

EPHESIANS STUDY

CHAPTER 6:11-12

TAPE NUMBER WN-248 MAY 27, 1998

TITLE:

“The Christian in Complete Armor” “Standing Against the Devil”

SEATED IN THE HEAVENLIES IN CHRIST JESUS

SUB-TITLE:

“The Growing Up” of a Healthy Church

THEME:

Ephesians 1:3

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,

Introduction: The Reading of the Text vv. 6:11-12

Ephesians 6:11-12

Put on the whole armor 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.

Last Week:

1.) Who Goes to Battle in is War? vv. 10a

Ephesians 6:10a

Finally, my brethren

2.) How do we Fight a Spiritual War vv. 10b

Ephesians 6:10b

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

Be Strong

IN THE LORD, and IN HIS MIGHT

(Not our own abilities)

Learning How to Survive in this world

is a lesson to learn for sure
on campus / in business / on the freeway

This Morning in My Backyard

the birds had gathered by the flock to feed on the various seeds. The feeds are positioned in different locations from each other. I saw a cat was trying to catch a bird and so he would prowl and then freeze waiting to pounce on a poor little bird... but wait. Every time that cat would draw close enough, the birds would just fly up into the branches of the trees

A bird is no match for a cat

**But the bird knew how to fly and the cat didn't
because the cat couldn't**

Proverbs 30:26

Coney's (rock badgers) are creatures of little power, yet they make their home in the crags of the rocks

A wolf, a bear, a mountain lion cannot

The Coney

has become as strong as the rocks that it's hiding in

The sparrow

is tall as the tree that it is sheltered in

Satan

cannot molest you if you are in Christ

Knowing what to do in a crisis can save your life

**Knowing what to do in a spiritual crisis can save more
than your life
(untold grief as well)**

1 Peter 5:8-9a

Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. ⁹ **Resist him, steadfast in the faith,**

I am not match for Satan, But when I resist him -- take flight to God, I am safe

Roar all he wants - I'm safe!!!

Philippians 4:13

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

I will never fall, never backslide, never be devoured by him

**What is All the Fighting About?
The liberation of human souls**

Ephesians 3:8-10

To me, who am less than the least of all the saints, this grace was given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, ⁹ and to make all see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the ages has been hidden in God who created all things through Jesus Christ; ¹⁰ to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places,

The liberation of human souls

1.) How are we to Fight this Spiritual Battle ?

vv. 11

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

1a.) I'm to be Responsible for Putting On my Armor

Verse 11

Put on the **whole** armor of God,

All of it before you leave home

The Armor All of God

- * **Put on** GRK 1746 **enduo (en-doo'-o);**
to have dawned the right clothing to be arrayed, in the proper clothed
- * **Whole armor** GRK 3833 **panoplia (pan-op-lee'-ah);**
the full armor (the "panoply") of all that is available

This is done by seriously applying the matters
of the Spirit to our lives

- By being prayerful the devotion
- By being worshipful the praise
- By being mindful the bible

To keep me from going to the fleshy weapons

Be careful How You View Sin

A Warning from the Lord

Genesis 4:6-7

6 So the LORD said to Cain, "Why are you angry? And why has your countenance fallen? 7 "If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its desire is for you, but you should rule over it."

Romans 13:12-14

The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light. ¹³ Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy. ¹⁴ But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts.

Colossians 3:9-10

Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds, ¹⁰ and have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,

How are we to Fight this Spiritual Battle ?

1b.) I'm to be **Resisting** his Tricks and Treats

Verse 11

that you may be able to **stand against** the wiles of the devil

* **Against** GRK 4314 pros (pros);
to ward off, to dig in and to entrench ones self the enemy forces

Be careful here

I cannot take Satan on myself

Jude 1:9

Yet Michael the archangel, in contending with the devil, when he disputed about the body of Moses, **dared not bring against him a reviling accusation**, but said, "The Lord rebuke you!"

Michael is One Bad Angel

How are we to Fight this Spiritual Battle?

1c.) I'm to be **Reacting** in the Spirit

Verse 11c

against the **wiles** of the devil.

* **Wiles** GRK 3180 methodeia (meth-od-i'-ah);
The strategies, schemes, and plans, tactics

His Methods of Warfare

1 Timothy 1:18-20

This charge I commit to you, son Timothy, according to the prophecies previously made concerning you, that by them you may wage the good warfare, ¹⁹ having faith and a good conscience, which some having rejected, concerning the faith have suffered shipwreck, ²⁰ of whom are Hymenaeus and Alexander, whom I delivered to Satan that they may learn not to blaspheme.

