

Ephesians: Stand Strong

Ephesians 6:10-18

Our Battle (v. 10-13)

- Our battle is a spiritual one
 - Not against each other
 - Not against non-believers
 - Against the devil & evil spiritual powers
- Therefore, it is fought in God's strength
 - As we wear God's armor
 - Full Armor: a type of armor used in combat
 - Imagery from Isaiah of the Lord's armor, now worn by us as well (Isa 59:17; 11:4-5; 49:2; 52:7)

Our Gear (v. 14-18)

- The Belt: Used to tuck your tunic into to prepare for battle (see 1 Peter 1:13)
 - We are to be enveloped in God's truth to fight this battle
- The Breastplate: Used to protect your heart
 - Heart = choices
 - Righteousness: Our right-standing with God given through Christ
 - Right hearts → Right choices
- Sandals: Used to protect your feet
 - Readiness: Preparation
 - Helps you to run *into* or *out of* battle
 - Rooted in God's peace that comes through the Gospel
- Shield: Used to protect your whole body, especially from projectiles
 - Could be soaked in water to extinguish flaming arrows
 - Faith is our defense against the devil's lies
- Helmet: Used to protect your head
 - Salvation causes a renewing of our minds, allowing us to think differently (Rom 12:2)
- Sword: Used for up-close offense & defense
 - God's word made alive by His Spirit is our truest offensive weapon (Heb 4:12)
- Prayer: Constant communication with our commander

So What?

- We are at war!
- Are we fighting the right enemies?
- Are we using the right weapons?

Meditation Verse: *Ephesians 6:13*