

- I) V10-13 INTRO: Finally my brethren be strong in the Lord and in the power of
- II) As we come to this portion of his letter, Paul now speaks of spiritual warfare
- III) I remind you that Ephesians can be broken into three words: **Sit, Walk, Stand**  
From Ch. 1 to Ch. 3, he wrote concerning our **position** in Jesus  
Eph 2:6 tells us that We are **seated with Christ** in heavenly places
- IV) He taught that believers are blessed with every spiritual blessing  
He said we are **chosen** in Him, **holy** and **without blame**, **adopted**, **accepted** in the Beloved, **redeemed** through His blood, **forgiven** of sins, **have obtained** an inheritance, **sealed** with the Spirit of promise Who **guarantees** our inheritance until He takes us to be with Him resulting in **praise to His glory**
- V) We who are Gentiles have been grafted into the Vine  
We're **heirs** of the same body, partakers of His promise in Jesus **by the gospel**
- VI) Because this is true, as Christians we need to know we are seated in Jesus  
This knowledge gives us security and establishes our confidence
- VII) We have **boldness**, **access** to God and **confidence** through faith in Jesus  
Heb 4:16 Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.
- VIII) From there, Paul became to speak of the walk of the believer  
Our walk originates with our understanding of who we are in Him
- IX) Ch 4: As believers, we **walk worthy** of the call  
We have lowliness, gentleness, longsuffering, love for one another  
We are in in the Spirit, we keep the unity in the bond of peace, in one hope
- X) We respect and listen to our spiritual leaders, and we exercise our gifts  
We do the work of ministry, and as we mature we reject false teaching  
We live holy lives, speak truth, reject carnal anger, live honest lives and are generous to others. We reject corrupt words, and instead edify one another  
This works itself out in our marriages, our families, and our work places
- I) We now enter in to the third portion of the letter: **Spiritual warfare**

- II) V10 Finally my brethren be **strong in the Lord** and in **the power of His might**  
You know who you are, and you know how you are to live  
Now, you must learn how to fight
- III) The battle you are in is not a battle against human enemies  
The battle you are in is spiritual in nature and you need God's Spirit to win
- IV) V10 Paul says to be **strong in the Lord** and in the power of **His might**  
This is **internal** strength: be filled with power; strengthen your resolve
- V) Our confidence is in **His** might: Power, ability, strength  
Jer 32:27 "Behold, I am the LORD, the God of all flesh. Is anything too hard for me?"
- VI) Your strength for the battle comes from God and not from yourself  
Ps 20:7 Some boast in chariots and some in horses, but we will boast in the **name of the LORD**, our God
- VII) V11 Put on the **whole armor of God** that you may be able to stand against  
Putting on the whole armor of God is standing in the completeness of Jesus
- VIII) This is another application of being strong in the power of **His might**  
Ro 13:14 But **put on** the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts.
- IX) Because of our position in Him, we are clothed in His righteousness  
It is **His** righteousness that we stand in (Eph 4:13)  
Eph 4:24 put on the new self, created **to be like God** in true righteousness and holiness
- X) This is for us to be able to **stand** (firm) against the wiles (tactics) of the devil  
We are about to enter a detailed study on Spiritual warfare
- XI) For the next few studies, I will systematically teach on two things
  - I) The **origin** of Spiritual Warfare, and the **weapons** of our Warfare

