

Ephesians 6:10-20 The Armor of God

10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. 11 Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. 12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. 13 14 Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, 15 and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. 16 In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. 17 Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

18 And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. 19 Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, 20 for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should

Daniel 10:12-20

11 He said, "Daniel, you who are highly esteemed, consider carefully the words I am about to speak to you, and stand up, for I have now been sent to you." And when he said this to me, I stood up trembling. 12 Then he continued, "Do not be afraid, Daniel. Since the first day that you set your mind to gain understanding and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard, and I have come in response to them. 13 But the prince of the Persian kingdom resisted me twenty-one days. Then Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, because I was detained there with the king of Persia.

John 10:10 NIV - *10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.*

We're in a fight

- Hand to hand foot to foot struggle.
- A thorough knowledge of the enemy and a healthy respect for his prowess is necessary for victory.
- Be strong in the Lord's mighty power.

Who we're fight against

people

For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

- The devil - The accuser, Satan the adversary, the tempter, the murderer. Described as a lion, a serpent, an angel of light, and the god of this age.
- Satan's helpers - An army of demonic creatures that assist Satan in his attacks against believers. Thought to be one third of the angels that fell with Satan when he rebelled against God. Rulers, authorities, powers of this dark world.

The schemes or devices

Calculated, strategic methods and deceptive tactics Satan uses to trap, divide, and weaken believers.

Key Tactics and Schemes

- Deception and Lies
- Distraction and Busyness
- Doubt and Discontentment
- Division and Unforgiveness
- Discouragement, Fear and Delays

**KILL
STEAL
DESTROY**

What to do to stand

- Stand in the Lord's mighty power.
- Therefore, put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.

John 8:44 - 44 *You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.*

II Corinthians 10:3-4 NIV - 3 *For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. 4 The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds.*

1 Peter 5:7-9 NIV - 7 *Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. 8 Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. 9 Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings.*

Review

1. First recognize Satan is real
 - a. Be aware of his schemes/devices
 - b. Be alert / sober minded / Resist him
 - c. Fight with spiritual weapons of divine power
2. Don't over emphasize or under emphasize spiritual warfare
3. Remember our fight is not with flesh and blood
4. Be strong in the Lord
5. Put on the whole armor of God

We must sit before we can walk, and we must walk before we can stand. We must understand our spiritual position before we can have spiritual power. **Wiersbe**

Belt of Truth (large leather belt, holds everything together)

Truth of God and His Word

Breast Plate of Righteousness (metal armor covers vital organs)

Living right protects Heart and vital organs

Feet Fitted with Gospel of peace (shoes for traction)

For standing in God's confidence and power

God's good news gives us power to stand.

Shield of Faith (Leather shield soaked in water)

Blocks flaming arrows by faith

Trust in the power/promises of God.

Helmet of Salvation (Metal headgear)

Protects the mind

Present safety and future deliverance

Sword of The Spirit (Sword)

The Word of God - offensive and defensive

Prayer and Being Alert

Belt of Truth

- Satan is the Father of lies and there is no truth in him
- He wants to trick, deceive, and entangle us
- Think about Adam and Eve
- The only way we can detect his lies is with truth
- The belt holds everything else together
- Read, study, pray and meditate on the real truth

Breast Plate of Righteousness

- Covers vital organs - the heart and vital organs
- Cops were safety vest
- This is Christ's righteousness
- We make a practice of living right – honest, upright, marked by integrity