

## 2 Exposing The Enemy's Weakness Being Armed and Dangerous Series: Supernatural Struggle

**Ephesians 6:10-18**

**October 28, 2011**

**INTRO: We are at war! But against whom?**

**The War Begins in Revelation 12:7-9** And there was war in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon and his angels fought back. 8 But he was not strong enough, and they lost their place in heaven. 9 The great dragon was hurled down - that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to **the earth**, and his angels with him.

**Gods Plan for Your Defense against Darkness!**

**Ephesians 6:10-18** Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. <sup>11</sup> Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. <sup>12</sup> 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. <sup>13</sup> Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and **having done all, to stand firm.** <sup>14</sup> Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, <sup>15</sup> and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. <sup>16</sup> In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; <sup>17</sup> and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, <sup>18</sup> 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.

## **Four Truths that Expose The Enemy's Weakness are discovered.**

I. **The First Truth** is Your Enlistment is **Encouraged (10)** Finally, **be strong** in the Lord and in the **strength** of his **might**.

A. **You are Encouraged** to **Submit** Your Enlistment (10) Finally, **be strong**

You're Not Drafted but You **Voluntarily** to Submit

B. **After You Submit** You will Discover the **Source** of Your Enlistment (10) strong in the **Lord**

C. **After You Submit** You will Discover the **Scope** of Your Enlistment (10) the strength of **his might**.

When a believer's faith is in God, then the Lord's Strength becomes the Strength of that believer! If the church could ever grasp the truth that we are as strong as that in whom we trust, it would revolutionize the world!

**Provision** of that kind of **Strength** comes through the means of **Grace**, **Prayer**, **Knowledge** of & **Obedience** to God's Word, and **Faith** in the Promises of God!

II. **The Second Truth** is Your Enemy is **Exposed** (11-12)

- A. **You Expose Your Enemy's Name (11)** Put on the whole armor of God that you may be able to stand against the schemes of **the devil**.

διάβολος – devil, false accuser, slanderer

We get the English word **Diabolical** from this word.

- B. **You Expose Your Enemy's Nature (11)** the **schemes** of the devil.

1. **The Devil has a Plan (John 10:10)** The thief comes only to **steal & kill & destroy**;
2. **The Devil has a Purpose (1 Peter 5:8)** Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for **someone to devour**.

- C. **You Expose Your Enemy's Position (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.

Too often, we are guilty of fighting the wrong foe! We will get at odds with our fellow believers, when the **real enemy is the devil!** He is a master at **sowing discord** among the brethren. We need to remember that **our fight is a spiritual battle**.

- III. **The Third Truth** is Your Equipment is **Established (13-17)** Therefore take up the **whole armor of God**, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm.

- A. **Belt of Truth (14)** Stand therefore, having fastened on the **belt of truth**,
  - B. **Breastplate of Righteousness (14)** and having put on the **breastplate of righteousness**,
  - C. **Shoes of Peace (15)** and, as **shoes** for your feet, having put on the **readiness** given by the **gospel of peace**.
  - D. **Shield of Faith (16)** In all circumstances take up the **shield of faith**, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one;
  - E. **Helmet of Salvation (17a)** and take the **helmet of salvation**,
  - F. **Sword of the Spirit (17b)** and the **sword of the Spirit**, which is the word of God,
- IV. **The Fourth Truth** is Your Engagement is **Essential (18)**

In verse (18) we find **What Must I Do!**

### **PRAYER**

- A. The **Frequency of Your Prayer (18)** praying at **all times**
- B. **The Force in Your Prayer (18b)** in the **Spirit**
- C. **The Fullness of Prayer (18c)** with all prayer and supplication.

**Philippians 4:6** Do not be **anxious** about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

- D. **The Focus of Your Prayer (18d)** To that end **keep alert**... making **supplication** for all the saints,

**1 Timothy 2:1-4** I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for **everyone**-- 2 for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. 3 This is good, and pleases God our Savior, 4 who wants **all men** to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.

E. **The Faithfulness of Your Prayer (18e)** with all **perseverance**

**James 1:12** Blessed is the man who **perseveres** under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the **crown of life** that God has promised to those who love him.

**Revelation 2:10** Do not be afraid of what you are about **to suffer**. I tell you, the devil will put some of you in prison to test you, and you will suffer persecution for ten days. **Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you the crown of life.**

**Pastor Andrew Brunson** falsely accused by Turkey.

Where have we heard that phrase before, “**To the point of Death.**”

**Philippians 2:8** And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming **obedient to the point of death**, even death on a cross.

**Praise Team Takes The Platform**