He is very experienced at war-games

- He was there when God created the physical universe
 - He watched the sun being formed

- He saw God speak the galaxies into existence
- He was there when Adam and Eve were formed

We Need to Know What Your Enemy is Thinking the mind of Satan

- Pure arrogance
 - Pure evil
 - Pure hatred
 - Pure bitterness
 - Pure anger
 - Pure pride
- He believes that he will win the war
- He believes that he will dethrone God
- He believes that the world will worship him
- He believes that he will populate the world with beings created in his own image

This is the message of the New Age Movement
the gods are coming to evolve us to our next level of evolution - becoming
gods

Ezekiel 28:12-17

"Son of man, take up a lamentation for the king of Tyre, and say to him, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "You were the seal of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty. ¹³ You were in Eden, the garden of God; every precious stone was your covering: the sardius, topaz, and diamond, Beryl, onyx, and jasper, sapphire, turquoise, and emerald with gold. The workmanship of your timbrels and pipes was prepared for you on the day you were created. ¹⁴ "You were the anointed cherub who covers; I established you; you were on the holy mountain of God; you walked back and forth in the midst of fiery stones. ¹⁵ You were perfect in your ways from the day you were created, till iniquity was found in you. ¹⁶ "By the abundance of your trading you became filled with violence within, and you sinned; therefore I cast you as a profane thing out of the mountain of God; and I destroyed you, O covering cherub, from the midst of the fiery stones. ¹⁷ "Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty; you corrupted your wisdom for the sake of your splendor;

Luke 10:17-18

Then the seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name." ¹⁸ And He said to them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven.

Revelation 12:3-4a

And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great, fiery red dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems on his heads. 4 His tail drew a third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth.

Isaiah 14:12-15

"How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How you are cut down to the ground, you who weakened the nations! ¹³ For you have said in your heart: 'I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation on the farthest sides of the north; ¹⁴ I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High.' ¹⁵ Yet you shall be brought down to Sheol, to the lowest depths of the Pit.

#1

Plan of Attack

Satan's desires are to causes us to war against one another

James 4:1-6

Where do wars and fights come from among you? Do they not come from your desires for pleasure that war in your members? ² You lust and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war. Yet you do not have because you do not ask. ³ You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures. ⁴ Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. ⁵ Or do you think that the Scripture says in vain, "The Spirit who dwells in us yearns jealously"? ⁶ But He gives more grace. Therefore He says: "God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble." ⁷ Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.

James Says That

A lot of Our Problems

Come from Warring with our Brothers and Sisters

How are we to Fight this Spiritual Battle ?

1a.) I'm to be **Responsible** for Putting On my Armor

1b.) I'm to be **Resisting** his Tricks and Treats

1c.) I'm to be **Reacting** in the Spirit to the war around me

2.) What are the Enemies Resources

vv. 12

For we do not **wrestle** against flesh and blood,

Verse 12a

For we do not **wrestle against** flesh and blood,

We are wrestling, but with whom?

IN THE ORIGINAL GREEK

“The struggle in us is not against blood and flesh”

2 Corinthians 2:9-11

For to this end I also wrote, that I might put you to the test, whether you are obedient in all things. ¹⁰ Now whom you forgive anything, I also forgive. For if indeed I have forgiven anything, I have forgiven that one for your sakes in the presence of Christ, ¹¹ lest Satan should take advantage of us; for we are not ignorant of his devices.

Warring against another brother or sister

Verse 11a

For we do not wrestle **against** flesh and blood,

They do not have flesh - human type of flesh

They don't have blood - human type of blood

What is Implied is;

That every day what we are going up against is a spiritual assault that has its origins in the mind of Satan

Verse 12b

Satan can only be attacked in the spirit realm by

Prayer

Worship

The Word

2 Corinthians 10:3-5

For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. ⁴ For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, ⁵ casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ,

The Battle Ground

...casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ,

The physical and spiritual powers he possesses

“If a Christian is talking about the power of Satan and people get scared or frightened, that person is out of line - really giving Satan more credit than he deserves”

