
◆

Standing Firm in the Christian Life

◆

EPHESIANS 6:10-24

Crosswords Sunday School

April 12, 2026

Ephesians

Book Theme- The Eternal Plan of God

Book Key Verse

Ephesians 4.1 - Therefore I, the prisoner of the Lord, implore you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called,

Lesson Key Verse

Ephesians 6:13 - Therefore, take up the full armor of God, so that you will be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm.

Lesson Theme – Paul explains to his readers that in order to live the Christian life, each believer must recognize they are in a spiritual war, they must stand firm in the power of the Lord, and they must act on the spiritual knowledge God has given them.

I.

Standing Firm in the Spiritual War

Verses 10-12

Our Strength for the War (10)

“Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might”

- **Strong in the Lord** — Be strengthened or enabled; a passive verb.
- **Strength of His might** — Power to direct or determine, with the capability required.

What Paul has prayed for this twice in this letter, he now calls believers to take hold of.

Ephesians 1:19 — and what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe. These are **in accordance with the working of the strength of His might**

Ephesians 3:16 — that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, **to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner man**

*"Have I not commanded you? **Be strong and courageous!** Do not tremble or be dismayed, for the **Lord your God is with you wherever you go.**"*

—Joshua 1:9

Our Duty for the War (11a)

"Stand firm"

— "Stand firm" appears **3 times** in this passage

Ephesians 6:13 — Therefore, take up the full armor of God, so that you will be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm.

— Put on the full armor of God, so that:

— You will be able to stand firm

— You will be able to resist in the evil day

To stand firm = to resist in the evil day

“

On putting on Him, and the new man in Him, we put on “the armour of light,” “the whole armour of God.” No opening at the head, the feet, the belly, the eye, the ear, or the tongue, is to be given to Satan. Believers have once for all overcome him. On the ground of this fundamental victory already gained, they are ever again to fight against and overcome him, even as they who once die with Christ have continually to mortify their members upon earth

”

Jamison, Faucet & Brown

Our Enemy's Attacks (11b) - Deceit

“the schemes of the devil”

Genesis 3 — *Indeed, has God said...*

Mark 13:22 — for false Christs and false prophets will arise... *in order to lead astray...*
the elect.

Ephesians 4:14 — we are no longer to be children, tossed here and there by waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, *by craftiness in deceitful scheming*

2 Corinthians 11:3 — But I am afraid that, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, *your minds will be led astray* from the simplicity and purity of devotion to Christ.

Our Enemy's Attacks (11b) – False Religion

“the schemes of the devil”

Matthew 4 — The Temptation of Jesus

2 Corinthians 4:4 — *the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving*

2 Corinthians 11:13–15 — *Satan disguises himself as an angel of light.*

2 Thessalonians 2:9–11 — *and with all the deception of wickedness for those who perish*

“

*Wherever we come in contact with evil—
whether in our own hearts or elsewhere—
there we are to make war.*

”

Albert Barnes

For I am convinced that **neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities**, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, **nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God**, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

— Romans 8:38–39

II.

Standing Firm in the Armor of God

Verses 13–17

The Armor Defined

Isaiah — this armor is Jesus Christ's armor

Isaiah 11:5 — righteousness will be the belt about His loins, and faithfulness the belt about His waist.

Isaiah 59:17 — He put on righteousness like a breastplate, and a helmet of salvation on His head; and He put on garments of vengeance for clothing.

Isaiah 52:7 — How lovely on the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who announces peace and brings good news of happiness, who announces salvation.

Isaiah 49:2 — He has made My mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of His hand He has concealed Me.

The Armor Explained - Truth

Truth as opposed to the lies that Satan tells

John 8:44 — "You are of your father the devil... He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth because there is no truth in him. Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own nature, for he is a liar and the father of lies."

— **Jesus is the truth** — John 14:6

— **The Spirit discloses truth** — John 16:13

— **God's Word is truth and sanctifies** — John 17:17

*"I have come into the world, to testify to the truth.
Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice."*



*Pilate said to Him, **"What is truth?"***

— John 18:37-38

The Armor Explained - Righteousness

The quality of being in accordance with God's law. The Greek noun(s)... refer both to moral righteousness and legal justice. Lexham Theological Wordbook

2 Corinthians 6:14 — Do not be bound together with unbelievers; for **what partnership have righteousness and lawlessness**, or what fellowship has light with darkness?

