

## **Do Not Follow The Crowd** **Galatians 2:11-14**

Many at one time called chicken, yellow, coward, weakling

Michael J. Fox in Back To The Future movies - "chicken"

Those who refuse dance, public swimming, drink, or smoke to be a part of group often called names or made fun of

Peer pressure, then, as now, was and is very, very, strong.

### **Don't Do What Others Do, Just To Do What Others Do!**

Tempting to fall for Devil's lie: if really have courage, will do as others, school, playground, automobile, dark alley, job, etc.

Parents point out to children, takes no courage to go with crowd; but, to go against other's deeds, refuse evil & choose good, takes real courage.

"If everybody else is going to jump off the cliff, are you going to jump too?" - **1Corinthians 15:33**

Satan has devices, deceiving the young by giving false labels, calling "...evil good and good evil..." - **Isaiah 5:20; 2Corinthians 2:11**

Satan's followers use ridicule, slurs and deception to tantalize the child of God to violate his sacred trust - **Exodus 23:2**

### **Encouragement To Do / Stand For Truth Comes From God!**

Paul urges us to stand fast - **1Corinthians 16:13**

Jehovah commanded Joshua, Be strong and of good courage - **Joshua 1:6**

Is crowd, on broad way to destruction, courageous? No - **Matthew 7:13-14**

Person concerned people will label him a coward, should heed - **Luke 6:26; Matthew 5:10-12**

Peter demonstrated cowardice, denied Lord **Matthew 26:69-75**

Those bow to world, in word and/or deed are not courageous!

### **It Takes Courage To Follow After Christ**

Cowards don't follow Christ, in lives of purity and uprightness

Joseph a coward when he fled from adultery? **Genesis 39**

Lost position of authority; caused him to be cast into prison

Vashti coward when refused parade her beauty, dance? **Esther**

Required her to defy the king; she was deposed as queen

Daniel a coward when he refused to eat king's meats? Defied command regarding petitions jeopardized life? **Daniel**

Martyrs weak when refused "*fear...them which kill the body*" - **Matthew 10:28**

Apostles who prayed for all boldness, threatened with death - **Acts 4:29; 5:33**

Paul, when he was stoned and left for dead - **Acts 14:19**

Stephen, when he was stoned to death **Acts 7:58-60**

Christ is our example - **1Corinthians 11:1; 1Peter 2:21-23**

Was he a coward when endured buffeting, beating, scourging, mockery, cursing, dying on the cross to redeem? He resisted Satan's temptations **Matthew 4:1-11**

### **Don't Follow The Crowd**

**Exodus 23:2**

Prisons, half-way houses, hospitals & early graves full of young & old couldn't resist temptation when called a coward.

Have the courage to say no to the Devil and yes to the Lord!

It takes courage, real, courage to stand when in minority - **Matthew 7:13-14**

Don't be destroyed by deception of your greatest enemy, Satan

Be saved by Jesus, died for you, prepared an eternal habitation

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