

Afternoon Session

Text: Ephesians 6

Title: "Be Strong in the Lord"

¹⁰ Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.

¹¹ Put on the whole armour 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 armour 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—

¹⁹ and for me, that utterance may be given to me, that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the gospel,

²⁰ for which I am an ambassador in chains; that in it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

Ephesians 6:10-20

A. A STRONG AND MIGHTY LIFE

Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.

Ephesians 6:10

1. A great goal

To be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might

2. Be done with a weak life

- a) Walking in darkness
- b) Deceived easily
- c) Unstable
- d) Distracted
- e) Easily defeated

3. Strength and Power

- a) They are within God's Will
- b) This strength is gained progressively
- c) It needs to be harnessed well
- d) God wants to use our strength and might

B. THE WHOLE ARMOUR OF GOD

¹¹ Put on the whole armour of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

¹³ Therefore take up the whole armour of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

Ephesians 6:11, 13

1. God has provided us with Protective Armour

- a) The whole armour must be put on
- b) Not just parts of the armour!
- c) Strength and Power would be needed to wear the God's armour

2. The challenge of Spiritual Warfare

- a) To be able to stand against the wiles of the devil
- b) To be able to withstand in the evil day
- c) And having done all, to stand

C. KNOWING THE ENEMY

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*.

Ephesians 6:12

1. The Enemy is not “flesh and blood”
2. The word “wrestle” is a reference to close combat
3. The Enemy described candidly:
 - a) Principalities
 - b) Powers
 - c) Rulers of the darkness of this age
 - d) Spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places
4. The wiles (methods) of the Enemy
 - a) Possession (Gospels)
 - b) Persecution (Book of Acts)
 - c) Persuasive Deception (Epistles)
 - i) False teachings
 - ii) Futile lifestyle
 - iii) False brethren

D. THE PIECES OF GOD’S ARMOUR

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;

Ephesians 6:14-17

1. 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 (The Word of God)

E. PRAYER (Access to 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—

¹⁹ and for me, that utterance may be given to me, that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the gospel,

²⁰ for which I am an ambassador in chains; that in it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

Ephesians 6:18-20

1. Prayers
 - a) All types of prayer
 - b) Supplications
2. Being watchful
 - a) Perseverance
 - b) Praying for each other
3. Request for Prayer
 - a) For Utterance
 - b) For Boldness

APPROPRIATE RESPONSE

¹ You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.

² And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.

³ You therefore must endure hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.

⁴ No one engaged in warfare entangles himself with the affairs of *this* life, that he may please him who enlisted him as a soldier.

⁵ And also if anyone competes in athletics, he is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules.

⁶ The hardworking farmer must be first to partake of the crops.

⁷ Consider what I say, and may the Lord give you understanding in all things.

2 Timothy 2:1-7

1. Be strong in the grace found in the Lord
2. Endure hardship as a good soldier of the Lord
 - a) Avoid distraction
 - b) Avid loyalty to the Commander
3. Seek understanding in all matters