



## **“The Christian Warrior ”**

*The Church’s Conduct*

Ephesians 6:10-12

*The hazards of the battle are found in :*

### **I. Weakness** (internal) - “ my brethren, be strong” (v. 10)

*Being conscious of our :*

**A. Reality** – “Finally, my brethren”

**B. Refuge** – “be strong in the Lord”

**C. Resource** – “in the power of His might”

### **II. Wiles** (external) –“ the wiles of the devil” (v. 11 )

*Being consistent with our :*

**A. Discipline** - “Put on the whole armour”

**B. Determination** - “that ye may be able ”

**C. Discernment** - “to stand against the wiles ”

### **III. Wickedness** (infernial) -“spiritual wickedness ” (v. 12)

*Being consecrated with our :*

**A. Economy** – “against powers”

**B. Enlightenment** – “the darkness of this world (age)”

**C. Exaltation** – “spiritual wickedness in high ( places) ”

## Sentence Sermon:

**“Christian warriors overcome weakness, wiles, and wickedness when they draw their strength from the Lord.”**

## Additional Verses

- **James 4:7-8**
- **Joshua 1:9**
- **Ephesians 1:19-23; 2:1-3**
- **I John 2:15-17**
- **John 8:44; 10:10; 16:33**
- **Galatians 6:14**
- **Romans 6:1-6**
- **Revelation 12:4, 7-11**
- **Matthew 4:3**
- **I Peter 5:8**
- **Genesis 3:1**
- **II Corinthians 2:11; 4:4; 11:13-15**
- **Daniel 10:13-20**
- **Acts 19:21-41**

## Questions to Ponder:

- 1. What kind of strength is being commanded in v. 10?
- 2. How do we weaken ourselves in the Lord?
- 3. What is the significance of each word in the phrase “the whole armour of God?”
- 4. How do believers fall for the wiles of the devil?
- 5. What is the significance of the warning that we do not wrestle against flesh and blood?
- 6. What do we know about the goals and desires of “principalities, rulers of darkness, and spiritual wickedness in high places?”

## Ephesians is written to the Church

**On ward Christian Soldiers – Where are we going ...not to a physical battlefield but into a spiritual one...not against flesh and blood but against the spiritual darkness that resides in high places.**

### V. 10

- Finally = Now that we have covered all of that...
- Be strong = “strengthened“ not weakened (cp. Joshua 1:9)
- In the Lord = This the source of our strength...when we were without strength...Jesus saved us...When we feel as though we are weakening...we must come and spend time with Him because He is the source of our strength...why is this important...a great reminder in **John 16:33**
- And = in addition
- In the power of his might = let your strength come from His Ability (you will be as strong as God gives you strength) ...cp. Eph. 1:19 = The magnitude of God’s power towards believers is known in the operation of the strength of His might.
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### V. 11

- Put on = “intentional and anticipatory”
- The whole armor of God =
  - Armor = suit for war
  - Whole armor = “panoply” a full suit with all the accessories...bells and whistles or upgrades ...that of a heavily armored soldier...Special forces or Delta forces type of gear...armed to the teeth...ready for any contingencies.
  - Of God = Name brand...the good stuff...Issued by manufacturer by name of God.
- That ye may be able = for the purpose of
- To stand against = opposite idea as to “fall for “
- The wiles of the devil =
  - ”The wiles of the devil.” The Greek there is *tas methodeias tou diabolou*. As you might have guessed, we get our English word “method” from that word *methodeias* and that is more or less what it means. According to Thayer’s Lexicon, at least, it has to do with “settled plans,” “craftily framed devices,” and “cunning arts.” The “wiles,” the “methods,” the “crafty schemes” of the devil.

- Eugene Peterson points out that you can't see, taste, touch, or smell a method. Methods are not flesh and blood. They are *ways* of arranging our world and of acting within it, and as such they are intangible and frequently quite invisible. But yet they are very, very real.

## V. 12

- For we = people who make up the church...believers
- Wrestle (hand to hand combat) not against = WE DO WRESTLE = more literally "we are wrestling but not against ..."
- Flesh and blood = order is actually "blood and flesh" HUMANS ARE NOT THE ENEMY
- But against= This is the list of enemies
  - Principalities = Spirit beings
  - Powers = Authorities
  - Rulers of darkness of this world = ( The current time we are living and experiencing = TODAY'S BATTLE for LIGHT) literally "world rulers of this darkness" Those who are powerful and influential and lead people down a horrible and hurtful road that is opposite of where God wants us to be.
  - Spiritual wickedness in high places = ( The ongoing battle in heaven over whose plan we are going to follow...the epic battle of good vs. evil) The body or collective group of evil powers that actively practice mischief and spiritual things of wickedness.

