

Ephesians 6:19-24
“Final Thoughts and a Farwell”

Introduction

As we finished with Ephesians 6:18, and also on all the verses on Spiritual Warfare:

- A. First, we put on each piece of armor through prayer.
- B. Second, we battle in the spiritual realm through prayer.
 - 1. All prayer

This includes:

- Adoration
- Confession
- Thanksgiving
- Intercession
- Petition

- 2. Pray at all times **in the Spirit**

This is Holy Spirit led and Holy Spirit empowered prayer.

- 3. **Be on the alert** with all perseverance and petition for all the saints.
 - a. Pray with spiritual alertness in *perseverance*.
 - b. Pray with spiritual alertness in *petitions*.

C. Application:

- 1. Prayer is powerful—it’s the deciding factor in spiritual warfare.
- 2. Satan seeks to disarm Christian soldiers in prayer, because he knows that “the effectual, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much!” (James 5:16)
- 3. “The Christian soldier marches forward on his knees”

We finished last week with verse 18, but we focused on...”for all the saints”...

Eph 6:18

18 praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication **for all the saints**—

Quote: (Guzik)

“We can battle spiritually not only on our own behalf, but also on the behalf of others. The soldier isn’t only concerned for his or her own safety. He feels an instinct to protect and to battle on behalf of *others*”.

Today,

6:19-20 that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the gospel

Eph 6:19-20

19 and for me, that utterance may be given to me, that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the gospel,

20 for which I am an ambassador in chains; that in it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

A. And for me...Paul solicited prayer for himself:

This is an example for you and me—“solicit prayer for ourselves as well as for others”

B. And for me, that utterance may be given to me:

Paul could have asked prayer for many things, but he wanted his readers to pray for this. He probably had in mind his upcoming defense before Caesar.

We *could* imagine Paul asking for many things, such as relief from his imprisonment or for other comforts.

But, his heart and mind were fixed on his responsibility of sharing the gospel, in the sphere of where he lived.

C. Paul asked for BOLDNESS:

Paul asked for prayer that he might proclaim the gospel both *clearly* and with a *fearless* power.

Most of us would think, “What? Paul needs Boldness to be able to share the Gospel?” I would of thought Paul is a “Gospel preaching machine” and shared, and not intimidated by anyone!!!

But yet Paul does say,

1 Cor 2:1-5

1 And I, brethren, when I came to you, did not come with excellence of speech or of wisdom declaring to you the testimony of God. 2 For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified.

3 I was with you in weakness, in fear, and in much trembling.

4 And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, 5 that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

2 Cor 2:12-13

12 Furthermore, when I came to Troas to [preach] Christ's gospel, and a door was opened to me by the Lord, 13 I had no rest in my spirit, because I did not find Titus my brother; but taking my leave of them, I departed for Macedonia.

2 Cor 2:14-17

14 Now thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and through us diffuses the fragrance of His knowledge in every place. 15 For we are to God the fragrance of Christ among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing. 16 To the one we are the aroma of death leading to death, and to the other the aroma of life leading to life.

And who is sufficient for these things?

17 For we are not, as so many, peddling the word of God; but as of sincerity, but as from God, we speak in the sight of God in Christ.

2 Cor 4:7-9

7 But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us. 8 [We are] hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; [we are] perplexed, but not in despair; 9 persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed—

2 Cor 4:10-12

10 always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body. 11 For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus' sake, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. 12 So then death is working in us, but life in you.

2 Cor 4:15

15 For all things are for your sakes, that grace, having spread through the many, may cause thanksgiving to abound to the glory of God.

D. I am an ambassador!!!!

I think it's God's design that we all realize that we are His ambassadors.

2 Cor 5:18-21

18 Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, 19 that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation. 20 Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God. 21 For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

Rev 1:6

6 and has made us kings and priests to His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

1 Peter 2:9-10

9 But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; 10 who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.

Matt 5:14-16

14 "You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 "Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. 16 "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

E. I am an ambassador ...in chains:

Of course, the ancient Greek word for **chains** meant **a prisoner's shackles**.

But it could also be used for the gold adornment worn around the neck and wrists of the wealthy and powerful.

Quote: (Guzik)

"On special occasions, ambassadors wore such chains to show the riches, power, and dignity of the government they represented.