- II) The position I will be teaching from is from the position of the *Victor*  
This is because **the war** has already been won by Jesus
- III) In the NT, Jesus is declared to be the **conqueror** of Satan  
This victory was determined from eternity and fulfilled on the cross  
Rev 13:8 All inhabitants of the earth will worship the beast—all whose names have not been written in the Lamb's book of life, the Lamb who was slain **from the creation of the world.**
- IV) God's plan for salvation was revealed very early in human history
- V) After Adam and Eve fell, God immediately declared His plan of redemption  
He would send **a redeemer** who would destroy the works to the enemy  
Gen 3:15 (God said to Satan) I will put enmity between you and the woman (Eve), and between your seed and her Seed (Messiah); He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel (on the cross)"
- VI) This is something that is declared in the NT  
Heb 2:14-15 Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of **flesh and blood**, He Himself likewise shared **in the same**, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.
- VII) Satan promotes sin, and **death** followed as its penalty  
Because of this he is presented as having the **power of death**
- VIII) Jesus took upon Himself human flesh, and became a substitute for us  
He took upon human flesh that He might render Satan inoperative  
It was Satan's activity that introduced sin, and death followed as its penalty
- IX) Jesus **destroyed** him through His work of salvation on our behalf  
**Destroy:** To render powerless; to make inoperative  
In Jesus' resurrection, He conquered Sin, the Grave, and the Devil
- I) This means that, by virtue of the fact that we are in Him, we too have victory

1 Co 15:55-57 O death, where is your sting? O grave, where is your victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

II) As the result of His victory believers possess a tremendous blessing

We are **already** more than conquerors because of Jesus

Ro 8:35 -37 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, for your sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. No, in all these things we are **more than conquerors** through him who loved us.

III) The war has already been won, but the battles continue

It is a spiritual war, and our enemies are not visible

The strategies that are planned against us are not human derives

IV) This means that we need to be constantly aware of this

2 Co 10:3-5 For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds; Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ

V) V11 So Paul says **put on** the whole armor of God

*Put on* permanently: be in a state of rest, sink into; put on **once for all**

We have put on Christ and His righteousness: be mindful of this

VI) God's armor **is not** to be put on occasionally, and then removed

Wear it at **all times** because you are in a *constant* state of war

VII) V11 Paul identifies our enemy as the **devil** (slanderer, accuser)

Our enemy is identified by various names throughout the Bible

Abaddon (destruction), Accuser, Adversary, Apollyon (destroyer), Beelzebub, Belial, the great red dragon, the god of this age, Lucifer, Murderer, Prince of the power of the air, Satan (adversary) and the Serpent

I) Just who is the Devil and how did he become the enemy of God and man

- II) **FIRST: Satan is a *fallen angel***  
Some say that he is equal to God
- III) He is *infinitely* less than God  
He was created, along with all other creation  
Col 1:16 For in Him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through Him and for Him.
- IV) He was most likely created before God created the heavens and the earth  
Job 38:4,7 Where were you when *I laid the foundations of the earth*? Declare, if you have understanding. (V7) When the *morning stars* sang together, and all the *sons of God* shouted for joy?
- V) In the beginning *a great host* was created, consisting of billions of angels  
Satan rebelled and drew away a great number of angels with him  
Rev. 12:3-4 There appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great red dragon...And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven...
- VI) The great host that fell with him make up his system of *government*
- VII) V12 For we do not *wrestle* against flesh and blood  
This speaks of a battle, a struggle, *not against men* but against *demons*  
Our battle is *spiritual* and not against *human* strength and authority
- VIII) Paul gives 4 levels of authority and power that exist in Satan's *government*  
This speaks of organized warfare: it has strategies  
2 Co 2:11 lest Satan should take advantage (outmaneuver) of us; for we are not ignorant *of his devices* (schemes)
- IX) Principalities: Chief ranking demons  
Powers: This is power delegated to lesser demons from chief demons  
Rulers (world): demons who influence politics or influence countries  
Of this age: An age overshadowed by corruption and sin, rejecting God
- I) Spiritual hosts: soldiers (demons) provoking vile and wretched immoralities  
They influence evil passions like greed, lust, violence, hatred, perversions  
They influence laws, customs, opinions, values, evil inventions

