1 Corinthians 16:13

Intro: As a basis for our lesson please turn to 1 Cor. 16:13. These terms which Paul uses to admonish them are terms of war.

I. Watch
   A. We are to be alert against evils, dissension, disorders, and false teaching.
   B. It seems in the church today that we have ceased to watch.
      1. We have been lulled to sleep.
      2. We now are allowing all kinds of unscriptural ideas and teachings to come into the church today.
   C. No one seems to be ringing out a warning any longer.
      1. The watchman; Eze. 33:1-10 “Again the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, 2Son of man, speak to the children of thy people, and say unto them, When I bring the sword upon a land, if the people of the land take a man of their coast, and set him for their watchman: 3If when he seeth the sword come upon the land, he blow the trumpet, and warn the people; 4Then whosoever heareth the sound of the trumpet, and taketh not warning; if the sword come, and take him away, his blood shall be upon his own head. 5He heard the sound of the trumpet, and took not warning; his blood shall be upon him. But he that taketh warning shall deliver his soul. 6But if the watchman see the sword come, and blow not the trumpet, and the people be not warned; if the sword come, and take any person from among them, he is taken away in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at the watchman’s hand. 7So thou, O son of man, I have set thee a watchman unto the house of Israel; therefore thou shalt hear the word at my mouth, and warn them from me. 8When I say unto the wicked, O wicked man, thou shalt surely die; if thou dost not speak to warn the wicked from his way, that wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand. 9Nevertheless, if thou warn the wicked of his way to turn from it; if he do not turn from his way, he shall die in his iniquity; but thou hast delivered thy soul. 10Therefore, O thou son of man, speak unto the house of Israel; Thus ye speak, saying, If our transgressions and our sins be upon us, and we pine away in them, how should we then live?”
      2. Jer. 6:14 “They have healed also the hurt of the daughter of my people slightly, saying, Peace, peace; when there is no peace.”; Jer. 8:11 “For they have healed the hurt of the daughter of my people slightly, saying, Peace, peace; when there is no peace.”
      3. When one does try to warn they are then persecuted and called troublemakers. cf. 1 Kin. 18:17-18 “And it came to pass, when Ahab saw Elijah, that Ahab said unto him, Art thou he that troubleth Israel? 18And he answered, I have not troubled Israel; but thou, and thy father’s house, in that ye have forsaken the commandments of the Lord, and thou hast followed Baalim.”

II. Stand Fast in the Faith.
   A. In one spirit; Phi. 1:27 “Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ: that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel;”
   B. Stand in the Lord.
      1. Build a good foundation; 1 Cor. 3:11 “For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.”
      2. Write His words upon your hearts.
      3. Phi. 4:1 “Therefore, my brethren dearly beloved and longed for, my joy and crown, so stand fast in the Lord, my dearly beloved.”
      4. 1 The. 3:8 “For now we live, if ye stand fast in the Lord.”
   C. Stand with the armour of God; Eph. 6:13-18 “Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. 14Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; 15And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; 16Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. 17And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the
III. **QUIT YE LIKE MEN**
   A. Discharge your duties like true men.
   B. Not as cowards, or timid or alarmed at the enemy but bold and brave.

IV. **BE STRONG**
   A. **Job 9:19** “If I speak of strength, lo, he is strong: and if of judgment, who shall set me a time to plead?”
      1. It is God who is strong.
      2. We get our strength from Him.
   B. **Our Lord is a strong rock and refuge.**
      1. **Psa. 31:2** “Bow down thine ear to me; deliver me speedily: be thou my strong rock, for an house of defence to save me.”
      2. **Psa. 71:7** “I am as a wonder unto many; but thou art my strong refuge.”
   C. **Be strong in the faith of God; Rom. 4:20** “He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God;”

word of God: “Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;”