

## *Ten Rules for Church Survival in a Wicked and Perverse World*

1. **1 Pet. 5:6:** Submit to God's authority. *"Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time."*
2. **2 Tim. 1:13:** Maintain sound doctrine. *"Hold fast the pattern of sound words which you have heard from me, in faith and love which are in Christ Jesus."*
3. **1 John 2:24:** Cling to the truth of God's word. *"Therefore let that abide in you which you heard from the beginning. If what you heard from the beginning abides in you, you also will abide in the Son and in the Father."*
4. **1 John 3:10:** Practice righteousness. *In this the children of God and the children of the devil are manifest: whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is he who does not love his brother."*
5. **1 John 4:7-8:** We must love our brothers and sisters in Christ. *"Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God, and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. He who does not love does not know God, for God is love."*
6. **James 4:4:** Do not be friends with the world. *"...Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God."*(also 1 John 2:15).
7. **1 John 4:1:** Put doctrinal teachings to the biblical test. *"Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits,*

*whether they are of God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world.”*

8. **Heb. 13:11-13:** Accept and share the reproach of Christ.  
*“For the bodies of those animals, whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest for sin, are burned outside the camp. Therefore Jesus also, that He might sanctify the people with His own blood, suffered outside the gate. Therefore let us go forth to Him, outside the camp, bearing His reproach.”*
  
9. **1 Pet. 4:1:** We must be willing to suffer for the sake of our Lord. *“Therefore, since Christ suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves with the same mind, for he who has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin [i.e., habitual sin or through death (see Rom.6:7)].”*
  
10. **Heb. 3:4:** We must persevere through faith and the power of God to the end. *“For we have become partakers of Christ if we hold the beginning of our confidence [in the gospel] steadfast to the end [of life or to the end of this age].”*