

## *A Call to Battle (Ephesians 6:10-20)*

- I. **Introduction**
  - A. An involuntary war
  - B. War in the context of a peaceful epistle ('already' and 'not yet')
  - C. Reading the text
  - D. Outline of sermon: *The realm, the enemy, our resources*
- II. **The Realm of the Battle**
  - A. The sound of an approaching army's snare drum (Eph 4:1-5:13)
  - B. A call to the **war room** (Eph 5:11-6:9)
    1. Enemy and ally uniforms identified (5:11)
    2. A bugle call for all to awake (5:14)
    3. Warnings of the enemies land mines (5:15-5:21)
    4. The earthly realm of attack – *marriage, family, work* (5:22-6:9)
    5. You should not be surprised to be in the **war room**
  - C. A word from our General: **Eph 6:10-12**
  - D. Your corporal's understanding of Eph 6:10-12
    1. The battle is **real** so don't be caught off guard
    2. Ephesians 6 raises the ethical and moral instruction of '*The Household Table*' to a higher cosmic level
      - a. there are no unimportant individual sins
      - b. individuals affect the whole army (Achin, Jonah)
      - c. you are part of a battle of the ages (Genesis to Revelation)
    3. Though against an invisible force, our battle is not mystical
  - E. The battle is waged **in the Lord** (Eph 6:10)
- III. **Our Rival in the Battle**
  - A. Reconnaissance – knowing your enemy and how he operates
    1. the characteristics of the enemy
    2. a **host** – meaning there are **many** against us
    3. this enemy has taken down many saints through the ages
    4. this enemy uses force and fraud
  - B. How can our enemy be defeated?
    1. by using spiritual weaponry, not carnal (2 Cor 10:3-5)
    2. by the power of God guarantees victory (Eph 1:18, 1 Jn 4:4)
  - C. A consideration of some of the schemes of the devil and the source of power to defeat him.
  - D. Romans 8:31-37
- IV. **Our Resources in the Battle**
  - A. ***The armor of God*** – this armor and weapons are **given** you
  - B. ***Take up the whole armor***
  - C. ***Stand firm***
  - D. ***How to I put on the armor of God?***
    1. look to Christ!
    2. realize the power that He avails you!