



CHRIST  
REFORMED BAPTIST  
CHURCH

Biblical Preaching & Reverent Worship

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## Fighting Unbelief Together

Hebrews 3:13

‘Study to show thyself approved unto God...’ – 2 Timothy 2:15  
The importance of reading and learning God’s word is a vital part of both growing and also experiencing the blessing of belonging to God the Father through His Son, Jesus Christ.

This truth is one of the purposes why we wish to offer you these sermon notes which are to be used while listening to the sermon.

If you have any further questions relating to the sermon, sermon notes or would like to learn more about the ministry of Christ Reformed Baptist Church, please do not hesitate to contact

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## **INTRODUCTION**

Today we will be considering several things related to how as followers of Jesus we are to combat unbelief together.

## **HOW THEN ARE WE GOING TO CONSIDER THIS TEXT?**

Two Main Headings: (1) One-Another Watchfulness.  
(2) Watch for the Deceitfulness of sin.

### **I. One-Another Watchfulness**

#### **(a) Not just (SEF-WATCH) but also (GROUP-WATCH)**

Theirs/ours individual fight against sin and unbelief isn't to take place in the context of isolationism from the rest of the local body of Christians to whom they are part of.

#### **(b) Why is this (GROUP-WATCH) so crucially needed?**

Due to the Christians two natures every Christian is tempted to apostasy to one degree or another and thus, this sort of inter-dependency of Christians in the local church gathering, coupled with mutual exhortations is a vital means for withstanding the multiplied temptations against unbelief and hardening of heart.

#### **(c) Vital means of Christ's preservation**

**Ecc.4:9-10** "Two are better than one; ...For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up.

#### **d) Common shared responsibility**

##### **1. How are we to exhort?**

"**exhort**" παρακαλέω, **par-ak-al-eh'-o** "to address, speak to, (call to, call upon), which may be done in the way of (1)exhortation, (2)entreaty, (3)comfort, (4)instruction, etc."

> KJV translates Strong's G3870 in the following manner: beseech (43x), comfort (23x), exhort (21x), desire (8x), pray (6x), intreat (3x)

**1 Thess. 5:11** “Wherefore **comfort (G3870)** yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do.”

**2 Tim. 4:12** “Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, **exhort (G3870)** with all longsuffering and doctrine.”

## **2. When we fail in our duty:**

**AW PINK** “Oftentimes the failure of a Christian is to be charged against his brethren as much as to his own unfaithfulness. How often when we perceive a saint drifting unto hardness of heart we go about mentioning it to others, instead of faithfully mentioning it to the saint themselves.”

### **e) Cherish one another watchfulness.**

**Prov. 27:6** “Faithful are the wounds of a friend; but the kisses of an enemy are deceitful.”

## **II. Watch for the Deceitfulness of sin.**

Let’s consider the use of deceitfulness in relation to the hardening of one’s heart by recalling the temptation in the Garden of Eden.

### **a) Deceitfulness begins by questioning God’s revealed Word.**

**Gen.3:1** “..Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?”

### **b) First defense: Focus on God’s truth.**

**James 4:7** “Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.”

### **c) Deceit’s twin sisters:**

1. Personal happiness and 2. Personal fulfillment.

**1 John 2:16** “For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.”

## **III. Our Nuclear Option in the Fight**

**v.6** (confidence) G3954 παρρησία, par-rhay-see'-ah “freedom in speaking, unreservedness in speech”

v.14 (confidence) G5287 ὑπόστασις, hoop-os'-tas-is “thing put under, substructure, foundation”

**IV. vv.15-19 Those who gave up the fight.**

**CLOSING THOUGHTS AND APPLICATION:**

**For the Christian:** Today we have seen the limitless wisdom of our Savior by ensuring we make it to the end, through the inseparable union with one another as brothers and sisters within the familial bonds of the New Covenant. Unlike the physical Israel which pointed to their covenant ties through Abraham, we, as Paul describes, are the spiritual Israel whose covenant ties lies in that eternal transaction within the Godhead by which an elect seed was given to the Son and for whom the Son gave His life. We dear friends...dear church, are one in Christ!

May we never take for granted this wonderful privilege that we experience here on earth – being in communion in a local church.

**For the Unbeliever:** I truly pity you. The world in which you exist is cold, violent, and only seeks that from you that will feed its own lusts and desires. This world's system will use you and abuse you. It takes and never gives back. The only friends you will ever know are those who will like you for only what you can do for them. The only friends or acquaintances that will treat with some measure of dignity and love are those who have some connection with Jesus and His church.

I'm certain you have seen Christian's acting in pretty bad ways, however, on a normal basis you have seen unbelievers act in much worse ways. Today, you must decide who will fight with you in this life. There is but one way and it starts at the cross of Jesus Christ. Come, we who have committed our lives to the cause of Christ, stand willing to support you and help you in a new gospel life.