

***“We Will Not Fear”
Ephesians 6:10-18***

Introduction:

1. Let's Turn In Our Bibles:
 - To Ephesians 6 Tonight:
 - As We Get Back Into Our Sunday Night Series:
 - On Our Progress Of Victory:
 - As Christians - Against:
 - Our Greatest Spiritual Enemies!
 - Because - In & Through Christ:
 - We Are Able To Experience:
 - More & More Victory In Our Lives:
 - Over The World, Our Own Fallen Flesh:
 - And Even “Our Ancient Foe!”
 - The Devil Himself!
2. And - So Far:
 - When It Comes To:
 - Our Ongoing Victory:
 - Over The Devil:
 - We've Looked At:
 - The Devil's Devices:
 - That He Still Tries To Use:
 - To Get Us To Question:
 - God And His Word!
 - And - They Are The Same Devices:
 - That He Used To Tempt:
 - Both Eve & The Lord Jesus!
 - We've Also Seen:
 - The Devil's Design:
 - And How - No Matter What Form He Takes:
 - He Will Always Have The Same Functions:
 - As His Names!
 - As The Devil:
 - He Is An Accuser!
 - As Satan:
 - He Is The Adversary:
 - Of God & His People!
 - We Also Learned About:
 - The Devil's Dominion:
 - And How He Still Has Some Authority:
 - Over His Evil Allies:
 - The World & The Flesh!
 - However - When You Become:
 - God's Child - Through Faith In Christ:
 - You Are No Longer:
 - The Devil's Child!
 - And - You Are No Longer:
 - The Devil's Captive!
 - So - “Give No Place To The Devil!”
 - In Your Life!
 - We Then Learned About:
 - The Devil's Downfall:
 - Which Was & Still Is Pride!
 - He Wanted To Be Like:
 - “The Most High!”
 - But Instead:
 - He Will “Be Brought Down To Hell – To The Sides Of The Pit!”

- And Now - Since He Is Such A Master:
 - Of Pride:
 - He Uses Pride:
 - To Tempt & Snare Us!
 - So That His Downfall:
 - Becomes Our Downfall!
 - Do Not Fall Into His Snare!
 - Then - We Also Looked At:
- The Devil's Delusion:
 - And How - Not Only:
 - Did He Try To Deceive Jesus:
 - At His Temptation In The Wilderness!
 - In Doing So:
 - He Deceived & Deluded Himself!
 - And So:
 - The "One Little Word" That Will Always:
 - Defeat The Devil:
 - Is Remembering That He Is Nothing But:
 - A Liar!
 - And Then - The Last Time:
 - We Were In Our Series:
 - We Were Reminded Of:
- The Devil's Danger!
 - Not Just To The World:
 - But To Us As Christians!
 - Because - "His Craft And Power Are Great!"
 - And So - We Learned From:
 - 1 Peter 5:8-9 - That:
 - We Need A Serious Attitude:
 - About Our Serious Adversary:
 - So That We Might Take:
 - Serious Action Against Him!
 - But - Not In Any Physical Way!
 - But Through Faith!
 - "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: / Whom resist stedfast in the faith!"

3. What We Learned From:

- The Apostle Peter Last Time:
 - Is Consistent With:
 - What We Will Learn From:
 - The Apostle Paul This Time!
- Because - In This Familiar Passage:
 - On The "Armor Of God!"
 - He Tells Us - Starting In:
 - 6:10-18 - "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. / Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. / For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. / 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. / Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; / And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; / Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. / And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: / Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints!"

