

Bat15 - **Standing Firm – Eph 6:10-18**

Well – we’re **finally wrapping up** our “**Side Series**”  
on the **Spiritual Battle** – that **started**  
**while** we were **studying** v-by-v thru **Daniel**

This is our **15th & Final Msg** - - & these **15 Msg’s**  
have really **been something** for me

Tho **I’ve taught** this Scripture **before**  
**This** series has really **been NEW & FRESH** For me

**Because God** has made the “**Steps for VICTORY**”  
in **the Spiritual Battle** - **more REAL to me** than ever before

& **I think** it’s **due** to **ME** being **IN** The **Spiritual Battle**  
**during** these **15 weeks** (& before)

& so – **to the extent** that **my own** Spiritual Battle & **this series**  
are **connected** . . . **I’m GRATEFUL** we’re **finishing**

**However** - Me **Being In** the **Spiritual Battle** During this series  
has **definitely caused** me (*Even more than normal*)  
to be **Focused - On the HOW**

If you **know me** – you **know** I’m **always anxious** to get to **the HOW**

As in “**HOW do I actually allow the Life of Jesus Christ**  
**to Truly CHANGE - My life**”

But my **normal Desire** – to **get** to the **HOW** – Has **been**  
**Greatly Magnified** during **this series**

***Because I (Personally) needed to Get to the HOW***

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So – **EVEN THO** I've really **tried** to **WEAVE THE HOW**  
into the **previous 14 msg's**

I **STILL wanted** to **wrap up** with a **SUMMARY OVERVIEW**  
of **HOW** to Put **ALL THIS** – Into **ACTION**

**Because Here's what I've Found:**

I've found **Many More Christians**  
who **KNOW the TRUTH** – than **KNOW the HOW**

**So here is our M.I.P. for this Final Msg**

**Don't just KNOW the TRUTH – KNOW the HOW**

**Don't be Satisfied** to Just "**Know the Truths**" of **The Spiritual Battle**

**Don't Stop Learning** - Until you **know the HOW !!**

***HOW do I actually PUT these Truths To Work – In my Life***

So - **Are you ready** for an **overall SUMMARY** of the **HOW** ??

**Let's Pray**

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**Let's review** the **beginning** of our **Eph 6 "Spiritual Battle"** text  
with the "**HOW**" **question** in our **minds**

**Ephesians 6:10–13 (NLT)**

**10 A final word: Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.**

(HOW do we do that? - HOW do we go about that?)

**11 Put on all of God's armor** (HOW do we DO that?) **so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil.** (That's the goal, & THAT is WHY we must learn the HOW)

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**12 For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places.** (This is a Spiritual Battle, in the Spiritual Realm, Against a Spiritual Enemy – & we have NO natural ability to fight this battle - we must learn HOW to Fight it - Spiritually)

**13 Therefore, put on every piece of God’s armor so you will be able to resist the enemy in the time of evil. Then after the battle you will still be standing firm.** (again – That’s the goal – to, after the battle – still be “Standing Firm”)

**Honestly – Many of us KNOW these truths**

The problem is - we DON’T KNOW (well enough) - HOW

**I KNOW that’s the case – because you TELL ME**

You say, **“Pastor Dave, I KNOW what I SHOULD be doing, but I just DON’T KNOW HOW . . .”**

**Thru-out this series – I’ve really tried to Focus on the “HOW” Because I’VE needed to GROW in the “HOW” Myself**

We’ve done THREE Specific Msg’s on HOW to “Put On” certain articles of the Armor

& I’ve tried to give you the “HOW” – in EACH of the other Msg’s

But Every Time I do - I STILL come away thinking **“I need to do MORE on the HOW”**

Because I REALLY DON’T want you to Just KNOW ABOUT The Spiritual Battle  
I want you to Learn - HOW to Live Victoriously IN the Spiritual Battle

