

Ephesians

The Church: Christ's Body to a Broken World

Ephesians 6:10-24 – Part 1

Ephesians - The Supremacy of the Church Christ's Body to a Broken World		
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Our Wealth	Our Walk	Our War
We Are Rich in Christ (1:3)	We Are Responsible in Christ (4:1)	We Are Ruling with Christ (6:10)

A. Our ENEMY

1. The STRENGTH to face our enemy

Ephesians 6:10 (ESV)

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might.

Romans 8:37 (ESV)

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

1 John 4:4b (ESV)

... he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.

1 John 2:14b (ESV)

... I write to you, young men, because you are strong, and the word of God abides in you, and you have overcome the evil one.

Luke 12:35 (ESV)

Stay dressed for action and keep your lamps burning,

2. The STRATEGY of our enemy

Ephesians 6:11 (ESV)

Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.

3. The STRUCTURE of our enemy

Ephesians 6:12 (ESV)

For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.

➤ Rulers

These are TERRITORIAL spirits

1 John 5:19 (ESV)

We know that we are from God, and the whole world lies in the power of the evil one.

Deuteronomy 32:8 (ESV)

When the Most High gave to the nations their inheritance, when he divided mankind, he fixed the borders of the peoples according to the number of the sons of God.

Exodus 12:12 (ESV)

For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the Lord.

➤ **Authorities**

These are TEACHING spirits

1 Timothy 4:1 (ESV)

Now the Spirit expressly says that in later times some will depart from the faith by devoting themselves to deceitful spirits and teachings of demons,

➤ **Powers**

These are TORMENTING spirits

Luke 13:10–11 (ESV)

Now he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. And behold, there was a woman who had had a disabling spirit for eighteen years. She was bent over and could not fully straighten herself.

➤ **Forces**

These are TEMPTING spirits

James 1:14–15 (ESV)

But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

B. Our EQUIPMENT

Ephesians 6:13–17 (ESV)

Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God

1. The PRIORITY of Our Equipment

Ephesians 6:13 (ESV)

Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm.

Romans 13:14 (ESV)

But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

2. The PIECES of Our Equipment

➤ **The Belt of Truth**

Ephesians 6:14 (ESV)

Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth...

Jesus is the Person of Truth.

John 14:6 (ESV)

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

The Bible is the Word of Truth.

2 Timothy 3:16-17 (ESV)

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work.

The Spirit is the Spirit of Truth.

John 16:13 (ESV)

When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come.

The Church is the pillar and supporting structure of Truth

1 Timothy 3:14–15 (ESV)

I hope to come to you soon, but I am writing these things to you so that, if I delay, you may know how one ought to behave in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, a pillar and buttress of the truth.

➤ **The Breastplate of Righteousness**

Ephesians 6:14b (ESV)

Stand therefore, ... having put on the breastplate of righteousness,

Positional Righteousness – The Assurance of our Salvation in Christ

This is also called Imputed righteousness

2 Corinthians 5:21 (ESV)

For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Philippians 3:8–9 (ESV)

Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith—

Practical Righteousness – The Activation of our Salvation in Christ

This is also called Imparted righteousness

Ephesians 4:24 (ESV)

and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.

Philippians 2:12–13 (ESV)

Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

➤ ***The Shoes of Peace***

Ephesians 6:15 (ESV)

...and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace.

John 14:27 (ESV)

²⁷ Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.

Positional Peace – Peace with God

Romans 5:1 (ESV)

¹ Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Potential Peace – Peace of God

Philippians 4:6–7 (ESV)

⁶ do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Ephesians 2:13–14 (ESV)

¹³ But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴ For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility

Powerful Peace – God of Peace

Romans 16:20 (ESV)

²⁰ The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

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A. Our _____

1. The _____ to face our enemy

2. The _____ of our enemy

3. The _____ of our enemy

B. Our _____

1. The _____ of Our Equipment

2. The _____ of Our Equipment

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