

PLEASE NOTE WE WILL CONTINUE TO NEED A PASSCODE TO JOIN THE STUDY!

NOTES FOR THIS WEEK: 11/2-3/2020
THIS WEEK'S STUDY: *Ephesians 6:10-17*

7 PM MONDAY NIGHT & 7 AM TUESDAY MORNING CLASSROOM AND ONLINE BIBLE STUDY MEETINGS: CONTINUING IN THE BOOK OF EPHESIANS!

Monday 7pm Bible Study - Time: 07:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)
THE MONDAY NIGHT STUDY HAS RESUMED MEETING IN CLASSROOM HS112, CCCM, AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!!
MEETING ID# - 87858644763 Passcode: 087484 - Mon 7 pm!

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87858644763>

Meeting ID: 878 5864 4763

Passcode: 087484

One tap mobile

+16699006833,,87858644763# US (San Jose)

+13462487799,,87858644763# US (Houston)

Tuesday 7am Bible Study - Time: 07:00 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada).
THE TUESDAY MORNING STUDY HAS RESUMED MEETING THE FAMILY ROOM, CCCM, AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM
MEETING ID# - 85309150746 Passcode: 715340 - Tues 7 am!

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85309150746>

Meeting ID: 853 0915 0746

Passcode: 715340

One tap mobile

+16699006833,,85309150746# US (San Jose)

+12532158782,,85309150746# US (Tacoma)

Phil Twente ptwente@gmail.com cell 714 425 9221
For Audio & notes from previous studies— www.ptwente.com

OPENING PRAYER - Introduction

Put on the whole armor of God!

Now the Apostle Paul enters into the final section of the Book, *finally my brethren*. He is talking about how we should stand, the believer's warfare. It starts out with the wealth of the believers, chapter one, two and three. The walk--unity, love, light, wisdom -- of the believers in chapter four, five and part of six. Then the spiritual warfare, which all believers will encounter in this world!

"Always" - Kristian Stanfill (4:28)

My foes are many, they rise against me But I will hold my ground I will not fear the war, I will not fear the storm My help is on the way, my help is on the way

Refrain: Oh, my God, He will not delay My refuge and strength always I will not fear, His promise is true My God will come through always, always

Troubles surround me, chaos abounding My soul will rest in You I will not fear the war, I will not fear the storm My help is on the way, my help is on the way (Refrain)

I lift my eyes up, my help comes from the Lord (4X) From You Lord, from You Lord

Oh, my God, He will not delay My refuge and strength always I will not fear, His promise is true My God will come through always, always Oh, my God, He will not delay My refuge and strength always, always

THIS WEEK'S STUDY: Ephesians 6:10-17

This week: *The Whole Armor of God* –

Eph 6:10-20 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.

[11] Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to STAND AGAINST the wiles of the devil.

[12] For we do not wrestle AGAINST flesh and blood, but AGAINST principalities, AGAINST powers, AGAINST the rulers of the darkness of this age, AGAINST spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.

[13] Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to WITHSTAND in the evil day, and having done all, to STAND.

[14] STAND therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness,

[15] and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace;

[16] above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one.

[17] And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God;

[18] praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints —

[19] and for me, that utterance may be given to me, that I may open my mouth boldly to make

*known the mystery of the gospel,
[20] for which I am an ambassador in chains; that in it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.*

Eph 6:10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.