But **HERE'S WHY** (I think) – **Every time** I teach **the HOW**  
it **feels like** – I **need to teach it more** . . . (*the reason is* )

Because **FULLY Learning** the **HOW** -  
**Actually** takes a **LIFETIME** of **Following JESUS**

But **don't be Discouraged** – It's a **Wonderful Journey**  
to **learn HOW** to be **more & more Victorious** in this **Battle**

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So **Today** – I'm going to **give you** (*in some ways - again*)  
the **SUMMARY "HOW"** - **For us** to  
**Continue** to **STAND FIRM** in the Battle

**HOW** to ***Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.*** (v.10)

**HOW** to ***Put on all of God's armor*** (v.11)

**HOW** to ***stand firm against all strategies of the devil*** (v.11)

Here **is My Three-Step** – **Summary** of **the "HOW"**

**#1) KNOW JESUS more & LOVE JESUS more**

**#2) GET A NEW MIND**

**#3) LEARN TO USE THE SWORD**

**THAT – is My Summary - of:**

**HOW** to **Be Strong** in the Lord

**HOW** to **Put on** ALL of **God's Armor** - &

**HOW** to **Stand Firm** against the enemy

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## **#1) KNOW JESUS more - LOVE JESUS more**

**Jesus IS the answer !!**

He is the **ENTIRE – COMPLETE - TOTAL ANSWER**

**JESUS** (Himself) - **IS the HOW**

This is **The MOST CRITICAL STEP**

in Learning **HOW to Stand Firm** in the **Spiritual Battle**

**Your VICTORY** in the **Spiritual Realm – IS IN Christ**

It is **IN your Identification** with **Jesus Christ**

**87 TIMES** in the N.T. the Phrase **“IN CHRIST”** - is used  
to **convey something** God has **Given us - “In Christ”**

& it **would take** that **many Weeks** to try to **convey**  
**ALL** that we **Receive** – by being **“IN CHRIST”**

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**Being “IN CHRIST” MEANS:**

***To be Fully Identified as ONE – with Christ***

& we **become “In Christ”** (*Fully Identified with Christ*)

thru **FAITH ALONE** – by us **putting** our **FAITH in Jesus**

**HOWEVER** – That **Initial Act** of **Putting our Faith** in **Christ**

is **Meant** to be **THE BEGINNING** of an **Ongoing – Increasing –**  
**Personal Relationship** with Him

**A Relationship** where you **increasingly KNOW HIM**

**& a Relationship** marked by your **Increasing LOVE for Him**

**& so - I say again - The FIRST Step  
to the HOW of Spiritual Battle Victory is**

**You must GROW in your RELATIONSHIP with JESUS - &  
You must GROW in your LOVE for HIM**

**Because having a Real & Growing Relationship  
IS what it MEANS – to be “Living In Christ”**

**& ONLY as you are “Living In Christ”  
will you have Victory in the Spiritual Battle**

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**In Fact - YOUR Victory in the Spiritual Battle  
It's Not even YOUR Victory – It's HIS Victory  
that He GIVES YOU – THRU your Relationship with Him**

**Colossians 2:13–15 (NLT)**

***13 You were dead because of your sins and because your sinful nature was not yet cut away. Then God made you alive with Christ, for he forgave all our sins.***

***14 He (Jesus) canceled the record of the charges against us and took it away by nailing it to the cross.***

***15 In this way, he (Jesus) disarmed the spiritual rulers and authorities. He shamed them publicly by his victory over them on the cross.***

**YOUR Role was - You were DEAD in Your Sin  
Jesus' ROLE was - to WIN The VICTORY – On your Behalf**

**Thru His Life – Death - & Resurrection  
Jesus Christ BECAME Your VICTORY**

& it is ONLY as you are Identified with Him THRU FAITH -  
& that FAITH Expressed in a REAL RELATIONSHIP

That you will be able to Experience the VICTORY  
that HE Won on Your Behalf - in the Spiritual Battle

