

Ephesians 6:10-45 – Above all, to Stand

Letter to the Ephesians – summary of main themes

- CHAPTER 1 - Praising God the Father for His great, predestined purpose and grace, exerted in the Lord Jesus through His death and resurrection to give us an inheritance that is sealed by the Holy Spirit, and to put ALL things under Christ.
- CHAPTER 2 - The grace of God in saving us and creating a new society, where Jews and Gentiles are united as one new people.
- CHAPTER 3 - God has made Paul to be a messenger to reveal this great plan of God to all powers that be.
- CHAPTER 4 - An appeal that they must live a life worthy of this calling, fitting their status as God's new and reconciled society.
- CHAPTER 5-6:9 - God's people must learn to submit to each other in family and domestic relationships, and so promote harmony in their homes


“Unity, diversity, purity and harmony – these the apostle has stressed as major characteristics of the new life and the new society in Christ”

John R. W. Stott, *The Message of Ephesians*, Leicester: Inter-varsity Press, 1979. page 261.

Ephesians 6:10-24

The devil is real - Isaiah 14:12-15 & Ezekiel 28:12-19 cf Matthew 4:1-10, 16:23; John 8:44; 1 Peter 5:8-9. Revelations 12:7-9.

There is no battle between Good and Evil – God and His goodness has, and always will, triumph.



THE ARMOR OF GOD

EPHESIANS 6:10-18
“Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can stand your ground against the devil’s schemes.” (v. 10-11)

The Shield of Faith (Eph. 6:16)
Faith is being sure that God will keep his promises. Faith in God protects you when you are tempted to doubt.

The Helmet of Salvation (Eph. 6:17)
Put on the Helmet of Salvation by believing that Jesus Christ died for your sins and rose again.

The Breastplate of Righteousness (Eph. 6:14)
Righteousness is living honestly, humbly, and justly to others. It gives standing up for us, for people.

The Belt of Truth (Eph. 6:15)
Truth keeps us from giving in to the world’s beliefs. Compare your beliefs and actions to the truth of the Word of God.

The Shoes of the Gospel of Peace (Eph. 6:15)
The Gospel of Peace is being right with God and being contented in troubled times. Jesus said peacemakers were blessed.

The Sword of the Spirit (Eph. 6:17)
which is the Word of God. God’s Word is our offensive weapon. We will tell others what the Bible says, the Holy Spirit helps people see their bad thoughts and actions, and shows them what to do.

- a. Belt of Truth (vs 14a) - Live in the Truth
- b. Breastplate of righteousness (vs 14b) - Live in Right Relationships
- c. Shoes of the Gospel of Peace (vs 15) - Be ready to Go & Share the good news
- d. Shield of Faith (vs 16) - Trust in God’s promises
- e. Helmet of Salvation (vs 17a) - Be Assured of your Hope and Future
- f. The Sword of the Spirit (vs 17a) - Know, Apply and Act on God’s Word

The 4 “alls” of vs 18.

“..praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints...”

Application:

Make time everyday for a time of devotion – with worship, reading and reflecting on God’s word and prayer.