

Oppose the enemy by standing together in the righteousness of Jesus
 and by living rightly towards God and others

1. The righteousness of God _____ what is most vital to you

Ephesians 6:13-14

“ . . . division reflects both the wickedness of the human heart and the work of the enemy, who knows that people who metaphorically shoot each other in the back are not likely to live in much victory. He is slick enough to know that division turns a church inward, creates bitterness, and even destroys Christian friendships. It is no wonder, then, that Jesus taught his followers to pray for unity (John 17:21) as a witness to the world.”

Chuck Lawless, *Spiritual Warfare in the Storyline of Scripture*

“This piece of armor, made of metal plates or chains, covered the body from the neck to the waist, both front and back. It symbolizes the believer’s righteousness in Christ (2 Cor 5:21) as well as his righteous life in Christ (Eph 4:24).”

Warren Wiersbe, *The Bible Exposition Commentary*

dikaíosynē ("the approval of God") refers to what is deemed _____ by the Lord (after His examination), i.e. what is approved in His eyes.

For the Jesus follower, righteousness is to be understood as _____ in Christ as well as _____ because of Christ

ARMOR	OUR POSITION IN CHRIST	OUR PRACTICE IN LIFE
Breastplate of righteousness	Jesus gives us his righteousness (Philippians 3:9)	We are to live righteously, ever forsaking sin

2. The "rightness" of _____ enables us to stand against the enemy together

Romans 3:21-26

Isaiah 59:15-18

God punishes sin, but at the cross of Jesus, He punished _____ for your sin

Because the sinless Savior died
My sinful soul is counted free
For God the just is satisfied
To look on Him and pardon me
To look on Him and pardon me
Before the Throne of God Above

2 Corinthians 5:21

It's important that you _____ remember that you're redeemed and no longer seen as condemned, but as justified by the "Justifier"

3. _____ rightly towards God and others enables us to stand against the enemy together

Romans 4:1-5

1 Peter 2:24

"By putting on God's righteousness believers are committed to being imitators of him (Ephesians 5:1) and acting righteously in all their dealings."

Peter T. O'Brien, *The Pillar New Testament Commentary – The Letter to the Ephesians*

Now What? Oppose the enemy by standing together in the righteousness of Jesus and by living rightly towards God and others