

Bible Sunday Sermon



11-23-25

“STRONG IN THE LORD: THE ARMOR OF GOD”

Ephesians 6:10–18 (NIV)

INTRODUCTION

Hello church! Today we come to one of the most powerful and exciting passages in the New Testament—a passage every believer needs in these last days. The world is noisy. Temptations are louder. Anxiety, fear, depression, spiritual confusion are everywhere. But God has not left His people helpless. He has given us armor—His armor.

Paul closes his letter to the Ephesians with a battle cry—not to scare us, but to stabilize us. Not to intimidate us, but to equip us. This passage reminds us that spiritual warfare is real, but victory in Christ is certain.

1. OUR SOURCE OF STRENGTH

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

Paul does “not” say:

- .“Be strong in yourself.”
- .“Be strong in your willpower.”
- .“Be strong in your personality.”

He says: Be strong in the LORD.

(3) truths about strength in the Lord:

1. Strength is received, not achieved.
God does not ask you to manufacture spiritual strength; He asks you to take His.

2. His strength is unlimited.

The same power that raised Christ from the dead (Ephesians 1:19–20) is now living in you. ***Ephesians 1:19-20***

NIV and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength [20] he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms,

2. Battles are won before they are fought.

Victory begins when you say: **“Lord, I cannot, but You can.”**

2. OUR REAL ENEMY

Ephesians 6:11 NIV

Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.

Ephesians 6:12 NIV

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.

The enemy is not the person who hurt you...

Not the co-worker who irritates you...

Not the family member who betrayed you...

Not the political party you dislike.

Your real enemy is spiritual, invisible, and tactical.

Paul names four levels of spiritual opposition:

- .Rulers
- .Authorities
- .Powers of this dark world
- .Spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms

This reminds us:

The Christian life is not a playground—it's a battleground.

But praise God, we are not fighting FOR victory—we are fighting FROM victory, because of the cross and the resurrection.

3. THE COMMAND: PUT ON THE ARMOR

Ephesians 6:13 NIV

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.

Paul repeats this twice. Why?

Because many believers try to face spiritual battles without spiritual equipment.

You do not drift into spiritual strength—you dress into spiritual strength.

You would not go hunting without gear...

You would not go to war without protection...

You would not go into a storm without shelter...

So why would we face a spiritual enemy with no spiritual armor?

4. THE ARMOR PIECE BY PIECE

A. The Belt of Truth (v.14)

Ephesians 6:14 NIV

Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place,

The belt of a Roman soldier held everything together—sword, tunic, breastplate.

Truth stabilizes your life.

Truth holds everything in place.

Truth is the first line of defense.

What is truth?

.The Word of God (John 17:17) **John 17:17 NIV Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth.**

.Jesus Himself (John 14:6) **John 14:6**
NIV. Jesus answered, "I am the way
and the truth and the life. No one
comes to the Father except through
me.

.Honesty in your inward life

The enemy works through lies.
Truth is your freedom.

B. The Breastplate of Righteousness **(v.14)**

"...with the breastplate of righteousness
in place."

This is not your righteousness—it is Christ's
righteousness given to you.

The breastplate protected the heart.
Your heart is always the enemy's target.

The enemy whispers:
"You're not saved."
"You're not forgiven."

“You’re not worthy.”

“You’ve messed up too badly.”

But righteousness says:

“I am covered by the blood of Jesus. I am forgiven. I belong to Him.”

C. The Shoes of the Gospel of Peace (v.15)

Ephesians 6:15 NIV

**and with your feet fitted with the
readiness that comes from the gospel of
peace.**

Roman soldiers wore cleated sandals to keep them from slipping.

The gospel gives you:

- .Peace WITH God
- .Peace OF God
- .Peace to share with others

You can walk through storms without slipping because the gospel anchors your footing.

D. The Shield of Faith (v.16)

Ephesians 6:16 NIV

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

Flaming arrows represent attacks meant to burn and spread:

- .Fear
- .Temptation

- .Accusation
- .Discouragement
- .Doubt
- .Mental anxiety

Faith extinguishes every arrow—not some—all.

Faith says:

“God is who He says He is, and He will do what He says He will do.”

E. The Helmet of Salvation (v.17)

Ephesians 6:17 NIV

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

The mind is the enemy’s favorite battlefield.

The helmet protects your identity:

- .You are saved
- .You are sealed
- .You are secure
- .You are loved
- .You are adopted
- .You are not condemned
- .You are not who you used to be

When your mind is right, your life walks right.

F. The Sword of the Spirit — the Word of God (v.17)

“...and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.”

This is your only offensive weapon.

Jesus used Scripture in the wilderness to defeat Satan (Matthew 4).
He didn't argue.

He didn't negotiate.
He didn't explain.
He declared the Word.

You don't overcome lies with feelings—you overcome lies with Scripture.

Fill your heart with Scripture until Scripture fills your mouth.

5. PRAYER: THE POWER BEHIND THE ARMOR

Ephesians 6:18 NIV

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.

Prayer is not a piece of armor—prayer is what brings power to every piece of armor.

Without prayer:

- .The belt has no authority
- .The breastplate has no confidence
- .The shoes have no traction
- .The shield has no strength
- .The helmet has no assurance
- .The sword has no sharpness

Prayer is the oxygen of the believer.

Paul says “ALL”:

- .All occasions
- .All kinds of prayers
- .Always keep on praying
- .For all the Lord’s people

A prayerless Christian is a powerless Christian.

A praying Christian is an armored Christian.

6. FINAL ENCOURAGEMENT: GOD WANTS YOU TO STAND

Paul repeats “stand” multiple times in this passage.

God wants you to stand when:

- .Temptation attacks
- .Fear attacks
- .Accusation attacks
- .Doubt attacks
- .Worldly pressure attacks
- .Spiritual darkness pushes in

You do not stand alone.
You stand armored.
You stand empowered.
You stand victorious in Christ.

CONCLUSION:

Ephesians 6:10–18 reminds us that the Christian life is not passive. We are soldiers—not victims—in a spiritual war that Christ has already won. The armor of God is not optional; it is essential. And it is available, right now, to every believer who will take it up by faith.

CLOSING PRAYER:

“Father, thank You for equipping us with Your mighty armor. Teach us to stand strong in the Lord and in Your mighty power. Cover us with truth, righteousness, peace, faith, salvation, and the Word of God. Fill us with the Holy Spirit and make us people of prayer. Strengthen every believer here today to stand firm against every scheme of the enemy. In Jesus’ mighty name we pray—Amen.”