4. In These Verses:

- We Learn About:
 - Our Duty Toward The Devil:

- As Well As Toward:
 - All The Powers Of His Darkness!
 - Including - 6:12 - “Against Principalities, Against Powers, Against The Rulers Of The Darkness Of This World, Against Spiritual Wickedness In High Places!”
 - This Means That:
 - There Is An Entire Spiritual Universe:
 - That Is Opposed To God - And:
 - Opposed To God’s People!
 - And That Is Why:
 - Also From 6:12 - “We Wrestle Not Against Flesh And Blood!”
 - Because - We Have More To Contend With Spiritually:
 - Than We Have Physically!
5. And So - The Lord Himself:
- Has Provided Spiritual Armor:
 - Which We Have Been Given:
 - The Responsibility:
 - To “Put On!” (6:11) - Even As We Depend On The Strength:
 - Of The Lord - And “The Power Of His Might!” (6:10)
 - And - When We Fulfill Our Duty:
 - Toward The Devil - By:
 - Putting On - “The Whole Armor Of God!”
 - Then - As Martin Luther Tells Us:
 - In His Hymn:
 - “And Though This World, With Devils Filled, Should Threaten To Undo Us, We Will Not Fear, For God Has Willed His Truth To Triumph Through Us!”
6. So - Tonight:
- I’d Like For Us To Just Review:
 - Our Vital Duty:
 - Toward The Devil!
 - And So - The First Thing:
 - That We Need To Remember Is:
1. ***The Pursuit Of The Armor Of God!***
- That We Find In The First Part:
 - Of 6:13a - “Wherefore Take Unto You The Whole Armor Of God!”
 - When We Remember:
 - All Of The Realities Of Our Enemy:
 - That We’ve Already Looked At!
 - What Are Our Duties:
 - Toward Him?
 - When Paul Tells Us To:
 - “Take Unto You!”
 - It Demands Immediate Action!
 - To “Take” Was Even Used:
 - As A Technical Term:
 - In The Roman Military To Describe:
 - The Final Preparations:
 - Before The Actual Battles Would Begin!
 - So - Paul Understood That:
 - When It Comes To Our Battles With The Devil:
 - We Need To Be Fully Clothed:
 - In This Armor:
 - Before You Are Ready For The Battle!
 - Its Not Something That:
 - You Can Put On A Piece At A Time:
 - Within The Battle!
 - Instead - We Need To “Take Unto” Ourselves:
 - The “Whole Armor Of God!”

- And - When Is This To Be Done?
 - Every Day / Hour / Moment!
 - Since The Need Is Constant!
- We Need To Be:
 - Constantly & Consciously:
 - Reassessing Our Spiritual Armor:
 - In Order To See If Something:
 - Has Moved Aside Or Even Fallen Off!
- This Is Our Duty As Christians:
 - Toward The Devil!
 - Keep Pursuing After:
 - The Armor Of God!
- But We Also Need To Remember:

2. *The Purpose For The Armor Of God!*

- That We Also Find:
 - In 6:13b - "That Ye May Be Able To Withstand In The Evil Day, And Having Done All, To Stand!"
- "That Ye May Be Able!" (6:13b)
 - Simply Means:
 - "To Be Enabled!"
 - And Is - For The Most Part:
 - A Passive Way To Fight Our Greatest Foe!
 - Because - It Is The Armor Of God:
 - That Enables Us To Stand!
 - Any Natural Strength Or Stamina:
 - That We Have - Is Nothing:
 - Compared To The Devil!
 - And So - The Purpose Of The Armor:
 - Is To Reveal That:
 - Our Trust & Dependence:
 - Must Be Completely In:
 - The Lord & His Promises & His Truth!
 - Because - He Alone Can Provide:
 - What You Need:
 - To Enable You To:
 - "Be Strong In The Lord & In The Power Of His Might!" (6:10)
- "To Withstand" (6:13b)
 - Describes Your Duty:
 - Toward The Devil:
 - ***In*** The Battle!
 - This Is What God Calls Us To Do:
 - Whenever We Are Faced With:
 - The Devil's Attack!
 - And - The Only Way:
 - "To Withstand" Is In:
 - The "Armor Of God!"
 - But - When You "Withstand!"
 - In The Battle:
 - This Will Lead You:
- "To Stand" (6:13b)
 - After The Battle:
 - In Victory!
 - If You Don't Rely Upon The Lord:
 - To Help You "Withstand!"
 - You Will Never Be Able:
 - To "Stand" In Victory!
- So - This Too Is Our Duty:
 - Toward The Devil!

