

Ephesians 6:10-13 Preparing For Battle

Verse 10

Finally, be strong in the Lord – Literally, “*be strengthened in the Lord.*” We rely on the Lord for His strength.

And in the strength of His might -

Strength = Power or dominion.

Might = Ability, force, or strength. It is God’s mighty power!

Deuteronomy 31:6 - *Be strong and courageous, do not be afraid or tremble at them, for the LORD your God is the one who goes with you. He will not fail you or forsake you.*”

1 Samuel 30:6b – *But David strengthened himself in the Lord his God.*

Verse 11

Put on the full armor of God – This command explains how we are to carry out the exhortation to be strong in the Lord. The strength of His might is realized in the armor of God.

That you may be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil –

We fight from a position of victory already won!

SIT – Our position, seated with Christ.

WALK – Based on our position in Christ.

STAND – We must first SIT, then WALK before we can STAND!

SIT – WALK – STAND:

1 – We fight from a position of victory already won. Jesus has won and we are in Him.

2 – We do not TAKE possession, we STAND IN possession.

3 – We do fight FOR victory, we STAND to maintain what has already been won.

Our warfare is mainly defensive. We do not have to take the ground but we are to defend it.

Jesus was the One who won the offensive battle. He defeated death when He rose from the grave.

The schemes of the devil –

Schemes = *methodeia*. These are the devil’s methods which involve cunning, deceit, and trickery.

Devil = *diabolos*. One who is prone to slander and false accusation.

The schemes of the devil –

1 – Mixing error with just enough truth to make it appear plausible (Gen. 3:4-5).

2 – Quoting (misquoting) Scripture (Matt. 4:6).

3 – Masquerading as an angel of light (2 Cor. 11:14).

4 – Promising that good can be attained through wrongdoing (Luke 4:6-7).

Deception – He is the father of lies (John 8:44).

Doubt – He always challenges the truth of God’s word (Gen. 3:1).

Discouragement – He wants to make us think that our failures are permanent and that we should give up (2 Cor. 2:10-11).

Division – His wisdom causes strife and division (James 3:14-16).

Disillusionment – Why has God not blessed! I’ve been obedient so God should bless me (Job).

If we are going to stand against our enemy we should know his schemes!

Verse 12

For our struggle is not against flesh and blood – The source of our struggle is not primarily other human beings. We need to learn to see beyond the person to what is influencing the person.

But against...

The rulers – Stressing their authority.

The powers – Stressing their strength.

The world forces of this darkness – Stressing their world-wide influence.

The spiritual forces of wickedness – Stressing their evil character.

In the heavenly places – This is the heavenly, angelic sphere of operation. This phrase is used five times in the New Testament, all in Ephesians (1:3, 1:20, 2:6, 3:10, 6:12).

During the tribulation Satan and his angels will be thrown down from heaven to the earth (Revelation 12:9-10).

Verse 13

Therefore, take up the full armor of God, that you may be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm.

Resist = *anti* + *histemi* – To stand against.

Stand = *histemi* – To stand

Using God’s provision, His full armor, we stand for Him and against the devil.