- ***Finally, my brethren***, now in the light of all I have been telling you about yourselves, and of the kind of life you have to live, is that all? No, there is another matter that must be considered, that is, the mighty opposition to Christian living, spiritual warfare, which we all inevitably encounter in this world.
- ***Be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might!*** Not in the **power of your might**. We stand in the power of His might! Our strength is not in ourselves. Our strength is in Him. We don't look within ourselves for that inner reserve or that inner strength! We look to Him to strengthen us in our weakness!
- **Paul said, (2Co 12:10, 9) *For when I am weak, then I am strong. [9] for My strength is made perfect in weakness.*** If I look for my strength to come from my inner self, that may get me through a small trial, but when you get to the big ones, you'll find that this is not sufficient! You have to reach out beyond yourself and find your strength ***in the Lord. Be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might!***
- **God has vast reservoirs of *might* that can be realized as *power* in our Christian life.** But ***His might*** does not work in me as I sit passively. ***His might*** works in me as I rely on it, and step out to do the work. I can rely on it and do no work, or I can do work without relying on it. But both of these fall short. I must rely on ***His might*** and then do the work.
- **Being careful not to let that strength be lost or sapped away by these type of things:** Too much busy-ness, doing what I think should be done; The love of money and career; A desire for to be well thought of by others; Ungodly entertainment; A wrong attitude toward, doubting, or not spending time in the Word of God!
- **Self-examination!** Every believer needs to determine over time, through self-examination, whether or not your Spiritual strength is increasing or declining. Are we growing in Spiritual strength?

Eph 6:11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

- **Two essential components!** First, you must ***be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.*** Then, you must ***put on the whole armor of God.*** Too often teaching on Christian spiritual warfare combat neglects the first. If you take a weak man who can barely stand, and put the best ***armor*** on him he will still be an ineffective soldier and easily beaten. Equipping for Christian combat must begin with ***be strengthened in the Lord and in the power of His might***, which shows the source of this strength.
- ***Put on the whole armor of God:*** The emphasis needs to be placed on this spiritual armor being that ***"of God"***! This is a Spiritual armor, not a physical one! God gives the believer a full set of Spiritual armor, sending us out into the Spiritual battlefield with everything we need at our disposal. As believers we have the victory! We fight from victory, not for victory! We know that Jesus disarmed all ***principalities and powers, (Col 2:15) Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it.***
- **This armor is of God both is the sense that it is from Him, and it is His actual armor.** In the Old Testament, it is the LORD who wears the ***armor (Isa 59:17) For He put on righteousness***

*as a breastplate, And a helmet of salvation on His head; He put on the garments of vengeance for clothing, And was clad with zeal as a cloak. He now shares that **armor** with us - no wonder we are **more than conquerors!***

- **There are many Scriptures that speak to us of *standing against this subtlety and the wiles of the devil:*** Satan's schemes against us come to nothing when we **stand** against them in the power of God. *(2Co 2:11) lest Satan should take advantage of us; for we are not ignorant of his devices.* Many times we are ignorant of his devices. *(2Co 11:3) But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.*
- **We have a very powerful, wily, scheming foe.** He desires to destroy you! Because it is a spiritual battle, God has given to us a spiritual armament, where we can **withstand** these attacks of the enemy against us. Physical weapons have no value in this battle!
- **When does Satan usually attack believers?** We believers need to be especially aware during these times: When the believer is **newly converted**; During **times of affliction**. When **achieving great success**. At times of **idleness**; At times of **isolation**; When **approaching death**. Satan is also crafty in how he attacks believers: As a roaring lion! As a friend! As an angel of light!

Eph 6:12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.

- **Recognize! The first thing is to recognize that the real conflict is spiritual**, with Satan being the enemy. If he can draw you into the **flesh**, into a physical conflict, he has the decided advantage over you, but if we war against him, in the Spirit, with the spiritual weapons that have been made available to us, then we have the decided advantage over him!
- **Often, when attacked, we respond in the flesh**, not recognizing the spiritual nature of the conflict. We immediately fall into the trap, getting involved in a physical kind of exchange. We need to recognize this is an attack of Satan, especially when the charges are so totally spurious and wrong. We get righteously indignant! I'm going to defend myself and all. If you defend yourself, the Lord will let you. But if you **let the Lord defend you**, He'll do a much better job than you could ever do.
- **Resist-refuse!** - The minute you recognize that this is an attack of Satan, you are to resist and refuse his wily attempt to draw you into a battle. Then you start **to respond** and to react to it, **by refusing** it. I don't have to take that from Satan! I can refuse the attacks!
- **The third "R" is to rejoice** that God has given to us the **power of His Spirit, though our position of victory in Jesus Christ!** He has given to us the Spiritual weapons whereby we can repel the attack! Jesus said regarding Satan, *(Joh 14:30) I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler of this world is coming, and he has nothing in Me.* In *(1Jn 3:9) Whoever has been born of God does not sin, for His seed remains in him; and he cannot sin, because he has been born of God.* We believers do not practice sin. Satan cannot touch us! Therefore, **I rejoice in my position of victory in Christ Jesus!**