- To Rely On The Lord - And:
 - What He Gives Us:
 - To Enable Us To Victory!
- But Then - We Especially:
 - Need To Remember:

3. ***The Pieces Of The Armor Of God!***

- Which We Find In 6:14-17!
 - Because We Are Engaged In:
 - A “Battle For Truth” Against:
 - The Lies Of The Devil!
 - Each Piece Of Armor:
 - Is A Gospel Truth:
 - That You Need To Believe & Possess:
 - In Order To Experience Victory!
 - The First Piece Of Armor:
 - 6:14 - “Having Your Loins Girt About With Truth!”
 - Now - Even Though There Are:
 - Many Messages & Lessons Out There:
 - That Focus On How Each Piece Of Spiritual Armor:
 - Corresponds To A Piece Of Roman Armor!
 - Tonight - We Are Going To Focus On:
 - The Truth Of Each Piece:
 - How It Will Enable You:
 - To “Withstand” In The Battle, So That You Might Be Able To:
 - “Stand” After The Battle, In Victory!
 - And - The “Truth” Is Where It Starts!
 - And - The Need For Truth!
 - If There Is No Truth:
 - There Is Nothing Worth Fighting For!
 - And - The Spiritual Battles That We Face:
 - Are Always For The Truth!
 - The Truth Of God:
 - Which Is Revealed Through His Word!
 - We Saw This In:
 - The Devils Battle With Eve!
 - To Tempt Her To Question The Truth Of:
 - God’s Word!
 - We Saw This In:
 - The Devils Battle With Jesus!
 - To Tempt Him To Question The Truth Of:
 - His Father’s Word!
 - The Truth Of God:
 - Is What Holds Everything Together!
 - Because - Without It:
 - We Can Know Nothing With Certainty!
 - And So - The Provision Of The Truth:
 - That We Need - “Girt” About Our “Loins!”
 - Can Come Only From:
 - A God Of Truth & Without Iniquity! Because - Just & Right Is He! (Deut. 32:4)
 - And So - Every Day:
 - Put On & Use The Truth Of God:
 - Through His Word!
 - It Is Like A Belt Of Armor:
 - Upon Which Everything Else:
 - Is Attached To!
 - This Leads Us To:

- The Second Piece Of Armor:
 - 6:14 - “And Having On The Breastplate Of Righteousness!”
 - With This Piece Of Armor:
 - We See Our Need:
 - For Righteousness!
 - Because Of Just How Unrighteous We Are:
 - From The Inside Out!
 - But - We Can Thank God That:
 - The Provision Of The Righteousness:
 - That We Need Comes Through:
 - The Lord Jesus Christ!
 - It Is Through The Redemption:
 - That We Have In Jesus:
 - That God Justifies Us!
 - So That - In His Sight:
 - We Are Declared To Be As Righteous As:
 - His Son!
 - So That Now:
 - You Can Live Without:
 - Any Guilt! And Now:
 - You Can Live:
 - Not To Appease God - But:
 - To Please Him!
 - The Righteousness That We Have:
 - In The Lord Jesus Christ:
 - Is What Protects us From:
 - The Accusations Of The Accuser!
 - The Devil!
 - This Is What Happened With Job:
 - In Job 1:8 - When:
 - “The LORD said unto Satan, Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil?”
 - Though Job Was A Sinner:
 - Like The Rest Of Us!
 - Through Faith In His Redeemer:
 - He Was Justified & Declared “An Upright Man” By God Himself!
 - And So - Like A Breastplate:
 - The Righteousness Of Christ:
 - Is What Will Protect Your Heart & Conscience:
 - So That You Might Be Able To “Fight The Good Fight Of Faith” In The Strength Of The Lord!
 - The Third Piece Of Armor:
 - 6:15 - “And Our Feet Shod With The Preparation Of The Gospel Of Peace!”
 - With This Piece Of Armor:
 - We See Our Need:
 - For Peace! Even God’s Peace!
 - Because Without It:
 - We Have No True Peace!
 - Within Or Without!
 - But - We Can Thank God That:
 - The Provision Of The Peace:
 - That We Need Comes Through:
 - The Reconciliation That We Have With Him:
 - Through Christ And His Sacrifice On The Cross!
 - So That Now:
 - You Are No Longer A Stranger To God:
 - Nor Are You His Enemy!