**PLUS – Jesus Christ (Himself) actually IS Your Spiritual Armor**

Jesus IS Your TRUTH  
Jesus IS Your RIGHTEOUSNESS  
Jesus IS Your PEACE  
Jesus IS Your FAITH  
Jesus IS Your SALVATION  
Jesus IS the WORD OF GOD

So – Step #1 – to Standing Firm in the Spiritual Battle is  
KNOW JESUS more - LOVE JESUS more

SET Your LIFE to this End - & I PROMISE  
you will (more & more) Walk in VICTORY in this Battle

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**Step # 1) KNOW JESUS more - LOVE JESUS more**

**Step #2) GET A NEW MIND**

I believe one of the HARDEST Things – I've ever tried to do  
is convince someone - their THINKING is WRONG

Don't misunderstand me

I'm Not Saying - MY thinking is Right - & THEIRS is Wrong

I'm saying OUR THINKING (collectively) – IS WRONG

IF "OUR Thinking" – is COMING from OUR Nature  
you can be Pretty SURE – that it's WRONG !!!

Because the NATURE - of Our SIN NATURE  
is WRONG THINKING (*Meaning in opposition to God*)

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Some of you aren't happy - just hearing me SAY that

Which PROVES that you think your thinking is RIGHT  
Which PROVES all the more - You need a NEW MIND

We've made it SO CLEAR in this Series  
that the Spiritual Battle – is for Control of your MIND

FOUR of the Msg's in this Series – Have "Your MIND" in the Title

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The enemy wants to Influence Your MIND

Because if he can Influence Your MIND

He can Influence Your DECISIONS

& if he can Influence Your DECISIONS

he can Influence Your ACTIONS

& if he can Influence your ACTIONS long enough

He can DESTROY Your LIFE

& so – One More Time - - Romans 12:2 (NLT)

*2 Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think.*

Seriously – We need a NEW MIND - A New WAY of THINKING

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& so – I am going to get Super Practical Here  
talking about HOW to Get a NEW MIND

HOW do we CHANGE the WAY we THINK??

We REPLACE our Mind – with the MIND of Christ - &  
We REPLACE Our Thinking – with God's Thinking

The Bible is VERY CLEAR on REPLACING  
our Natural Thinking –with God's Truth

But FEW Christians – Ever do the Work Necessary  
to REPLACE our NATURAL Thinking – With God's TRUTH

Because it takes a LOT:

To RENEW A Mind

To REPLACE Wrong Thinking – with God's Thinking

& to be TRULY TRANSFORMED by it

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Now – What we're going to Discuss right now - Applies to BOTH  
How to GET A NEW MIND - &  
How to LEARN TO USE THE SWORD OF THE SPIRIT

This is a SUMMARY Answer

To HOW you can begin to Learn – to DO BOTH

Joshua 1:8 (IN THE ESV)

*8 This Book of the Law (God's Word) shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it . . .*

In a NUTSHELL – In a SUMMARY  
THIS is HOW we GET A NEW MIND

- 1) Have God's Word ALWAYS on Your Lips
- 2) MEDITATE on it day & night
- 3) Make sure that you DO all that it says

Do you want your life to Be Transformed  
BY the RENEWING of Your Mind?

Then LEARN to:

ALWAYS have God's Word on your Lips  
MEDITATE on it Day & Night  
DO all that it says to do

& the END of that Vs (Jos 1:8) says - *For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success*

**THAT is HOW you GET A NEW MIND !!**

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So – Now you Want to say – *HOW* do I learn to do THAT

& THAT – is NOT Easy to COMMUNICATE  
In a SUMMARY Message

But let me try to INSPIRE you - to BEGIN Learning  
HOW to Get a New Mind – BY God's Word

Guys - THIS is *THE BIG AREA* !!

