



EPHESIANS 6 PART 2

Jesus told us plainly that in this world we would have tribulation. He described the path to life as narrow and difficult, a reality that every true disciple of Christ will face. The moment we are adopted into the family of God—chosen, redeemed, and sealed by the Holy Spirit—we are enlisted into a spiritual war. This is not a battle against flesh and blood, but against an enemy who despises our King and, therefore, despises us. Before we can ever hope to stand firm in this conflict, we must first be grounded in our identity. We are children of the Most High God, and our security is not found in our own strength or righteousness, but in the unshakable foundation of who we are in Christ.

Our enemy is real, formidable, and cunning. He is a master of trickery and disguise, masquerading as an angel of light to sow doubt and distort the truth. He prowls about like a roaring lion, seeking to devour, but he is a cheap imitation of the one true Lion of the tribe of Judah. We must not underestimate his power, but neither should we give him too much credit. He is a created being with limited power and authority, already defeated by the cross. Our focus is not on the schemes of the devil, but on the overwhelming power of our God. We do not fight for victory; we fight from a victory that has already been decisively won. This study is a call to be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might, to stand firm on the finished work of Jesus, and to walk confidently as more than conquerors through Him who loved us.

Study Questions:

1. The Christian life is often described as a spiritual battle or war. How does Paul's call to "be strong in the Lord" set the stage for this conflict, and what does it mean to be enlisted in God's army? (Ephesians 6:10; 2 Timothy 2:3-4; Deuteronomy 20:4)
2. The enemy often comes disguised as an angel of light or a roaring lion to deceive and intimidate believers. What are the biblical keys to discerning between false righteousness and true holiness? (2 Corinthians 11:14-15; 1 Peter 5:8-9; Matthew 7:15-16; Galatians 1:8)
3. Jesus describes the path to life as narrow and difficult. How does this reality contrast with the idea that following God eliminates all problems, and why is this difficult path also described as joyous and blessed? (Matthew 7:13-14; John 16:33; Psalm 16:11)
4. Satan is described as a formidable but limited enemy—a created being who is not all-knowing or all-powerful. How does understanding the devil's limitations give us courage in battle, knowing Christ is far above all principalities and powers? (1 John 4:4; Colossians 2:15; Job 1:12; Daniel 10:12-13)
5. To "stand" against the enemy means to hold a firm, aggressive position on God's truth in the face of opposition. Where in Scripture have you seen individuals take a stand for God against cultural or religious pressure? (Daniel 3:16-18; Acts 4:18-20; 1 Kings 18:21)