

Ephesians 6:10-18:

As I said last time, this is one of the most important passages in all of the Holy Scriptures. In it, we are taught of a supernatural strength that we must possess if we would effectively resist our adversary the devil, who is the common/constant enemy of every Christian in the world.

Not only must you possess the strength and might of God, you must be equipped with the Armour of God, which is your primary defense, if you would withstand and stand in the evil day, when your adversary the devil attacks you. Ephesians 6:11/13.

“Be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might”

Remember: We walk (and war or resist the devil) by faith in God (not in the flesh), but in God’s strength and might!

One of Satan’s primary tactics is to get you to “war in the flesh” and in the world against other humans. He doesn’t want you to fight the good fight of faith; he wants to bring you down to his ground, he wants you to fight among yourselves in the world, and in so doing, to cripple you spiritually, by causing you to resist the wrong enemy! Ephesians 6:12

Now to each piece of the Armour of God: What is it? How do I put it on? How do I use it? First: What is it?

Truth, Righteousness, the Gospel of Peace, your Faith in Christ, your Salvation, the sword or weapon of the Holy Spirit, which is Word of God, and Prayer.

When you read “the Armour of God” understand that you may as well be reading, God is your Armour.

Genesis 15:1, 2 Samuel 22:1-4, Psalm 18:30-32, 119:114

Paul begins (here) by teaching us about each piece of the Armour of God in the imagery of a soldier readying for battle.

As the Ephesians read Paul’s letter, I have no doubt that they had a picture of a fully equipped Roman Soldier in their mind’s eye; this is how Paul set before them the “reality” of what would confront every one of them as Christians; what CONFRONTS every one of us as Christians!

First, “Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth”

Truth here is the Greek word “aletheia” which is NOT truth in and of itself, but truth uncovered and revealed. This is very important if you would “stand against the wiles of the devil”; truth does you no good in resisting Satan unless it is revealed to you, unless you understand it, believe it, and trust in it; and you practice it.

Think of the “truth” of the gospel of Christ; many know it, but do nothing with it. It is only when it is revealed/believed by faith, THEN it becomes effectual, ONLY THEN does it save!

Think of it this way, you could have a weapons belt with all of the tools and weapons of war at your disposal, but if you don’t put it on, if you have no experience in the use of it, what good is it for your defense?

Back to the Roman Soldier of Paul’s day, when they fought in battle, they girded up their loins. They were tightly girded about with a weapons belt or girdle that (not only carried their weapons), but also protected their lower torso and strengthened their lower back and hips, (their loins); this actually helped them “to stand” for long periods in battle.

How do we apply this passage to our Christian life today? How do you and I stand, having our loins gird about with truth?

Stand is a military term, it means stand firm and hold your ground like a soldier and warrior. To have your loins gird about with truth, THEN, is to be equipped, prepared, and ready (WITH TRUTH) in your hearts and minds. Ready for what? Ready to be tempted/confronted by the devil.

Paul laid the groundwork doctrinally, before he presented this practical use of TRUTH! Ephesians 1:13, 4:14-15, 17-25, 5:8-9

Remember, the truth of God not believed or practiced is truth that will do you no good. If you would stand against the devil's wiles, you must stand in the strength of the Lord, you can't do that unless you stand by faith upon His truth.

The greatest example of standing upon truth was in the Lord Jesus in His temptation, immediately after His baptism.

Note that He overcame Satan's temptations by PERFECT & SKILLED USE of the Word of God. AS A MAN, Jesus believed the truth and trusted it in the midst of His temptations!

Matthew 4:1-11, Hebrews 4:14-16

Beloved, the Lord Jesus is our great example of standing and resisting the devil with the truth! This is why it is so important for you to be well-versed and well-equipped with the truth.

The truth MUST be YOUR strength, your answer to the devil's attacks, fiery darts, his wiles & temptations!

Remember, your objective is TO STAND in the evil day, and to STILL be STANDING by faith in Christ and in the truth of His Word after every attack, after every skirmish, and after every confrontation from the wicked one.

1 Corinthians 16:13, 2 Corinthians 1:24, 1 Thessalonians 3:8, 2 Thessalonians 2:15, 1 Peter 5:12

And, you ought to know your enemy and adversary a little better after each attack; skirmish.

In closing, note that the first piece of the Armour of God is TRUTH:

Uncovered, revealed, believed Truth, and then righteousness, the gospel of peace, the shield of faith, the helmet of salvation, the Sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God, and then All Prayer.