Eph 6:13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. (1 Peter 5:8-9) : Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. [9] Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are

experienced by your brotherhood in the world.

- **Therefore (because this is a spiritual battle) take up the whole armor of God.** Often we get caught up in trying to describe the various bits of *armor* and how they covered the Roman soldier. But we are **to take up the whole armor of God.** It isn't the *breastplate* that the Romans' had. It's the **righteousness that I have in Christ Jesus, that covers and protects me!** That's the spiritual *armor*. I am covered by the **righteousness of Christ!** Satan's attacks are often against you in condemning you. **(Rom 8:34) Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us. I am in the righteousness of Christ** accepted by God because **my righteousness is through my faith in Jesus Christ and is complete.** When Satan comes and begins to condemn me, I am defended by this **righteousness** that I have through my faith in Jesus Christ.
- **The spiritual armament of the believing soldier needs to be emphasized!** We shouldn't make a big emphasis on the physical aspects, but we need to look at the *spiritual* because the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but they are mighty through God. **(2Co 10:4) For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds,** It is putting on **the whole armor of God.**
- **Withstand in the evil day.** Ever since the fall of Adam, there is an enemy who is always attacking you, and even though you got your victory, **stand**, and make sure that you continue so to do. Always keep on your feet, which is difficult, for there is an enemy who is ever threatening you and trying to knock you down. The great task of life is to keep standing!
- **and having done all, to stand:** Having the victory through Jesus Christ defeating Satan on the cross, we overcome, to stand as conquerors, having **taken up the whole armor of God**, without wavering or falling, in order **to stand**, and **to withstand** the enemy.

Eph 6:14 Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, (Isa 11:5) Righteousness shall be the belt of His loins, And faithfulness the belt of His waist.

- **Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth!** The first part of our Spiritual *armor* is **truth!** **(Joh 14:6a) Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life."** Today philosophy has become one of despair because they have despaired of discovering **truth**. The philosophers have concluded that **truth** does not exist in a universal form. **Truth** is what you believe **truth** to be, a personal kind of experiencing of **truth**. If you experience it to be **truth**, then it is **truth** to you. But it isn't necessarily true for all of us. And they despaired of discovering truth, the philosophy of despair.
- **The world has despaired of hoping to find truth.** So what do you do? Christianity does not call you into a leap of faith into some kind of unreasonable spiritual experience. The Lord never asked you to take this leap of faith into something unreasonable. But come and let us reason together. **(Isa 1:18a) "Come now, and let us reason together," Says the LORD. (1Pe 3:15) But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear;**
- **Truth** is a part of our defense against the lies of Satan. Satan is a liar, but the Christian who knows the **truth** will not be deceived. As believers, we are to establish ourselves in **truth**, wrapping it around us – **girded in truth!** Oh, how important truth is today! Satan has lied and said, there is no **truth**. But there is! Jesus is **truth!** His word is truth! **(Joh 17:17) Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.**



having put on the breastplate of righteousness, (Isa 59:17) For He put on righteousness as a breastplate, And a helmet of salvation on His head; He put on the garments of vengeance for clothing, And was clad with zeal as a cloak.

