



# The Christian In God's Armor - part 1

# What is the Theme of Ephesians?

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**§ One: The Father, who is worthy of all blessing, has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in Christ. (Chapters 1-3).**

- I. *Chapter 1: Salvation* — The Father has blessed us in His plan for our salvation.
- II. *Chapter 2: Regeneration* — The Father has blessed us with the personal application of this salvation, in our regeneration.
- III. *Chapter 3: Communion* — The Father has blessed us with membership in the church, the body of Christ.

**§ Two: Therefore... Live as those who are blessed by the Father. (Chapters 4-6).**

- I. *Chapter 4:1-16: Unity* — Walk as worthy of your calling.
- II. *Chapter 4:17-32: Charity* — Walk as Christ has taught you.
- III. *Chapter 5:1-14: Obedience* — Walk as children of the Father in light.
- IV. *Chapter 5:15 - 6:9: Submission* — Walk circumspectly, redeeming the time.
- V. *Chapter 6:10-20: Warfare* — Stand in the power of the Lord.

# Point of Eph. 6:10-20 — “Stand”

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- **Vs. 6:11** - “... that you may be able to **stand against** the schemes of the devil.”
- **Vs. 6:13a** - “... that you may be able to **withstand** in the evil day....”
- **Vs. 6:13b** - “... and having done all, **to stand.**”
- **Vs. 6:14a** - “**Stand, therefore....**” Same verb, as imperative.

# I. Our enemy is the devil

- **Diabolos** — tempter | accuser

• “schemes” —

- crafty
- devious
- insidious
- snare

- “schematic”
- design
  - ◀ carefully
  - thorough
- revision

• long-term

# I. Our enemy is the devil

- Q: What kinds of schemes does the evil one have?

- Subverting of good into idolatry
- Thoughts: lying, fables
- Doubt of word
- Doubt of salvation
- Knowing our weaknesses
- Amusement | distractions

- Temptation to a sin
- Regret | sorrow  
→ despair
- Reform | external
- Repetition
- Diminishing Returns

"entangled overcome"

"Heresy"

• Impulses  
↳ "Quit"

# II. Our enemy is also spiritual powers

12. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.

**Q: How do we understand these terms?**

- \*1. Government | culture
2. Hierarchy - demonic realms      archē
3. Demons → different operations  
characteristics

# II. Our enemy is also spiritual powers

## What this meant for the Ephesians:

“**13** Then some of the itinerant Jewish exorcists undertook to invoke the name of the Lord Jesus over those who had evil spirits, saying, “I adjure you by the Jesus whom Paul proclaims.” **14** Seven sons of a Jewish high priest named Sceva were doing this. **15** But the evil spirit answered them, “Jesus I know, and Paul I recognize, but who are you?” **16** And the man in whom was the evil spirit leaped on them, mastered all of them and overpowered them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded. **17** And this became known to all the residents of Ephesus, both Jews and Greeks. And fear fell upon them all, and the name of the Lord Jesus was extolled.

**18** Also many of those who were now believers came, confessing and divulging their practices. **19** And a number of those who had practiced magic arts brought their books together and burned them in the sight of all. And they counted the value of them and found it came to fifty thousand pieces of silver. **20** So the word of the Lord continued to increase and prevail mightily.”

# III. Satan's current status

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## **A. Status under Christ and His resurrection.**

1. Defeated & triumphed over

- a. Colossians 2:15;
- b. Revelation 12:7-9

2. Chained:

- a. Jude 1:6
- b. 2Peter 2:4
- c. Revelation 20

## **B. What this means:**

1. The devil cannot accuse us before God.
2. The devil cannot deceive the nations as he did before Christ came.
3. The devil and demons know that their condemnation is sealed.



# III. Satan's current status

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## **C. Negatively:**

- 1.They are not totally powerless now.
- 2.They are not totally inactive now.
- 3.They are still plotting and scheming now.

## **D. What this means for the future. (2Thess 2; Rev. 20).**

# III. What is Paul's warning?

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- A. Satan has power to “devour” — that is, to destroy the professed faith of those who are not true believers. (1Peter 5:8; John 13:27).
- B. Satan and the demons have the power to tempt to sin. (Matthew 4:1; 1Cor. 7:5; 1Thess.3:5)
- C. Satan and the demons have the power to tempt to false doctrine. (See. 1Tim. 4:1; 2Peter 2:1;)

# Applications:

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- A. Satan and his demons, though formally defeated and chained in comparison to the times before Christ, yet have great power and influence.**
- B. A necessary part of persevering in the faith is to stand against Satan and the spiritual forces of this world.**
- C. The instrumentality by which we stand is the armor of God. That is, our perseverance depends upon our understanding what Paul is saying here in Ephesians 6.**