

# “The Context of the Armor of God in the Spiritual Battle”

**Ephesians 6:10-13 3/29/2020**

**Sermon Series: *Living out God’s Riches for God’s Glory***

**Big Idea-** Paul has been teaching us about the awesomeness of God’s actions on our behalf (Ch.1). We have been rescued from the power of the enemy and given new life in Christ (Ch.2). We are God’s testimony to the seen and unseen realms and are now part of the “called out ones”- the Church (Ch.3). We are to walk worthy of this new identity and calling in various contexts (Chs.4-6:9). We will be involved in a real struggle with authentic spiritual enemies, but we have been thoroughly equipped through God’s unlimited power (Ch.6:10-20).

**“Heavenly places” in Ephesians- 1:3; 1:20; 2:6; 3:10; 6:12**

Three Imperatives (commands)- **1) Be strong-** 6:10; **2) Put on-** 6:11; **3) Take up-** 6:13; These are so that we can stand against the Devil’s schemes and withstand on the evil day by preparing ourselves to stand firm.

**LESSON 1-** The context involves us understanding our true POWER

- A. God’s power is the only resource we have to be SUCCESSFUL (Acts 9:22; Rom 4:20; Phil 4:13; 1 Tim 1:12; 2 Tim 2:1; 2 Tim 4:17; Eph 1:19; 6:10; Col 2:15; Heb 2:14-15; Jude 25)

“and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of the dominion of His strength” (Eph 1:19).

**LESSON 2-** The context involves us understanding the PARTICIPANTS

- A. The participants involve the schemes of the DEVIL (2 Cor 2:11- Unforgiveness; 10:4-5 thoughts; **Eph 4:14**)

**Put on armor-**

“and to put on the new man who has been created in God’s image– in righteousness and holiness that comes from truth” (4:24; also **2 Peter 1:3-4**)

- B. The participants involve a wrestling match against unseen ENEMIES (we are safe in a wrestling match, but can be injured- 1 Peter 5:8)

**LESSON 3-** The context involves us understanding the PLAN

- A. The plan is to prepare **BEFORE** the battle and stand FIRM

**Going Deeper** God wants us to recognize our weak areas and prepare by standing firm in our identity in Christ, living in the new man by His Spirit!

*Our Vision- Striving to be Disciples who make Disciples*

ESV **Acts 9:22** But Saul increased all the more in strength, and confounded the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus was the Christ.

ESV **Romans 4:20** No unbelief made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, (Rom. 4:20 ESV)

ESV **Philippians 4:13** I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

ESV **1 Timothy 1:12** ¶ I thank him who has given me strength, Christ Jesus our Lord, because he judged me faithful, appointing me to his service,

ESV **2 Timothy 2:1** ¶ You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus, (2 Tim. 2:1 ESV)

ESV **2 Timothy 4:17** But the Lord stood by me and strengthened me, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. (2 Tim. 4:17 ESV)

Eph. 1:3 ¶ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the **heavenly** places,

Eph. 1:20 that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the **heavenly** places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come.

Eph. 2:6 and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the **heavenly** places in Christ Jesus,

Eph. 3:10 so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the **heavenly** places.

Eph. 6:12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the **heavenly** places.

**Colossians 2:15** He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him. (Col. 2:15 ESV)

**Hebrews 2:14-15** Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood, he likewise shared in their humanity, so that through death he could destroy the one who holds the power of death (that is, the devil),<sup>15</sup> and set free those who were held in slavery all their lives by their fear of death.

**2 Peter 1:3** ¶ His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence,<sup>4</sup> by which he has granted to us his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire.

**Eph. 4:14** so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes.

ESV **Jude 1:25** to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen. (Jude 1:25 ESV)