— Satan infuses the world with lawlessness — the idea that men are autonomous and can do anything they want.

“

[Righteousness is] the righteous status or standing that God gives the sinner. It's understanding and applying our justification. We have been declared righteous before God through the righteousness of Jesus Christ.

”

TOM PENNINGTON

The Armor Explained – The Gospel

We cannot stand firm without the truth of the Gospel having already changed us by the power of God.

Ephesians 1:7 — In Him we have redemption through His blood, the **forgiveness of our trespasses**, according to the riches of His grace

Ephesians 2:4–5 — But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, **made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved),**

*He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf,
so that **we might become the righteousness of
God in Him.***

— 2 Corinthians 5:21

The Armor Explained – Faith

Faith in Jesus as the author and perfecter of our faith – Hebrews 12.2

Ephesians 2:8 — For by grace **you have been saved through faith**; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God

Genesis 15:1 — "**Do not fear** [have faith], Abram, I am a shield to you; your reward shall be very great."

Proverbs 18:10 — The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous runs into it and is safe.

For **whatever is born of God overcomes the world;**
and this is the victory that has overcome the world — **our**
faith. Who is the one who overcomes the world, but **he who**
believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

— 1 John 5:4–5

“

Satan attacks by indirection — through good things from which no evil is suspected. There is a hint of its propagating power: one sin draws another in its track. Temptation acts on susceptible material. Self-confidence is combustible. Faith, in doing away with dependence on self, takes away fuel for the dart.

”

MARVIN VINCENT — WORD STUDIES IN THE NT

The Armor Explained – Salvation

Salvation is more than the understanding that we are saved – it is the promise that we will always saved by the power of God

John 17:12 - “While I was with them, I was keeping them in Your name which You have given Me; and **I guarded them and not one of them perished** but the son of perdition, so that the Scripture would be fulfilled.

John 18:8–9 - Jesus answered, “I told you that I am He; so if you seek Me, let these go their way,” to fulfill the word which He spoke, “**Of those whom You have given Me I lost not one.**”

1 Thessalonians 5:8 - But since we are of the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and **as a helmet, the hope of salvation.**

The Armor Explained – The Word of God

Perhaps the most important item to stand firm – God's powerful Word

Revelation 19:15 — From His mouth comes a sharp sword, so that with it He may strike down the nations.

Hebrews 4:12 — For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

"It is written, "Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God."

"It is written, 'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.'

"Go, Satan! For ***it is written,*** 'You shall worship the Lord your God, and serve Him only.'"

"Then the devil left Him"

— Matthew 4.4-10

III.

Standing Firm in Prayer

Verses 18–20

Standing Firm in Prayer

- Prayer **of all kinds**
 - Prayer **at all times**
 - Prayer **in the Spirit**
 - Prayer **with alertness**
 - Prayer **with perseverance**
-

The Targets for Prayer

For all the saints... and on my behalf

For all the saints

For church leaders

IV.

Standing Firm with the Body

Verses 21-22

Standing Firm with the Body

Tychicus

The beloved brother

The faithful minister

V.

**Standing Firm in the Commander's
Gracious Gifts**

Verses 23-24

Our Commander's Gracious Gifts

Peace, love, and Grace

Ephesians 6:23-24 Peace be to the brethren,
and love with faith,
from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
Grace be with all
those who love our Lord Jesus Christ with incorruptible love.

◆

Application

◆

Standing Firm in the Spiritual War

EPHESIANS 6:10-24

Application

Determine whose side you are on in the spiritual war.

Fill your mind with the work of God in your life – in salvation, in sanctification, and, ultimately, in glorification

Prepare to stand firm in the Christian life –

- Knowing that it is a constant war
- Knowing that we have a powerful enemy
- Knowing that God has give us the armor to stand firm

— ♦ —

Stand Firm

— ♦ —