

## Put on the Armor of God

### The Full Armor

#### Ephesians 6:10-12

*“There are two equal and opposite errors into which our race can fall about the devils. One is to disbelieve in their existence. The other is to believe, and to feel an excessive and unhealthy interest in them” C. S. Lewis*

*We are not called to defeat Satan* - he is already a defeated foe.

*We are not to be seeking demons* behind every difficulty or pain but to recognize how they would manipulate them to cause doubt or division.

*We are not to separate this spiritual battle from everyday life.*

#### I. The Mandate 10

- **Be Strong in the Lord and in the Strength of His Might**

Literally - strengthen yourself in the Lord **1 Samuel 30:6**

A. **In His might - ability, reserve strength (muscle)**

The might of creation, the mighty of resurrection

B. **In the strength - might in action. Exercise of might**

C. **In both cases they are His** - Man is inadequate but God is invincible

#### II. The Method 11

- **Put on the full armor of God**

A. **Full - a complete set - no weapons can defeat us.**

B. **Armor of God - provided by God and actually the armor of God**

The same armor He provides for us is the core of His being

C. **Put on - cloth yourself - avail yourself of the protection provided**

D. **Both “Be Strong” and “Put on” are commands - not suggestions**

#### III. The Motivation 12

- **Our struggle is not against flesh and blood**

Literally - we wrestle - hand to hand combat (not a spectator sport)

A. **We do not struggle with people - they are not the real enemy**

B. **We struggle against the spiritual forces of wickedness**

1. Organized and under authority

**Rulers** - evil dominion, **Powers** - authorities

**World forces of darkness**- mighty powers, no truth

**Spiritual forces of wickedness** - depravity, evil

Also mentioned in **Ephesians 1:20-21. 3:10-11**

2. Fighting in “heavenly places” The unseen places -

**Ephesians 1:3** - we are blessed in heavenly places

#### C. We are in an invisible war

Old Testament example **2 Kings 6:15-19**

Elisha prayed for his servant to see

New Testament teaching **2 Corinthians 10:3-5**

#### The Facts

1. **There is a real enemy - Satan**

Jesus spoke of him 25 times.

Spoken of from **Genesis 3 to Revelation**

2. **We know him by his names / purpose**

**Satan** - means “adversary” working against God

**Devil** - means “slanderer” **1 Peter 5:8**

**Lucifer** - means son of the morning **Isaiah 14**

Created to be light- became proud **Isaiah 14:13-14 -**

**The evil one** - **1 John 5:19**

**The tempter** - **1 Thessalonians 3:5**

**The Father of lies** - **John 8:44**

**The prince of this world** - **John 12:31**

**The accuser of the brethren** - **Revelation 12:10**

3. **We know his tactics**

He seeks to dispute all God says **Genesis 3:1**

4. **We know he is a defeated foe**

Jesus came to disarm him **Colossians 2:14-15** *He canceled the record of the charges against us and took it away by nailing it to the cross. In this way, he disarmed the spiritual rulers and authorities. He shamed them publicly by his victory over them on the cross.*

Jesus came to destroy his works **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.*

5. **We know that God can give us the victory**

We belong to God **1 John 4:4** *But you belong to God, my dear children. You have already won a victory over those people, because the Spirit who lives in you is greater than the spirit who lives in the world.*

We are born of God **1 John 5:4-5**

We have the means to overcome Satan **Revelation 12:11** *And they have defeated him by the blood of the Lamb and by their testimony. And they did not love their lives so much that they were afraid to die.*

We can in Christ resist Satan **James 4:7** *So humble yourselves before God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.*