

**The Reign of Christ the King ~ Sunday, November 20, 2016**

**“Alive in Christ: Strength in Christ”**

**Ephesians 6:10-24**

“Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.” (Eph. 6:10)

**finally** = *liopon* =

The faithful believer who lives the faithful life can be sure of one thing: they will be involved in the spiritual \_\_\_\_\_.

“For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.” (Ephesians 6:12)

These two accounts, book marking Jesus’ earthly ministry, teach us that the battle doesn’t get \_\_\_\_\_ as we grow in obedience to God. If anything, Satan will \_\_\_\_\_ his efforts against those who continue to \_\_\_\_\_ serve the Lord.

Paul isn’t talking about physical strength here, but \_\_\_\_\_ strength. He’s not talking about our spiritual strength, but \_\_\_\_\_.

The day we start thinking that we have what it takes to be victorious in the battle is the day we’ll be \_\_\_\_\_.

**strong** = **endynamoo** is a \_\_\_\_\_ verb that means something that happens to us or is done on our behalf.

We are engaged in a spiritual battle, but we don’t fight in our own \_\_\_\_\_.

“...the battle belongs to the Lord.” (1 Samuel 17:47)

Where God calls, He \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

“Put on the whole armour of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil...” (Ephesians 6:11)

“Therefore take up the whole armour of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm.” (Ephesians 6:13)

In order to take advantage of the strength of God’s might, a believer must first put on the \_\_\_\_\_ that God supplies.

**put on** = *enduo* =

The full armour of God isn’t something that is to be put on and taken off, but something we put on \_\_\_\_\_.

**stand** = *histemi* =

In the spiritual battle that’s being waged all around us, our role and responsibility is to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ firm.

“Resist the devil and he will fall from you.” (James 4:7)

“Be sober of spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls about like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. But resist him, firm in your faith.” (1 Peter 5:8-9)

**THE FULL ARMOUR OF GOD**

**#1. The Belt of \_\_\_\_\_.**

The belt was important because the breastplate and the rest of the armour was \_\_\_\_\_ to it. And because it was used to tie up the loose ends of the soldier’s \_\_\_\_\_.

**truth** = **aletheia** = The content of that which is true. In other words, God’s truth is absolutely \_\_\_\_\_ for the believer in their battle against the schemes of the enemy. This truth is embedded in God’s \_\_\_\_\_ and in the person of \_\_\_\_\_.

**truth** = **aletheia** = an attitude of \_\_\_\_\_. We are, with God’s help to live \_\_\_\_\_, sincere, truthful lives; and to refrain from those little white \_\_\_\_\_ that eventually trip us up.

Truth is the only thing that will keep us from getting tangled up in our own:

**#2. The breastplate of \_\_\_\_\_.**

The breastplate \_\_\_\_\_ made to form-fit each individual soldier, and was secured to the belt and worn for one thing only: to protect the soldier’s \_\_\_\_\_.

Just as breastplate belonged to the soldier, \_\_\_\_\_ belongs to the believer. The soldier didn't have anything to do with making the breastplate, nor does the believer make his or her own righteousness, but is covered in the righteousness of \_\_\_\_\_.

To put on the breastplate of righteousness is to live in \_\_\_\_\_, moment-by-moment \_\_\_\_\_ to God. It is \_\_\_\_\_ living, in which God supplies the \_\_\_\_\_ and the power, and we supply the \_\_\_\_\_.

**#3. The shoes of the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.**  
If we don't "shod our feet with preparation of the gospel of peace," we're destined to \_\_\_\_\_ and fall.

When put on the shoes of the gospel of peace, we stand in the confidence of God's \_\_\_\_\_ for us, His union with us, and His commitment to \_\_\_\_\_ for us.

"What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us..." (Romans 8:31, 37-39)

"With all these, take up the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one." (Ephesians 6:16)

Shield of faith = the faith in Christ that appropriates \_\_\_\_\_ and continues to bring blessing and strength as it trusts God for daily \_\_\_\_\_. Paul isn't talking about faith in something, but rather faith in \_\_\_\_\_—someone who is infinitely \_\_\_\_\_ and absolutely \_\_\_\_\_.

Flaming arrows = the \_\_\_\_\_ that the enemy continuously bombards us with—temptations to:

"Every word of God is tested. He is a shield to those who take refuge in Him..." (Proverbs 30:5)

**#5. The Helmet of \_\_\_\_\_.**  
Paul relates the helmet to salvation because Satan's attacks are directed at the believer's \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ.

His main tactic is to come at us with the club of \_\_\_\_\_ and cut us with \_\_\_\_\_.

as the source of our \_\_\_\_\_. The helmet reminds us who our Saviour is—it reminds us that our salvation is in \_\_\_\_\_ alone.

No amount of \_\_\_\_\_ on our part will keep Jesus from saving us; and no amount of unrighteousness on our part will keep Jesus from \_\_\_\_\_ us saved. However, it will keep us from \_\_\_\_\_ we are saved

**#6. The sword of the \_\_\_\_\_, which is the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.**  
"of the Spirit," not only suggests the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of the sword—it is from the Spirit and it's \_\_\_\_\_—but also how the believer is to use it.

The sword of the Spirit isn't a physical weapon designed by human minds or forged by human hands, but the perfect spiritual weapon of \_\_\_\_\_ origin and power, used by \_\_\_\_\_. Paul explicitly states that this sword is \_\_\_\_\_—the Word of God.

It is the source of truth, \_\_\_\_\_, joy, spiritual growth and maturity, and \_\_\_\_\_. It's first and foremost a \_\_\_\_\_ weapon, capable of deflecting the blows of the enemy. It's also an \_\_\_\_\_ weapon—it's living and active and can be used to proclaim God's truth in such a powerful way that it \_\_\_\_\_ the enemy.

The more we \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ Scripture, the more we'll be able to march through Satan's strongholds and lead people from his kingdom to God's.

God is our strength, however, His strength is only appropriated through \_\_\_\_\_—the whole armour of God:

**Are you in the battle?  
Have you chosen the easy side or the winning side?**

Even though we're in a battle now—Jesus has already won the \_\_\_\_\_. In His death and resurrection, Jesus was \_\_\_\_\_ over Satan and \_\_\_\_\_ the power of sin and death.

"Death has been swallowed up in victory. Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?" The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." (1 Corinthians 15:54-57)