- ***Having put on the breastplate of righteousness;*** This is a glorious defense that we have against the attacks of Satan. He is constantly accusing us, pointing out our flaws, pointing out our failures, trying to drive us away from Jesus Christ by saying that because of our sin and our failure, we are not worthy to ask the Lord or to come to the Lord. He is seeking to drive you away from the Lord with His accusation. But thank God I ***stand*** in the ***righteousness*** of Jesus Christ! And as Satan comes and attacks me by showing me my weaknesses, my failures, then when he starts to condemn me, I just flee into the ***righteousness*** of Christ. I say, thank You, Father, that You account me righteous through my faith in Jesus Christ. It is a great ***armor*** against Satan's attack—***the breastplate*** of His ***righteousness!***. The Greek word is *thorax*. It's the heart, and the covering of the heart, ***righteousness***.
- ***It is His righteousness!*** It is not our ***self-righteousness***, which is as filthy rags, being ineffective and shaky because our feelings and experiences and doings are so changeable. God's ***righteousness*** isn't. (Isa 64:6) *But we are all like an unclean thing, And all our righteousnesses are like filthy rags; The breastplate of righteousness* is your best defense against the sense of spiritual depression and gloom that comes against you.

Eph 6:15 and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace;

- ***And having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace;*** Next is ***the gospel of peace***. This is the idea of the feet. It is used in the Scripture, as a symbolic way of bearing the ***gospel*** to others. (Rom 10:15/Isa. 52:7) *And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "HOW BEAUTIFUL ARE THE FEET OF THOSE WHO PREACH THE GOSPEL OF PEACE, WHO BRING GLAD TIDINGS OF GOOD THINGS!"* The sharing of the ***gospel***, the good news of Jesus Christ, ***the gospel of peace***. It is possible for man to have ***peace*** with God. You don't have to be at war with God or be at odds with God. You can have ***peace*** with God. Jesus Christ has made possible for us to have ***peace*** with God.
- ***Shoes are necessary for standing.*** They speak of the foundation. We need a good, solid foundation, and preparation is foundational. (1Co 3:11) *For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.* We are to put on Christ. Oh, how we need Him today as we face a gainsaying world and also spiritual wickedness in the darkness of this world! In hand-to-hand combat, one must make sure to have their feet were anchored. Are your feet anchored on the Rock? Is Christ your foundation in this world?

Eph 6:16 above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. (1Jn 5:4) For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith.

- *Faith* is represented as a **shield**, protecting us from the **fiery darts of the wicked one**, those persistent efforts of demonic foes to weaken us through fear and unbelief.
- We can think of **the shield of faith as being somewhat like the Roman phalanx formation**, pictured here, which did three things. The shield **covers us** so that no portion is exposed. It would link up with the faith of others to **form a solid wall of defense**, thereby enabling the shield of faith to **strike down whatever fiery darts** the enemy hurls at us.
- **In warfare, these fiery darts were launched in great number** at the beginning of an attack. The idea was not only to injure the enemy, but to shoot at him at all sides with a massive number **of darts**, and thus confuse and panic the enemy. Thoughts, feelings, imaginations, fears, lies - all of these can be hurled at us by Satan as **fiery darts**. *Faith* turns them back.
- **above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one.** We think now of this **shield of faith**. I've put my **faith** and my trust in Jesus Christ. Satan cannot penetrate as I maintain and hold on to the **faith** in Jesus Christ. He may throw all kinds of **fiery darts** at me, all kinds of accusations, but thank God my **faith** in the finished work in Jesus Christ keeps me safe and secure from **all of these fiery darts** of the **wicked one**.
- **Our faith in God that can be trusted. It is knowing when God says (Jud 1:24) Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, And to present you faultless Before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy, He means exactly that and will do it! We do not need to fear when we advance into battle. God will go with us and will bring us through!**



Eph 6:17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God;

