
Series: Living Life as the New People of God—A Study in Ephesians
Holding Our Ground as the New People of God

Ephesians 6:10-24 (NIV)

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. ¹¹Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. ¹²For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. ¹³Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. ¹⁴Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, ¹⁵and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. ¹⁶In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. ¹⁸And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.

¹⁹Pray also for me, that whenever I open my mouth, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.

²¹Tychicus, the dear brother and faithful servant in the Lord, will tell you everything, so that you also may know how I am and what I am doing. ²²I am sending him to you for this very purpose, that you may know how we are, and that he may encourage you.

²³Peace to the brothers, and love with faith from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴Grace to all who love our Lord Jesus Christ with an undying love.

1. UNDERSTANDING THE INTENSITY OF THE BATTLE WE FACE. vv.10-12

- We must be strong in facing the enemy.
- We have to protect ourselves before we take a stand.
- Our battle is a spiritual battle against darkness.

2. PROTECTING OURSELVES FROM THE ENEMY. vv. 13-17

Putting on the full armor of God:

- Belt of Truth
- Breastplate of Righteousness
- Boots of the Gospel of Peace
- Shield of Faith
- Helmet of Salvation
- Sword of the Spirit

3. UNDERSTANDING THE VALUE OF PRAYER IN THE BATTLE. vv. 18-20

How do we pray?

- In the Spirit
- On all occasions
- With all kinds of prayers
- With our eyes open
- For one another
- For boldness to share the gospel

- Paul's plea for prayer is still needed today.

vv. 19-20 "Pray also for me, that whenever I open my mouth, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should."

4. FINAL GREETINGS FROM PAUL. vv. 21-24

- Peace to the brothers
- Love with faith
- Grace to all

As we speak, we are engaged in a spiritual battle against the powers of darkness. Our only chance is to put on the whole armor of God and rely upon prayer as our source of strength to overcome the enemy.