

Be Strong, Act Like a Man & Be a Hero!

KJV Deuteronomy 31:6 Be strong and of a good courage, fear not, nor be afraid of them: for the LORD thy God, he it is that doth go with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.

Moses is **120 years old** he has finished his assignment, he gathers the people and encourages them to be **strong, brave and fearless!**

The word **be strong** in Hebrew means “*to harden oneself*”!

It's the same word God uses to describe **Pharaoh** when Moses confronts him to release God's people.

*Exodus 4:21 And the LORD said to Moses, "When you go back to Egypt, see that you do before Pharaoh all the miracles that I have put in your power. But **I will harden his heart**, so that he will not let the people go.*

The Septuagint, The Old Testament Hebrew translated into Greek by 70 Jewish scholars (hence Septuagint meaning 70).

In this verse reads, “*play the man, and be strong*”!

God said Pharaoh will harden himself and play the man!

It's what God commanded Joshua in [Joshua 1:7](#): “**Only be thou STRONG**”! **HARDEN YOURSELF, PLAY THE MAN AND BE HEROIC!**

- **Joshua says the same thing to the people before his death!**

Joshua 23:6 Be ye therefore VERY COURAGEOUS, to keep and to do all that is written in the book of the law.

God told Ezekiel if He sent him to foreigners, they would listen to him, but since he was being sent to his own people they won't listen & obey!

ESV Ezekiel 3: 7 But the people of Israel will refuse to listen to you because they refuse to listen to me. All the people of Israel are very stubborn and hardheaded.

8 Behold, I have made your face as hard as their faces, and your forehead as hard as their foreheads.

9 I will make you as hard as a diamond, harder than stone. Don't be afraid of them. Don't be terrified in their presence, even though they are rebellious people."

God told **Jeremiah** not to say he was a **child!**

Too young, inexperienced, uneducated, knowledgeable or influential.

Jeremiah 1:7 But the LORD said to me, "Don't say that you are only a boy. You will go wherever I send you. You will say whatever I command you to say.

8 Be not afraid of their faces: for I am with thee to deliver thee, saith the LORD.

The verb which we translate harden, literally signifies **to strengthen, confirm, make bold or courageous.**

It is often used **to excite duty, perseverance, and responsibility!**

At the end of Paul's **first letter** to the Corinthian church he **charges** them the same way **Moses charged Israel** in the wilderness and **Joshua does as Israel moves into The Promised Land!**

A charge is a strong suggestion, a personal command, and a holy request!

The apostle Paul uses it at the end of his **first letter** to the church at Corinth.

1 Cor 16:13 Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong.

Paul is telling the church they must **play the man** don't be **weak, immature and easily discouraged!**

Watch ye—**watch for opportunities to do good!**

Stand fast in The Faith—**know for sure what you believe!**

Quit you like men—**play the man, don't be childish, make up your mind, don't back up, back down or run and hide from evil!**

Be strong— put forth a strong effort, don't half way do anything for The Lord; use all the energy and anointing God has given you!

Since your assignment is from God and your cause is righteous you should be ready as The Captain of your salvation to die for Christ!

1 Corinthians 13:11 When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways.

- It's time to *play the man and act like heroes!*

A Hero is a person who displays courage in the midst of danger and are not overwhelmed by the circumstances.

The **opposite** of a **hero** is a **coward** or **loser!**

A **coward** is one who lacks the courage to face danger, one who shrinks, e.g., becomes small when **it's time to be big!**

Heroes do what needs to be done without hesitation!

No one cares what race, color, religion, education, height, weight, or shoe size of a hero!

2 Timothy 1:6 For this reason I remind you to stir up the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands.

7 For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

Therefore, Be Strong, Act like a Man and Act Like a Hero!

Some might say, how do we do this? By FAITH!

Hebrews 11:1 Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.

By using their faith our ancestors received not only a good report but by using their faith they received The Promises of God!

Abraham believed when he stood in the presence of the God who gives life to dead people and calls into existence nations that don't even exist.

Romans 4:18 *When there was nothing left to hope for, Abraham still hoped and believed.*

Abraham our spiritual father in the faith **never** stopped believing God!

When things looked hopeless Abraham still **expected God to move!**

19 *He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was as good as dead (since he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb.*

Abraham didn't deny the facts, he used his faith to change them!

20 He didn't doubt God's promise out of a lack of faith. Instead, giving honor to God *for the promise*, he became strong because of faith.

The implication is **Abraham's faith altered his physiology** making his old body **strong enough to produce sperm** and impregnant his wife.

Your faith, our faith in God will make us strong enough to accomplish anything God tells us to do!

Romans 4:21 *And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform.*

Heb 11:33-34 *Our ancestors through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, 34 quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight.*

They became strong when it was time to be strong!

They acted like men when others were acting like children!

They became heroes when others were hiding, backing down, and calling it quits!