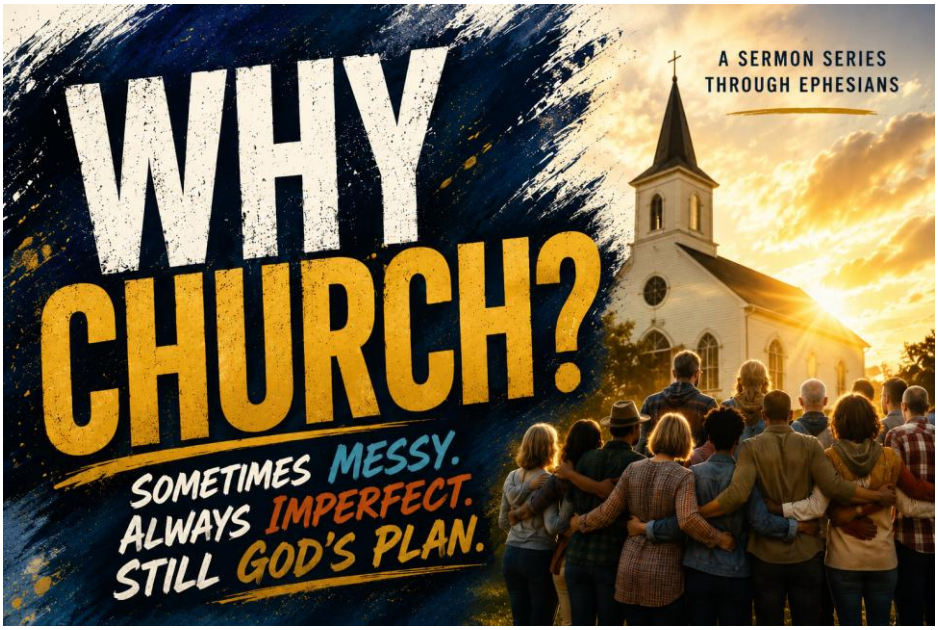


More than Meets the Eye
Ephesians 6:10-20

What comes to mind when you hear the word *devil*? For some, their answer is, “Nothing, because I don’t believe he exists.” We could call this position **pretending:** living as though there is no spiritual enemy to consider.

For others, we could call their response **playful.** For them, the devil brings to mind a character in red pajamas, with a pointed tail and a pitchfork.

Then there are those who are **preoccupied,** seeing the devil behind every inconvenience and difficulty.

As Paul closes his letter to the Ephesians, he calls us to a different response: a **prayerful** response, confident in what Christ has provided, aware of the enemy, and prepared for life in the real world. Here Paul peels back the curtain on the struggles we can see and reveals a spiritual conflict we cannot see, show us that there is “more than meets the eye.”

What does Paul say about the spiritual conflict behind some of our struggles we face?

Rely on the Lord (Verse 10).

Recognize the enemy (Verses 11-12).
Here Paul recognizes:
1)
2)
3)

Most importantly: Christ is above all these powers **(See 1:19-21).**

Respond with God's armor (Verses 13-17).
Responding with God's armor means living out our life in Christ.
This is not new. Paul brings together what he has already taught, showing its spiritual significance:

Armor in Eph. 6	**What Paul said**	**Application**
Belt of truth	4:15, 21, 25	Truth is in Jesus, Live as people of truth
Breastplate of righteousness	4:24	Put on the new self, created to reflect God's righteousness
Shoes of the Gospel of peace	4:1-3	Because Christ has made peace, walk in peace
Shield of faith	3:12, 17	Trust Christ, through whom we have confident access to God
Helmet of salvation	2:5-8	Live out of your salvation
Sword of the Spirit	4:20-24	Live out the Word, be renewed in the Word

Remain in prayer (Verses 18-20).

__Think__ of one struggle you're facing. What would responding with God's armor look like—telling the truth, pursuing peace, or trusting God? Bring it before the Lord. Ask for strength to take the next faithful step.

There is more than meets the eye—and more than enough strength in Christ for whatever we face!

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