This is Where - we KNOW Jesus more & LOVE Jesus more

This is Where - we GET a NEW MIND

This is Where – we LEARN to USE the SWORD of the Spirit

**AS we Learn HOW to:**

**ALWAYS have God's Word on our Lips**

**MEDITATE on God's Word Day & Night**

**DO all that it says to do**

***THIS is the SOURCE from Which ALL the "HOW" Emanates***

We **need to learn** how to **do this** – **Focused Specifically** on **the Area** of our **Life** – that **God** needs to **TRANSFORM**

So **Let me Again Recommend a Book** I've **made reference** to a **Number of times** in this series

**TONY EVANS – Victory in Spiritual Warfare**

In the **BACK** of this Book – **PART 4** is called **Victory Over Strongholds**

& **THERE** – you will **Find a WEEKLY Plan** to **GET A NEW MIND** – **IN Specific Areas** of your life

**Here are the Areas of Life He focuses On**

**Marriage**

**Chemical Addictions**

**Sexual Strongholds**

**Gambling**

**Food Strongholds**

**Emotional Strongholds**

**Money Strongholds**

In **each of these** areas He **gives you 6 days** of **APPLYING God's Word** to this specific area

& **then** you **Continue** to **REPEAT THAT** each week

& **AS** you Learn to do this

I would recommend - A WORD & PRAYER JOURNAL

**Where** you write down God's Word –

to Meditate on it & to Pray it - every day (*in this specific area*)

& if will Continue to DO THAT - the Supernatural Power  
of the Word of God will - GIVE YOU A NEW MIND

The other book I would recommend – to Learn HOW to do this  
is Beth Moore's – *Praying God's Word*

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Now – there's MUCH MORE to this - than I can get into here

**But I promise you**

if you will SET YOURSELF to LEARNING HOW to do this

& Get a GOOD Discipler – to HELP you

Learning to Daily APPLY The Word of God in this way

WILL GIVE YOU - A NEW MIND

& again – This approach (that you'll see in these books)

**APPLIES to BOTH: GETTING A NEW MIND - &**  
**LEARNING TO USE THE SWORD**

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So – The Summary "HOW" - To Standing Firm in the Battle

**#1) KNOW JESUS more - LOVE JESUS more**

**#2) GET A NEW MIND**

## **And #3) LEARN TO USE THE SWORD**

*The Sword of the Spirit – Which IS the Word of God*

### **We've Got to Learn**

**HOW** to **Use the Sword** of The Spirit  
& **WHERE** to **Use the Sword** of The Spirit

The **Truth IS** – **MOST Christians**

Who would **consider themselves MATURE** Christians

### **DO NOT have a Good HANDLE**

on **HOW** to Use the **Sword of the Spirit**  
or **WHERE** to Use the **Sword of the Spirit**

& **if you** want to **STAND FIRM** in the **Spiritual Battle**

You're **going** to **have to CHANGE THAT**

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Now – Our **Last 2 Msgs** were **centered around**

the **HOW** & the **WHERE** of **USING** the **Word of God**

2 **Msg's Ago** we **looked** at **HOW** we use **the Sword of the Spirit**  
to actually **PUT ON** – **EVERY Article** of the **Armor**

**EVERY Article** of the **Armor** – Is **BASED On** - & **Comes FROM**  
**The Sword of the Spirit** – Which is **the Word of God**

& then **LAST Msg** we **looked** at the **Biblical Foundation**  
of **WHERE** to use the **Sword of the Spirit**  
(*on The Battlefield of Prayer*)

**So today** – we're **JUST Going to Look** (Briefly)

at the **PRACTICAL SIDE** – of **LEARNING** the **Word of God**

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**When** the **Times** of **Spiritual Battle Come** into your life

**HOW** are you **going** to **ACCESS** the **Word of God**  
**In order** to use it **Immediately** on the Enemy??

**The other night** – **about 3am** – we had **some kids**  
**messing around** in **front** of our **house** (*nothing I'm sure*)

