

Review

Paul is writing from a Roman prison Ephesians 1-3 Who We Are Ephesians 4-6 How We Live

Review – Who We Are

Chosen by the Father in Advance, not as an afterthought (1:3-6).

Redeemed in Christ (1:7-12).

Sealed and Secure by the Spirit (1:13-14).

Review – Who We Are

New Life in Christ (2:1-10).

New Family in Christ (2:11-22).

New Revelation in Christ (3:1-21).

Review – How We Live

Walk in Unity (4:1-16).
Walk in Holiness (4:17-32).
Walk in Love (5:1-6).
Walk in Light (5:7-14).
Walk in Wisdom (5:15-20).

Battle Objective: Stand firm in the spiritual battle

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's

Eph 6:10-11

schemes.

For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

Heavenly Realms

- Blessed with every spiritual blessing in Christ (1:3).
- Place where Christ is seated (Eph 1:20).
- Christians are raised and seated with Christ (2:6).
- Through the Church, God makes known his wisdom in the heavenly realms (3:10).
- Place of an ongoing struggle between good and evil (6:12).

Heavenly Realms

"It must be realized that positionally believers have victory in Christ in the heavenlies, but in reality the victory will not be fully realized until the subjugation of evil yet in the future. Therefore, this struggle is a present reality which will culminate in the defeat of the devil and his angels at the second coming of Christ (Eph 1:10, 21; cf. 1 Cor 15:24-28)."

-Harold Hoehner

Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.

Christians are to stand firm, holding the ground Christ has won.

Battle Wardrobe: Armor of God

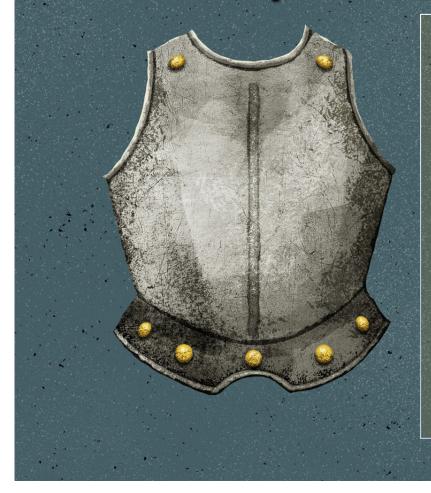
Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist.

Belt of Truth

"We need the truth of doctrine and the truth of character to keep us from falling apart." -Swindoll

With the breastplate of righteousness in place.

Breastplate of Righteousness



Just as a soldier's breastplate protected his chest from enemy attacks, so sanctifying righteous living guard's believer's hearts against the assaults of the devil. -Hoehner

And with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of

peace.

Eph 6:15

Boots - The Gospel of Peace

Our "footing" against Satan is our peace with God.

-Swindoll

In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one.

The Shield of Faith



Our defense against the barrage of enemy attacks is an iron clad faith in Christ.

Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

The Helmet of Salvation

A believer's assured destiny is a key defense.

Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

The Sword of the Spirit

A believer's offensive weapon is the Word of God.

The Sword of the Spirit

"The sword of the spirit is not something we can pick up as novices and wield like pros. Rather, it takes many years to grow in the Word of God, sharpening our skills, enhancing our knowledge, and applying it to our lives. Then, with God's Word in our heads through memorization, in our hearts through meditation, and in our hands through application, we have the power to effect change by speaking, sharing, and living out that word."

-Swindoll

God has provided what is needed to stand, we must be intentional to utilize it.

Battle Necessity: Prayer

And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.

Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.

Eph 6:19-20

Your prayer life is a gauge of your dependence (or lack of) on God.

Battle Partners

Tychicus, the dear brother and faithful servant in the Lord, will tell you everything, so that you also may know how I am and what I am doing. I am sending him to you for this very purpose, that you may know how we are, and that he may encourage you.

Eph 6:21-22

Peace to the brothers and sisters, and love with faith from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Grace to all who love our Lord Jesus Christ with an undying love. Eph 6:23-24

Summary

Christians stand firm in the battle when clad in the armor of God, living a life marked by prayer and community.

Next Steps •I will commit to praying for the Czech Team while they are in the battle overseas. I will show my dependence on the Lord by praying consistently this week.

