



## Eph 6:10–13

**Read**, the passage below...

Ask the Lord to open your eyes, that you may behold wonderful things from His Word (Ps 119:18), and that you would receive His Word with humility—putting it into practice in your daily life (Jas 1:21–22).

### Passage:<sup>1</sup>

- 10 Finally, <sup>a</sup>be **strong** in the Lord and in <sup>b</sup>the strength of His might.
- 11 <sup>a</sup>Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be **able** to **stand** firm against the <sup>b</sup>schemes of the devil.
- 12 For our <sup>a</sup>struggle **is not** against <sup>1b</sup>flesh and blood, but <sup>c</sup>against the rulers, against the powers, against the <sup>d</sup>world forces of this <sup>e</sup>darkness, against the <sup>f</sup>spiritual forces of wickedness in <sup>g</sup>the heavenly places.
- 13 Therefore, **take** up <sup>a</sup>the full armor of God, so that you will **be** able to <sup>b</sup>resist in <sup>c</sup>the evil day, and having **done** everything, to **stand** firm.

### Context:

The true Christian described in Ephesians 1–3 who lives the faithful life described in 4:1–6:9 can be sure that he will be involved in the spiritual warfare described in 6:10–20. The faithful Christian life is a battle; it is warfare on a grand scale—because when God begins to bless, Satan begins to attack.

If we are walking worthy of our calling, in humility rather than pride, in unity rather than divisiveness, in the new self rather than the old, in love rather than lust, in light rather than darkness, in wisdom rather than foolishness, in the fullness of the Spirit rather than the drunkenness of wine, and in mutual submission rather than self-serving independence, then we can be absolutely certain we will have opposition and conflict.<sup>2</sup>

That is why Paul concludes this letter with the admonitions contained in Eph 6:10–20.

### Exploring the Text:

As you answer the following questions, please take the time to read all the **cross references** at the end of the questions. These are provided to enrich your study experience.

1. What is the “big picture” imagery that Paul uses in Eph 6:1–17?  
Do you find it easy or difficult to relate to this kind of imagery? Why / why not?  
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.....
2. List the five descriptions that Paul gives for the enemies of Christians (vv11–12).  
i. ....  
ii. ....  
iii. ....

<sup>1</sup> Scripture quotations taken from the New American Standard Bible® (NASB), Copyright © 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1995 by The Lockman Foundation. Used by permission.

<sup>2</sup> MacArthur, John. Ephesians. MNTC, 331.



iv. ....

v. ....

3. What are some of the implications behind Paul's descriptions (in the question above)?

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4. How do we as humans stack up against Satan? Is he an opponent that we should take seriously? (1Pet 5:8)

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Do you know the meaning of the words:

"devil" .....

"satan" .....

5. Should we fear Satan? Why / Why not? Support your answer with Scripture.

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6. How does Paul describe the Christian's battle posture? What verbs does he use?

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7. Is there any biblical support for deliverance ministries? Should Christians ever "take the fight to the devil?"  
Are we ever called to overcome/defeat/bind/conquer Satan? Support your answer biblically.

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8. How do the following verses relate to the question above? (Rom 8:37, 16:20; 1Cor 15:57; Eph 2:1–7; Heb 2:14–15)

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9. How does the casting out of demons by Jesus and the disciples affect your answer to question 7?

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10. Where does the Christian's strength in the spiritual battle come from? (v10) In our everyday experience, what does Christian victory over the forces of darkness look like?

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11. In the Greek, the verb to "be strong" in v10, is a passive imperative. The implication is that we are commanded to be empowered by God's strength. How is God's strength described at the end of chapters 1, and 3?

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12. According to the second half of chapter 1, what was the preeminent display of God's power? How has this power already been brought to bear upon our lives? What implication does that hold for our struggle against Satan?

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13. What is the implication behind the words 'so that' in the middle of v13? ('that' in the ESV)

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### Cross Reference:

14. Paul says that we must stand firm against the schemes of the devil. Read the following verses and briefly discuss some of the schemes that Satan employs against believers.

Eph 4:14; 2Cor 11:13-14

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1 Cor 7:5

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2 Cor 2:11, Eph 4:27; Heb 12:14-17

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15. Read Matt 4:1-11, 26:36-41... What were the weapons that Jesus employed in His own fight against the devil?

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16. Read 2Cor 10:3-5... What is the battleground on which our war with the devil is primarily waged?

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### Further Reflection and Prayer

17. Consider the areas where you are most susceptible to Satan's schemes. What specific Scriptures can you memorise to aide you in these very specific areas of battle against sin and Satan? Use this opportunity to confess your sin and ask God to strengthen you in your daily battle for His glory.

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