Example

Mark 9:17-30

Then one of the crowd answered and said, "Teacher, I brought You my son, who has a mute spirit. ¹⁸ "And wherever he seizes him, he throws him down; he foams at the mouth, gnashes his teeth, and becomes rigid. So I spoke to Your disciples, that they should cast him out, but they could not." ¹⁹ He answered him and said, "O faithless generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I bear with you? Bring him to Me." ²⁰ Then they brought him to Him. And when he saw Him, immediately the spirit convulsed him, and he fell on the ground and wallowed, foaming at the mouth. ²¹ So He asked his father, "How long has this been happening to him?" And he said, "From childhood. ²² "And often he has thrown him both into the fire and into the water to destroy him. But if You can do anything, have compassion on us and help us." ²³ Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes." ²⁴ Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, "Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!" ²⁵ When Jesus saw that the people came running together, He rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "Deaf and dumb spirit, I command you, come out of him and enter him no more!" ²⁶ Then the spirit cried out, convulsed him greatly, and came out of him. And he became as one dead, so that many said, "He is dead." ²⁷ But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. ²⁸ And when He had come into the house, His disciples asked Him privately, "Why could we not cast him out?" ²⁹ So He said to them, "This kind can come out by nothing but prayer and fasting." ³⁰ Then they departed from there and passed through Galilee, and He did not want anyone to know it.

Attack in the Spirit

- Prayer knows no boundaries
- Worship affects the spirit realm
- The Bible reinforces our position

but against **principalities**, against **powers**, against the **rulers** of the darkness of this age, against **spiritual hosts** of wickedness

Satan is
Demons are
And Their Earthly Co-Workers for sure

- * **Principalities** **GRK 746 arche (ar-khay');**
order, time, place, or rank): the principle agents, the heads
- * **Powers** **GRK 1849 exousia (ex-oo-see'-ah);**
privileged forces non-human magistrates. the delegated influence:
one having a jurisdiction
- * **The rulers** **GRK 2888 kosmokrats(kos-mok-fat'-ore);**
a world-ruler, such as one how governs a people or a nation of the earth
- * **Spiritual hosts** **GRK 4152 pneumatikos (pnyoo-mat-ik-os');**
perverted, non-humans, masses relegated to the religious

Hang On, It's OK - Take a Deep Breath Satan is Not All Knowing, All Powerful,

Colossians 1:16

For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him.

Ephesians 1:19-21

and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power ²⁰ which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹ far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come.

Colossians 2:15

Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it.

Every Angel of Heaven had to Laugh when Jesus arose from the dead - demons wept!

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, ⁴ whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them. ⁵ For we do not preach ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord, and ourselves your bondservants for Jesus' sake. ⁶ For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

3a.) The Forces of Evil that are Against

Verse 12

If Satan Cannot Kill
*then he will do the next best thing
and that is to sterilize you*

John 11:43-44

Now when He had said these things, He cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come forth!" ⁴⁴ And he who had died came out bound hand and foot with graveclothes, and his face was wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Loose him, and let him go.".....

The size and number of troops available to him

Revelation 12:7-9

And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought, ⁸ but they did not prevail, nor was a place found for them in heaven any longer. ⁹ So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil, Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

- * **Fallen Angel** **GRK 32 aggelos (ang'-el-os);**
from *aggello* [probably derived from 71; compare 34] (to bring tidings); a messenger; especially an "angel";

3b.) Satan's Workers can often be found in Church

Verse 12

Matthew 13:31-32

Another parable He put forth to them, saying: "**The kingdom of heaven (God, Church)** is like a mustard seed, which a man took and sowed in his field, ³² "which indeed is the least of all the seeds; but when it is grown it is greater than the herbs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and nest in its branches."

In Jesus' Little Church of 12
one was a devil

2 Corinthians 11:13-15

For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ. ¹⁴ And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. ¹⁵ Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works.

Matthew 24:11 NIV

And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many.

Matthew 7:15

"Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves.

2 Peter 2:1-3

But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Lord who bought them, and bring on themselves swift destruction. ² And many will follow their destructive ways, because of whom the way of truth will be blasphemed. ³ By covetousness they will exploit you with deceptive words;

1 John 4:1

Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world.

Acts 20:28-31

Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood. ²⁹ For I know this, that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. ³⁰ Also from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves. ³¹ Therefore watch, and remember that for three years I did not cease to warn everyone night and day with tears.

2 Timothy 4:7

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.
(who was Paul fighting? the hosts of wickedness)

Romans 16:17-18

Now I urge you, brethren, note those who cause divisions and offenses, contrary to the doctrine which you learned, and **avoid them**.¹⁸ For those who are such do not serve our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly, and by smooth words and flattering speech deceive the hearts of the simple.