- And So - There's No Need To Fear!
- Even As We Find In:
 - Psalm 118:6 - "The LORD is on my side; I will not fear: what can man do unto me?"
- Before You Ever Wage War With:
 - The World, The Flesh, Or The Devil:
 - You Need to Believe In & Be Convinced:
 - Of These Truths!
 - Because - Like Shoes Of Armor:
 - The Good News Of Peace With God:
 - Will Ready & Prepare You:
 - For Any Of The Trials, Tribulations, Or Even Temptations:
 - You Will Face!
 - Because - The Peace Of God:
 - Is The Greatest Preparation!
- The Fourth Piece Of Armor:
 - 6:16 - "Above All, Taking The Shield Of Faith, Wherewith Ye Shall Be Able To Quench All The Fiery Darts Of The Wicked!"
 - With This Piece Of Armor:
 - We See Our Great Need:
 - For Faith!
 - Because - In Our Natural State:
 - We Are Doubters!
 - But - Once Again:
 - We Can Thank God For:
 - His Provision Of The Faith:
 - That We Need
 - Even As We Find:
 - In Ephesians 2:8 - "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God!"
 - So Now:
 - You Can Live In:
 - Confidence & Hope:
 - In The Lord!
 - Even With A Childlike Faith!
 - No Longer Tossed Around:
 - With Doubt - But Able To Stand:
 - Because Of Christ & His Work:
 - In Your Life & In Your Heart!
 - And - Like A Shield:
 - Faith In The Lord:
 - Will Protect You!
 - Even As John Tells Us:
 - In 1 John 5:4 - "And this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith!"
 - The Fifth Piece Of Armor:
 - 6:17 - "And Take The Helmet Of Salvation!
 - With This Piece Of Armor:
 - We See The Need For Salvation!
 - Because Without It:
 - We Are At The Devil's Mercy:
 - Until & Unless God's Mercy Steps In!
 - But - We Can Thank God For:
 - The Provision Of Salvation:
 - Through The Redemption:
 - We Have Because Of The Blood Of Jesus Christ!
 - And - Just Like A Helmet:
 - His Salvation Will Protect You:
 - And Your Mind:
 - For The Lord!

- The Sixth Piece Of Armor:
 - 6:18 - “And The Sword Of The Spirit Which Is The Word Of God!”
 - With This - Our Only Piece Of:
 - Offensive Armor:
 - We See Our Desperate Need:
 - For God’s Word!
 - Because - Without It:
 - We Have Nothing To Fight With!
 - Nothing To Parry Away:
 - The Temptations & Questions Of The Devil!
 - But - Through The Power Of God’s Word:
 - God Himself Will Fight:
 - With Us & For Us:
 - In Order To Preserve Us:
 - For Himself!
 - Remember How Jesus Used:
 - “The Sword Of The Spirit” Against:
 - The Devil - In His Temptation:
 - In The Wilderness!
 - Because - Like A Sharp, Two-Edged Sword:
 - God’s Word & God’s Truth:
 - Will Always Defeat The Devil!

Conclusion:

1. And So - This Is Our Duty:
 - Toward The Devil!
 - Pursue After:
 - The Armor Of God:
 - That We Find In These Verses!
 - Always Remembering:
 - The Purpose Of:
 - The Armor Of God!
 - Which Is To Enable Us Through:
 - The Strength & Power & Might:
 - Of The Lord!
 - And Then - Trust In The Truths:
 - That Each Piece Of Armor Reveals:
 - In Your Walk & Relationship:
 - With God!
 - 2. And - When You Do This:
 - You Can Say With Martin Luther:
 - “We Will Not Fear!”
 - “For God Has Willed His Truth To Triumph Through Us!”

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