- **The helmet of salvation** in connection to the hope **of salvation**. The **helmet of salvation** protects us against discouragement, giving us hope not only in knowing that we are saved, but that we will be saved. It is the assurance that God will triumph. One of Satan's most effective weapons against us is discouragement. When we are properly equipped with **the helmet of salvation**, it's hard to stay discouraged.
- **And take the helmet of salvation.** I have been redeemed from a life of sin through Jesus Christ. I have been born again. Though Satan may assail me, thank God, He has redeemed me. This knowledge of my **salvation**, this assurance of **salvation**, is a tremendous weapon against Satan, who tries to tell you many times, well, you're not really saved. How can you do that if you are a child of God? Look, what you just did! He tries to dissuade you from your **salvation**. But thank God, I can **withstand** those attacks because of the finished work of Jesus Christ and my faith in Him.
- **The sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:** To effectively use the **sword of the Spirit**, we must regard the Bible as God's breathed, inspired **truth** for us. If we are not confident in the inspiration of Scripture, that the **sword** really came from the Spirit, then we will not use it effectively at all. We must take the **sword** of the Spirit in the sense of depending that He helps us to use it. Not only did the Spirit give us the Scriptures, but also He makes them alive to us. He equips us with the right thrust of the **sword** at the right time. (**Heb 4:12**) *For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.* We must practice its use every day!

- ***and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:*** Now we get into a part of our ***armor*** which is both defensive and offensive. Now, I can begin to battle against Satan. I can begin to respond to his attacks. What is my response? ***The Word of God.*** When Satan began to attack Jesus in the temptation, Jesus responded to the attack with ***the Word of God.*** It is written, man shall not live by bread alone. It is written, thou shalt worship the Lord thy God and Him only. It is written thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God. Jesus answered the attacks of Satan with ***the Word of God.*** The ***Word of God*** in your heart is a defense against the enemy and the attacks of the enemy. But it is also through the ***Word of God*** that we can begin to attack the enemy and his stronghold that he has in people's lives.
- **I read of a Salvation Army young woman who was witnessing for Christ** in one of the parks in Chicago, when a well-known atheist began to argue with her, bringing up supposed discrepancies in the Bible. She would answer, well sir, I really don't know about that, but the Scripture says ***that the blood of Jesus Christ, God's Son, will cleanse a man from all sin.*** He said, but I don't believe the Scriptures. It's a bunch of hogwash! How can you believe that stuff? She said, well, I don't know, all I know is that the Bible says, ***that the blood of Jesus Christ, God's Son, will cleanse a man from all sin.*** He would go on his tirade again. She would say, well, I'm really not sure, but I know ***that the blood of Jesus Christ, God's Son, will cleanse a man from all sin.*** He finally walked away, fuming and raving. **But the next day** as she was there in the park, he came up and he said, what did you say the Bible said? It will cleanse from ***all sin?*** The Word of God got to him and he accepted the Lord! He accepted the forgiveness. It was the Word of God that got through! It is so important when witnessing that we use the Scripture because what you say will soon be forgotten, but the Word of God has a way of penetrating to the heart. It is a sharp two-edged ***sword***, able to divide between the soul and the spirit. It is a glorious weapon that we have!
- ***Put on the Gospel armor! Each piece put on with prayer.*** What perfect balance there is here, as there is always in the Scriptures, in the teaching of the ***Word of God.*** That is the balance we are to display as we go on in this spiritual fight and this Christian warfare. As the enemy is still waiting, and watching in all his subtlety, ingenuity and power, there is only one way to ***stand. Be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.*** Take up you ***the whole armor*** which God has provided for you. ***Put it on,*** piece by piece. Leave no unguarded place in your soul but avail yourself of the full equipment which God in His infinite grace has provided for you in the Lord Jesus Christ and in His great and glorious ***salvation!***
- **Have you put on the whole armor of God? How is your Spiritual defense position against the wiles of the Devil? How are you standing in truth, righteousness, faith and salvation? What is your overall position right now in standing strong in the Lord and in the power of His might?**

Closing Prayer:

- Lord, help us to stand in these evil days against the many and varied attacks of the enemies, the subtleties with which he comes against us. Lord, may we just be thoroughly armed with the spiritual armor that we might see Your victories in these spiritual conflicts in which we are engaged. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.