospel.

- I. Each believer must be consistent in standing fast for the gospel (1:27).
 - A. Each believer must have a consistent practice.
 - B. Each believer must have a consistent priority.

II. Each believer must <u>cooperate</u> in <u>striving</u> for the gospel (1:27).

- III. Each believer can have <u>confidence</u> when <u>suffering</u> for the gospel (1:28-30).
 - A. It is a proof of our salvation (28).
 - B. It is a privilege to suffer (29).
 - C. It is a part of the same struggle (30).