

Spiritual Warfare Series
“The Sword of the Spirit”

Pastor Cleve Smith

June 9, 2024

Ephesians 6:17

As we began this series, we pointed out these things from Ephesians 6:10-17:

1. Our responsibility in the battle is to stand firm.
2. The enemy is spiritual, not physical.
3. The devil has a strategy to keep us out of the fight!
4. Each piece of armor suggests a particular weapon of the enemy.

Belt of TRUTH is needed to battle DECEPTION. (vs. 14)

Sandals of PEACE are needed to battle DIVISION. (vs. 15)

Shield of FAITH is needed to battle DISCOURAGEMENT (vs. 16)

Today, the last two pieces of armor are designed to battle DISTRACTION. (vs. 17)

“And take THE HELMET OF SALVATION, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God” (6:17)

How do these two pieces of armor remind us of what is most important as we battle?

1. The helmet of salvation reminds us of our position in Him.
 - a. The battle is fought in our head and mind.
 - b. The devil wants us to doubt our eternal security.

2. The sword of the Spirit reminds us of His promises to us.
 - a. The sword is supplied by the Holy Spirit.
 - b. The actual word of God is to be applied to specific situations.

A Final Challenge

(adapted from "Spiritual Warfare in the Storyline of Scripture" by William Cook III and Chuck Lawless)

1. Spend time studying the greatness of God.
2. Deal with any open doors for the enemy in your life.
3. Stand firm in the armor of God, and press on in obedience.
4. Tell somebody about the victory you have in Christ.

Memory Verse

Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil.

Ephesians 6:11

Richard Allen: Pray for Robert Utter, he is in hospice.

Karen Boss: Praise: I would just like to say a big thank you to Donna, Susie, Vickie & Rick for all their help w/Sunday morning coffee. They have been a blessing!

Donna Danielson: Nate-struggling w/meds showing adverse effects, does not know Jesus. Judy & Ben-cancer. David-leaving for S. Korea on the 8th, w/out family for a year.

Jodi Holloway: Pray for my sister Cindee's upcoming cancer treatments chemo & continued strength.

Nicole Jenkins: Prayers for my dad Dave GreenLee, been in the hospital. The Yabarra family & Ana who lost her infant recently. My brother's patience & understanding taking care of dad down south.

Cheryl Lindner: Praise: brother Mark has pulmonary fibrosis, but at a recent dr appt they found his lungs have improved. God is healing him, slowly in answer to prayer.

Cathy Mallow: Foot surgery 6/6, pray for a speedy recovery.

Alicea McCann: Charlie, Theo, Nash, Lindsey, Michael-healing. Trenah, Jeff, Erick-do not know Him.

Halie Osburn: Prayers for my husband Matt as he will be traveling a lot these next few months for work.

Jennifer Pinyan: Pray for Justin-a friend's nephew in a very bad dirt bike accident.

Carolyn Potts: Salvation for family. My friend Carol. Strengthen me in witnessing for you Lord. Bill Siem who recently suffered a stroke.

Gini Russell: Comfort for Evie & family mourning the loss of her sister. Alice-recovering from surgery. Jordan. Mom-vision. Molly-seizures cease & right med. Neil-heart issues.

Sara Stiers: Pray for Dana Berger recovering from knee surgery & take away her pain as she heals.

Chuck Thiele: For my kids & grandkids. Oldest sons' family able to find a house. Luke & Beth Ann as they plan their upcoming wedding & marriage. Andrea-dealing w/depression.

Jeanne Weisser: Dad-progress from treatment. Salvation-Naomi. Miracles for Wren, Everest, Alaska. Comfort/wisdom-Sam, Sydney & family. Morgan-softened heart. Healing-Ken, Cindy, Ryan. Blessing for Dillon. Jorgia heart valve healing.

Rick Wintermute: Pray for my cousin Scott in Loveland, CO. In much pain from cancer. We believe it is a short time for him. He is a believer.