

War of the Worlds

Studies in Ephesians

Armed and Dangerous

Introduction to Ephesians 6:10-24

When a fugitive is on the loose, the authorities warn people to beware of one who has a weapon, because they are “armed and dangerous”. In the spiritual battle, however, Christians often think of themselves as defenseless; but in reality we, also, are armed and dangerous. In the final part of Ephesians Paul, by the Spirit, encourages God’s people to be “stand firm in the evil day” by being strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. We do this by taking up our spiritual defenses. The first of these defenses is God’s spiritual armor. Because the battle is not against flesh and blood, but against Satan’s invisible forces, we must stand in God’s strength and armor. This armor is comprised of truth, righteousness, a readiness to share the gospel of peace, faith, salvation,

and the “sword of the Spirit”, which is the Word of God. Every piece of this armor is defensive, with the exception of the Word of God, indicating that if we will clothe ourselves in God’s armor and stand firm, the devil will retreat. As we do this, though, we must realize the vital element of prayer as we attempt to gain victory against Satan’s strategies. We must pray in submission to God’s will, asking in faith for God’s help in every area. We must pray at all times, with perseverance, and we must pray in the Spirit. Our prayer must be for all the saints (God’s people), and must specifically focus on opening doors for the proliferation of the gospel. While we must stand firm in God’s complete armor, and be in



**The war is on...
are you ready?**

constant prayer, we must also be involved in caring community with God’s people. We must consider others’ feelings, insuring that they are encouraged concerning our condition, even as we keep up with them. We must pray that God will bless all who love Him with His incorruptible love, with His peace, faithful love, and grace. By outfitting ourselves with God’s armor, prayer, and caring community we, too, will be “armed and dangerous”.

The 5 Purposes of the Purpose Driven Life

- Worship—You were planned for God’s pleasure
- Fellowship—You were formed for God’s family
- Discipleship—You were created to become like Christ
- Ministry—You were shaped for serving God
- Evangelism—You were made for a mission

Study/Discussion Questions for Ephesians 6:10-24

(For answers to questions attend an ABF or go to [www.celebrationnet.com/resources/leader resources](http://www.celebrationnet.com/resources/leader_resources))

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| 1. Read 6:10-11. What is the source of our strength (v10)? How do we utilize His strength (v11a), and for what purpose (v11b)? | |
| 2. From 6:12 what do we ultimately not struggle against (v12a), and who is the struggle really against (v12b)? How should this be applied to your life? | |
| 3. According to 6:13-14 how are we able to resist the spiritual enemy (v13b), and what is the goal (v13b)? What are the first 2 pieces of armor (v14)? Explain these. | |

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Ephesians 6:10-24 Study Questions (cont)

4. In 6:15 what are the “shoes” of the spiritual armor? What does this mean, and how does this help us do battle with the enemy?

5. Based on 6:16 what is the enemy attempting to do, and what piece of armor stops this? Why?

6. From 6:17 what is the final piece of defensive armor (v17a), and the only piece of offensive armor (v17b). What does this tell us we must do to win the battle?

7. Read 6:18. What must we do as we take up our complete armor (v18a)? From this verse describe the ways we should do this.

8. According to 6:19-20 for whom should we regularly pray (v19), and what should we pray for them (v19, 20)?

9. Looking at 6:21-22, why was Paul sending Tychicus to the Ephesians (v21, 22)? What does this indicate about Paul’s heart, and how can we apply this to our lives?

10. From 6:23-24 what 4 things did Paul ask for the Ephesian believers (v23, 24)? What should characterize those who receive these blessings (v24), and what does this mean?

11. Review 6:10-24. Why are the complete armor of God (10-17), constant prayer (18-20), and compassionate community necessary to be able to “resist in the evil day” and “stand firm”?

Scripture to Remember

“Put on the full armor of God that you may be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil .”

Ephesians 6:11

Celebration Fellowship

*Reaching—
Restoring—Raising Up*

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Life Group Questions—Ephesians 6:10-17

(Using questions based on today’s message, Life Groups meet in homes to build supportive relationships with others at Celebration Fellowship that enable us to grow in Christ.)

1. Share what piece of clothing you like to shop for the most. If you were going into battle, what clothing or equipment would you most want to take with you?
2. Talk about why “truth” and righteousness are so important for spiritual battle. Which element of truth do you most need to deal with—Jesus as truth, the Word of God, telling the truth, or living in the truth? Why?
3. Discuss how we can be prepared walk about with the good news of peace, and how that helps us fight the devil’s schemes.
4. Why is “to stretch yourself out on the Lord” a good definition of faith? How can you actually develop the faith God has given you?
5. Talk about why you think the “sword of the Spirit”, the Word of God, is the only offensive weapon in our spiritual battle. How should we apply that?
6. Discuss anything else that impressed you from the message today if you have time.