

Spiritual Warfare

Taking up the whole armor of God against our enemy Ephesians 6:10-18

How is our struggle as Christians in this world like warfare? Where do you think this battle takes place? From where does a good soldier of Christ get his strength? v10 Why is it important to be courageous in our struggles? What does it mean to put on the armor of God? v11 Why does it say "whole" armor of God? Why are our defenses called the armor "of God"? What is our role in applying the armor of God? How do we put on the armor of God? Why must the Christian be completely armed? What are the wiles of the devil? What does it mean to stand against these wiles of the devil? v12 How is it that we wrestle not against flesh and blood? Since we wrestle not against flesh and blood, is this just symbolic of our old nature that we wrestle against? If our enemies are not flesh and blood, what are they? How do we have victory over the devil? How does Paul characterize the enemy? What are "principalities"? What are the "powers"? What is the darkness of this age? What are the rulers of the darkness of this age? What makes our enemy more dangerous than a physical adversary in the world? What do the wicked spirits do? What does it mean that our enemies are in heavenly places? Are our enemies less dangerous to us because they are in heavenly places and we are in the world? Can you think of any spiritual warfare examples in the Bible? Is there a connection between what happens in the world and what happens in the spiritual realm? Do you think the church is generally aware of spiritual warfare today? What are signs of winning the spiritual battle in a church? v13 So what is our Christian duty? What does it mean to stand? What is the significance of this passage saying four times that believers are to stand? Why do we only need to stand? Why is it better to stand than to attack? What do the words, "and having done all" add to our standing against the devil and his kind? What is the evil day? How do we stand against the devil? v14

Why is truth represented as a girdle? Why would truth be mentioned first? What is truth? Do we life in a truthful age? How is a breastplate an appropriate analogy for righteousness? What is righteousness? How can we be without sin in this world with our old selfish nature still intact? So if God imputes righteousness to us by believing in Him, why would this passage say we should put it on? How do we learn to be more righteous? Why is righteousness important in the spiritual battle? v15 Why do we need armor for our feet? Given that we are commanded to stand, what role does our foot gear have in the midst of the battle? What is the gospel of peace? Why does it say the preparation of the gospel of peace? v16 What is faith? What role does faith play in using our shield? What do the fiery darts represent? Why are these darts called fiery? How does the shield of faith protect against these fiery darts? Why does it say "above all" to take up the shield of faith? Is our shield of faith adequate against temptations? v17 What salvation is this talking about? How is a helmet a good analogy for the hope of salvation? How do we put on the helmet of the hope of salvation? Why is the sword called the Word of God? How may the sword be used as an defensive weapon? How may the sword be used as an offensive weapon? Is there any significance to the armor being in front? v18 What role does prayer have in our Christian armor? What does it mean to pray always? Does this mean that prayer is all that we need to do? What does it mean to pray with all prayer? What does it mean to pray with supplication? What does it mean to pray with supplication for all the saints? How is it that we should pray in the Spirit? What does it mean we should be watchful and pray with all perseverance?