



# Pastor's Comments

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## Northampton Assembly of God

3449 Cherryville Rd., Northampton • Sun. 10:45 am & 6 pm; Wed. 7:30 pm  
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### A Good Fight

Sunday morning I preached from the words of the Apostle Paul in 2 Timothy 4:7, ***"I have fought a good fight."*** Paul was persecuting Christians when Jesus turned him totally around and called him to preach the gospel to the Jews—a calling that would bring him great suffering for Christ's sake. He accepted it as his "course," or God's plan for his life. In prison and facing death, Paul wrote to Timothy to encourage him to be steadfast in the midst of opposition—to, as he put it, ***"endure hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ"*** (2 Timothy 2:3). Then Paul proclaimed, ***"I have fought a good fight"*** and made three statements defining ***"a good fight."***

1. ***"I have finished my course" - "A Good Fight" is a Fight to the Finish!*** It is finishing the course the Lord has designed for us—to victoriously live pure, holy, and clean lives over Satan, this evil world, and sin. ***"A good fight"*** is one in which you never quit, but rather keep pressing on to the finish as Paul declared in Philippians 3:14, ***"I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God."***

2. ***"I have kept the faith" - "A Good Fight" is Keeping the Faith!*** ***"A good fight"*** is Paul, stoned and left for dead at Lystra, but rising up and continuing to proclaim the gospel to the Jews who stoned him. ***"A good fight"*** is Job **keeping faith in God** although all his possession and his ten children were destroyed by supernatural actions that appeared to be acts of God and yet proclaiming, ***"Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him"*** (Job 13:15).

3. ***"Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness" - "A Good Fight" is Winning the Fight!*** It really is only a good fight if you win, and God has given us everything we need to win ***"because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world"*** (1John 4:4). Jesus best exemplified ***"a good fight"*** in that He finished the course His Father designed, kept the faith, and won the victory! ***"Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God."*** (Hebrews 12:2). Hear this message at: [www.naog.ws/sermons.htm](http://www.naog.ws/sermons.htm)