

Agape House of Worship
Wednesday Bible Study

Study Series: Standing Strong in Spiritual Battles
Part 9: Conclusion

Wednesday, March 26, 2025
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Ephesians 6:10–13 “Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. 11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. 12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. 13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. 14 Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, 15 and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; 16 above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. 17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; 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—” (NKJV)

Introduction:

We’ve spent the last nine weeks pouring over Ephesians 6:10–13, learning about spiritual warfare, especially about each element of the “whole armor of God”. As we wrap up this study today, we want to do an overview by drawing some key lessons from our studies and what we can do with the truth we’ve learned going forward.

I. Yes, the Devil and the demonic world is Real

While most people in our postmodern secular world do believe that there’s such a thing as evil and there are indeed actions that are morally wrong, fewer and fewer believe there’s any kind of personality behind this evil. Even among professing Christians, the idea is growing that “Satan” is more of fantasies than an actual being.

The Bible however teaches us otherwise that the devil and his demon spirits are not myths or fantasies, they are real beings that hate the human race and therefore seek destroy and devour them.

1 Peter 5:8 “Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. (NIV)

Furthermore, the bible also teaches that the devil and his armies of demons are an organized enemy system which Paul refers to in our passage as principalities, powers, rulers of the darkness of this age, and spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.

The Bible teaches us this not so that we should live in fear of the devil but to recognize our enemy, know how he operates, “in order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes.” **2 Cor. 2:11**

Question: Why is it important to know that the devil is real?

II. Spiritual Warfare is Real

The Bible not only teaches us that the devil real, but it also teaches us that the devil and his armies of demons are an organized enemy system who are all out against anything that is of God including God’s people. According to the scriptures, an unsaved person is under the control (or in the kingdom) of the devil (John 8:44, Ephesians 2:1-2). When a believer gets saved, he is delivered from the control or dominion of the devil and brought into the kingdom of God (Colossians 1:12-13). Hence, the enemy, unhappy, seeks for ways to torment, attack, harass, oppress the believers in order to draw them away from God and or prevent them from enjoying the benefits of the kingdom. This is what spiritual warfare is about. That’s why it is vitally important to know how to best protect yourself against their attacks! The word “wrestle” is from the old Greek word pale, which refers to struggling, wrestling, or hand-to-hand combat.

John 10:10 “The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life and have it to the full. (NIV)

1 John 3:8 *“The one who does what is sinful is of the devil, because the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil’s work.”*

- Spiritual warfare is the idea that Christians are engaged in a constant battle against the enemy of our soul to stand our ground, maintain what God has given to and prevent him from robbing us.
- We also sometimes go on the offensive by gaining ground against the devil by reducing his influence on people around us, and our communities.
- This battle is not against flesh and blood, but against spiritual beings, including the devil and his demons.
- **Ephesians 6:12:** *“For our struggle is not against enemies of flesh and blood, but against the rulers, authorities, and powers of this dark world, and against spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.”*
- **2 Corinthians 10:4-5:** *“The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds.”*

Question: *Why is it important to know that spiritual warfare is real?*

III. Our Weapons Are Real and Potent

Knowing that the devil and spiritual warfare is real should not cause a believer to live in fear or be paranoid. It is about not being ignorant and having a clear understanding of how our enemy operates. 2 Timothy 1:7 “For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.” It also helps to know what our weapons are and that they are proven, potent and sure.

1. The Belt of Truth. Stand your ground, putting on the belt of truth... ..
2. The Breastplate of Righteousness.
3. The Shoes of the Gospel of Peace.
4. The Shield of Faith.
5. The Helmet of Salvation.
6. The Sword of The Spirit, God's Word.
7. The power of Praying in the Spirit.

IV. How Do We Put on the whole armor of God

Question: *What does it mean to “put on the whole armor of God”?*

"Put on" is literally a dressing term. Used as an idiom, it can also mean to assume the office, manner, character, disposition, or perspective of another. Here are some other examples in the scripture:

Romans 13:14: *“But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.”*

Colossians 3:10: *“but have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator.”*

Ephesians 6:14: *“Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness.”*

To “put on” is a matter of the mind/heart – what we are preoccupied with.

- What dominates our thoughts is what we put on
- What we focus on the most is what we put on
- What we put on is what is in our subconscious: your subconscious is part of the mind of which one is not fully aware, but which influences one's actions and feelings

To “put on” is an action phrase – what we choose to do.

- What we put on is what we emphasize in our lives.
- What we are intentional about doing is what we put on.