Paul considers his prisoner's chains to actually be the glorious adornment of an **ambassador** of Jesus Christ".

Quote: (Moody)

"I am only one, but I am one,
I can't do everything, but I can do something,
And that which I can do by the grace of God, that I will do!!!!"

6:21 Tychicus..... will make all things known to you**Eph 6:21**

21 But that you also may know my affairs and how I am doing, **Tychicus**, a beloved brother and faithful minister in the Lord, will make all things known to you;

A. That you may know my affairs and how I am doing:

I am sending this brother Tychicus to you to first, give you an update on my life and ministry.

B. Tychicus, a "beloved brother" and "faithful minister":

There are two very complete things Paul say's about Tychicus. I think all of life comes down to these 2 characteristics, "**Love and Faithfulness**".

1. A beloved brother

1 Cor 13:2c but have not love, I am nothing.

1 Cor 13:3cbut have not love, it profits me nothing.

1 Cor 13: 7-8a

7 bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.
8a Love never fails.

Prov 17:17a A friend loves at all times,

John 13:35 (*By this one thing you prove to be of Jesus*)

35 "By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

1 Peter 4:8

8 And **above all things** have **fervent love for one another**, for "love will cover a multitude of sins."

1 John 3:14a (*What is an evidence that you are born-again?*)

14 We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love the brethren.

1 John 4:7

7 Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.

2. A **faithful** minister or Servant.

Jesus taught the importance of being a simple "Faithful Servant".

Matt 25:21

21 "His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; **you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things.**
Enter into the joy of your lord.'

Paul says only one thing is to be judged in a believers life- "Faithfulness".

1 Cor 4:2 Moreover it is required in stewards **that one be found faithful.**

1 Cor 4:3-4

3 But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by a human court. **In fact, I do not even judge myself.**

4 For I know of nothing against myself, yet I am not justified by this; **but He who judges me is the Lord.**

C. **Tychicus** was an associate of Paul's, mentioned in other letters.**Act 20:4**

4 And Sopater of Berea accompanied him to Asia--also Aristarchus and Secundus of the Thessalonians, and Gaius of Derbe, and Timothy, **and Tychicus** and Trophimus of Asia.

Col 4:7

7 **Tychicus**, a **beloved brother**, **faithful minister**, and **fellow servant** in the Lord, will tell you all the news about me.

2 Tim 4:12

12 And **Tychicus I have sent to Ephesus**.

Titus 3:12

12 When I send Artemas to you, or **Tychicus, be diligent to come to me** at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there.

6:22 I sent Tychicus to you

Eph 6:22

22 whom I have sent (*i.e.* **Tychicus**) to you for this very purpose, that you may know our affairs, and that he may comfort your hearts.

A. That you may know our affairs

Tychicus is a messenger on behalf of Apostle Paul.

B. That he may comfort your hearts:

Paul wanted Tychicus to comfort the Ephesians (***and everyone else who might read this letter to the Ephesians***). They might hear of Paul's fruitfulness and also about his condition while imprisoned in Rome.

Paul's Final Salutation!!!!

6:23 Peace to the brethren, and love with faith

Eph 6:23

23 Peace to the brethren, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

A. Peace to the brethren... Grace be with all those who love our Lord Jesus:

Paul concluded the letter as he began it, with reference to **grace** and **peace**, these two essential cornerstones for the Christian life.

B. and love with faith

Jesus taught us:

Mark 12:29-31

29 Jesus answered him, "The first of all the commandments is: 'Hear, O Israel, the LORD our God, the LORD is one.

30 'And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.' This is the first commandment.

31 "And the second, like [it, is] this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'

There is no other commandment greater than these."

Paul taught us:

Gal 5:6cbut it is by “faith working through love”.

C. from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ

Paul ended as he began, by pronouncing a blessing which are by “**Grace**” from God the **Father** through His **Son**, who is our Lord Jesus Christ!!!!

Eph 1:2

2 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Eph 1:3

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,

6:24 Final, Final words

Eph 6:24

24 Grace be with all those who love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity. Amen.

A. Grace be with all those who love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity:

B. All those who love our Lord Jesus Christ in “sincerity”:

The Greek word “sincerity” (aphtharsia) literally means – “in purity”; or the opposite of “corruption”

C. Amen

Meaning “So be it Lord” and all God’s children said, “Amen”!!!

Conclusion
