

USING THE COMPLETE ARMOR OF GOD Ephesians 6:10-18

Introduction:

Life in general is full of warfare. We struggle with the common calamities of human life. If you are a Christian, you are not immune to warfare. Doesn't Christ tell us that a servant is not greater than his master? If they persecuted our Master Jesus, we will definitely face persecution because of our faith in Christ. Our battle is not against flesh and blood, but against principalities and powers. Therefore, we must arm ourselves with weapons- the full armor of God, in order to be able to defeat our adversary-Satan the devil; a deceiver, and a liar. It's obvious we can't win the battle without gaining strength from the Lord by getting on the complete armor of God.

I. The Christian's Strength V. 10

- A. Being strong in the Lord and in the power of His might
- B. Spiritual strength and courage are very necessary for our spiritual warfare.
- C. We have no sufficient strength of our own.
- D. All our sufficiency is of God.

II. The Christian must be well armed V. 11

- A. The command is to put on the whole Armor of God.
- B. We don't have any armor of our own that is bullet proof in any trying times.
- C. We must put on the armor of God, to be able to withstand the schemes of the devil.

III. The Christian's Enemies V.11-12 (John 15:18; Gal. 5:16-21; Jam. 4:7; 1 Pet. 5:8; Mark 16:17)

- A. Our battle is not against flesh and blood V. 12 Our combat is not against human enemies, but against an enemy who uses schemes and strategies –to out smart us.. Look beyond any person who calls himself or herself your enemy. Look at Satan who is using the person against you.
- B. He is a powerful enemy: principalities and powers- They are numerous, vigorous in the lives of persons and nations. Satan is the prince of darkness, while Christ is of Kingdom of light.

- C. Satan is the spiritual enemy of wickedness in high places, or heavenly places - wicked spirits.
- D. He strives to prevent our ascent to heaven.
- E. He tries to assault us in the things that pertain to our souls.

IV. The Christian's Armor or Duty V.13-17 (Rom. 13:12; 1 Thess. 5:8; 2 Cor. 6:7; 10:3-5). Our armors are both offensive and defensive.

- (1) The Christian must put on the whole armor of God, and then stand his ground, in order to withstand our enemies. V. 13
- (2) We must not yield to the devil's allurement and assaults, but oppose them- temptations and sore afflictions.
- (3) We must stand our ground; and having done all, to stand. Resist the devil and he will flee from you James 4:7. The defensive armor are:
 - A. Put on the belt of truth V. 14 –the belt is used to brace the armor tight against the body, and support daggers, swords, and other weapons. Believers have God's truth, which can defeat Satan's lies. Truth is our girdle.
 - B. Put on the Breastplate of Righteousness V. 14 – Breastplate, one is used to cover the breast and the other the back to protect the vital organs of the body. The righteousness of Christ implanted in us is our breastplate to fortify the heart against the attacks which Satan makes against us.
 - C. Your footgear or boot is to be ready for the spreading of the Gospel V. 15 – Boot is worn to protect against sharp objects, rocks, and thorns. The size of the task is too big and the negative responses are too much to handle. But the footgear God gives us is the motivation to continue to preach the Good News without giving up.
 - D. Put on the Shield of Faith V.16- Shield protects the body from blows and cuts. We will see Satan's attacks in the forms of insults, setbacks, and temptations. The shield of faith protects us from Satan's flaming arrows. This is an offensive weapon against Satan. Faith is the shield you can use to quench the fiery darts of Satan.
 - E. The Helmet of Salvation V. 17- Helmet protects the head from injuries to the head. Satan wants to make us doubt God, Jesus, and our salvation. The helmet of salvation protects our minds from doubting God's saving work for us through Christ Jesus.
 - F. The Sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God V. 17- Sword, is used to destroy the enemy and bring him to surrender. With the Word of God we can set an offensive attack against Satan the devil. We need to trust the Lord when we are tempted.