But I was **thinking** to myself, “***Ok, how long will it take me to get to my shotgun, & shells, & get back out here if necessary . . .***”

**Have** you **THOUGHT** that way  
about **USING** the **Word of God** - **IN the Spiritual Battle ??**

**When** the **Enemy strikes**, **HOW LONG** will it **take you** to  
**Get your Sword**, Get the **Right Ammo** - & **Get** on **the battlefield?**

I was **reading** about a **wife** who **wasn't fond** of her **husband** always  
**taking his shotgun** with them when they **walked** their dog (In TX)

He would **always keep** if “**Broken Open**”  
& **laying over** his **forearm** as they **walked**

Then **one evening** - Suddenly **the Dog** she was **walking**  
tried to **LUNGE ahead** & She **pulled back** on the leash to stop him

& in **one movement** her husband **Flipped** his **shotgun closed**  
& shooting from the **Hip** - **blew the head off** a **Rattlesnake**  
that was **just in front of her** & her dog

& guys - that Old Serpent – The Devil  
Is Somewhere ahead on Your Trail

When he raises his ugly head in your life  
Are you going to have your weapon ready – to BLOW it OFF ?

Because if NOT – He will STRIKE  
& he will do as much DAMAGE as he can

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We have GOT to LEARN – How to Instinctively USE  
the Weapon of our Warfare

We've got to be able – in One Movement – to Lock & Load –  
& BLOW THE HEAD OF THE ENEMY OFF

We've GOT to Learn HOW to Use it – from the Hip - &  
We've GOT to Learn HOW to Carry it – On our Spiritual Walk

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So Just a few Brief Suggestions  
about HOW to Learn - HOW to USE - the Sword of The Spirit

1) Get GOOD at using OUR OWN Scripture By Topic

It's available on Both the church website  
& on the WordByMail Phone App

Use it – Practice with it

Practice Praying the Scriptures  
Practice Using the Scriptures in the Daily Devotion Journal  
Get a Discipler to practice together using those Scriptures

**2) the Two Resources I already mentioned**

**Both have a TON of Scripture by TOPIC in them**

**TONY EVANS – Victory in Spiritual Warfare**

**BETH MOORE – Praying God's Word**

**BOTH have a TON of Scripture**

**Written Out as PRAYERS - & for JOURNALING**

**START there – then KEEP LEARNING**

**Get a Discipleship Partner - & KEEP LEARNING**

**So when the Serpent Shows up on the path**

**You can BLOW HIS HEAD OFF**

**Hebrews 4:12 (IN THE ESV)**

***12 For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.***

**& THAT is exactly what we need - When the Enemy starts trying to INFLUENCE our MINDS - & our ACTIONS**

**We MUST KNOW HOW to Quickly & Effectively**

**USE the Sword of the Spirit – which is the Word of God**

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**I wanted to End this Series**

**with some Very Practical Encouragement**

**Because I want to INSPIRE YOU to continue LEARNING**

**HOW to STAND FIRM in The Spiritual Battle**



**Because I HATE** seeing the **Enemy TAKE OUT Christians** So Easily  
& **I HATE** the **idea** that he **could TAKE ME OUT** the same way

We have **GOT** to **be READY to RESPOND**

We have GOT to **be READY – To STAND FIRM**

*(PRAY THIS)*

### **Ephesians 6:10–18 (NLT)**

***10 A final word: Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.***

***11 Put on all of God's armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil.***

***12 For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places.***

***13 Therefore, put on every piece of God's armor so you will be able to resist the enemy in the time of evil. Then after the battle you will still be standing firm.***

***14 Stand your ground, putting on the belt of truth and the body armor of God's righteousness.***

***15 For shoes, put on the peace that comes from the Good News so that you will be fully prepared.***

***16 In addition to all of these, hold up the shield of faith to stop the fiery arrows of the devil.***

***17 Put on salvation as your helmet, and take the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.***

***18 Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere.***