

Family Worship Guide

Sunday, September 4, 2016

Ephesians 6:10-20

“Being Strong in Christ: A Preview”

¹⁰ Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. ¹¹ Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. ¹² For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual *forces* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*. ¹³ Therefore, take up the full armor of God, so that you will be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. ¹⁴ Stand firm therefore, having girded your loins with truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, ¹⁵ and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; ¹⁶ in addition to all, taking up the shield of faith with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil *one*. ¹⁷ And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

¹⁸ With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints, ¹⁹ and *pray* on my behalf, that utterance may be given to me in the opening of my mouth, to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰ for which I am an ambassador in chains; that in *proclaiming* it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

Follow this outline of Ephesians 6:10-20 as you read the text above. Observe all the **commands** given:

- 1) **Be MADE strong**; this is a passive verb = God uses His strength on your behalf
 - a) In the Lord
 - b) In the strength of His might
- 2) **Put on** the full armor of God
 - a) **SO THAT** you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil
 - b) **FOR (BECAUSE)** our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places
 - c) **APPLICATION:** Our fight is spiritual, not physical; we need spiritual weapons, not physical weapons.

THEREFORE

- 3) **Take up** the full armor of God **SO THAT**
 - a) You will be able to resist in the evil day
 - b) Having done everything, to stand firm
- 4) **Stand firm** therefore; these four phrases are “participles” which describe how one would “stand firm”
 - a) Having girded your loins with truth
 - b) Having put on the breastplate of righteousness
 - c) Having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace
 - d) Taking up the shield of faith - extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one
- 5) **Take** the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God
- 6) **Pray** with all prayer and petition, at all times, in the Spirit
- 7) **Be on the alert**, with all perseverance, with petition for all the saints
- 8) **Pray** on Paul’s behalf
 - a) That utterance may be given to him when he speaks
 - b) To make known the mystery of the gospel with boldness
 - c) That he may speak boldly as he ought to speak¹

¹ This outline was developed by Dr. Mike McCormick for a sermon preached September 4, 2016, at Green Hill Baptist Church.