They promote false doctrine and cults, doctrinal error and divisions

II) QUESTION: Has Satan always been God's adversary

No: At one time he was a guardian cherub holding great authority

Ezek 28:12-17 Son of man, take up a lament concerning the king of Tyre and say to him: `This is what the Sovereign LORD says: "You were the **model of perfection**, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty. You were in Eden, the garden of God; every precious stone adorned you: ruby, topaz, and emerald, chrysolite, onyx and jasper, sapphire, turquoise and beryl. Your settings and mountings were made of gold; on the **day you were created** they were prepared. You were anointed as a **guardian cherub**, for so I ordained you. You were on the holy mount of God; you walked among the fiery stones. You were **blameless** in your ways from the day you were **created** till wickedness was found in you. Through your widespread trade you were filled with violence, and **you sinned**. So I drove you in disgrace from the mount of God, and **I expelled you**, O guardian cherub, from among the fiery stones. Your heart **became proud** on account of your beauty, and you corrupted your wisdom because of your splendor. So I threw you to the earth; I made a spectacle of you before kings.

III) THE BIBLE IS CLEAR: Pride led to his rebellion

Ezekiel wrote: Your heart became proud on account of your beauty

Wickedness, or Iniquity was found in him and he sinned (Pride) and he fell

IV) Isaiah records what have been called Satan's 5 "I Will's"

Is 14:12-14 How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How you are cut down to the ground, You who weakened the nations! For you have said in your heart: **I will** ascend into heaven, **I will** exalt my throne above the stars of God; **I will** also sit on the mount of the congregation on the farthest sides of the north; **I will** ascend above the heights of the clouds, **I will** be like the Most High.'

V) I will ascend: I deserve heaven, by my own power and beauty and will preside over the angels

- I) I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will be worshiped by angels
- I will sit on the mount of the congregation: Mt. Zion, where God is worshipped
- I will ascend above the heights of the clouds: I will reach unattainable heights
- I will **be like** the Most High: I shall be equal to God in every way

- II) What was God's reaction to this rebellion  
Ezek 28:17 Your heart became proud on account of your beauty, and you corrupted your wisdom because of your splendor. So, I threw you to the earth
- III) When he fell, he determined to make war on God and His creation  
He entered Eden and began warfare against man  
He continues in his warfare to this day
- IV) V11 Paul warned us against the wiles (schemes, battle plans) of the devil  
I mentioned this earlier
- V) What are some of the battle plans of Satan? *How does he dispirit Us?*  
FIRST: He casts doubt on God's Word, and God's character (Gen 3:1-5)  
Jn 8:44 "He is a liar, and the father of lies."
- VI) SECOND: He convinces people that they do not need salvation through Jesus  
2 Co 4:4 The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.
- VII) He **convinces people** that God does not mean what He says  
He has all media at his disposal: The internet, TV, radio, newspapers, magazines, books, movies, music, education, the judicial system, and political systems are all influenced by him
- VIII) These systems promote the spiritual climate that rejects Jesus Christ  
He does not destroy faith, he misdirects it to the wrong savior  
1 Jn 4:3 Every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you have heard is coming and even now is already in the world.
- I) THIRD: He inspires Bad doctrine, saying things about God that are not true:  
Since truth sets you free, he inspires error to keep you in bondage  
1 Ti 4:1 Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons



- II) V13 Take up the **whole armor of God** that you may be able to *withstand*  
*What are we to do*
- III) We are to be aware of his tactics and fight the spiritual battle  
1 Pe 5:6-9 Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, *walks about, seeking whom he may devour*: Whom resist steadfast in the faith
- IV) We are to withstand that we may stand  
WITHSTAND: Set yourself in opposition to; resist, oppose  
STAND: To stand still, to stand immovable, stand firmly planted  
Oppose until you are the last one standing
- V) We know that Jesus has overcome, and that He strengthens us for battle  
1 Pe 3:22 who has gone into heaven and is at God's right hand—with angels, authorities, and powers in submission **to Him**.
- VI) Paul reveals that God has given to us an armor that we wear in these battles  
We will look at them in detail in the next few weeks
- VII) REMEMBER: We fight from the position of victors, not victims  
Satan is already defeated and ends up in the Lake of Fire  
Rev 20:10 And **the devil**, who deceived them, was thrown into the lake of burning sulfur, where the beast and the false prophet had been thrown. They will be tormented day and night **for ever and ever**.