

HIS CHURCH LONDON

# FREEDOM

**SPIRITUAL WARFARE**

LECTURE 2

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## EPHESIANS 6:10-20 (NIV)

### FOUR OUR STRUGGLE IS NOT AGAINST FLESH AND BLOOD

#### **Ephesians 6:10-20 (NIV)**

"10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. 11 Put on the full armour of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. 12 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. 13 Therefore put on the full armour 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. 14 Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, 15 and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. 16 In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. 17 Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

18 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. 19 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, 20 for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should."

- We must have victory within before we can possess our promised land.
- The enemy has an individual strategy against every person.
- When we recognize his strategy we can rise up and stand against him.
- God has given spiritual armour as a protection against the enemy attacks.



## EPHESIANS 6:14 (NIV)

### GOD'S TRUTH - A BELT

We cannot stand against the kingdom of darkness until we stand on truth, God's Word.

The enemy does his work through deception and ignorance, so it is important to let truth penetrate your whole being.

The attack against us is always the same, the enemy uses our circumstances to lie to us and make us question:

- The character of God
- Who you are
- Other people, circumstances, etc

Our response to a lie of the enemy is truth, God's truth enables us to move into battle and holds our armour together like a belt

- "Gird up your loins" – prepare for activity. (Ex 12:11)
- "Do" – be dressed in readiness. (Lk 12:35)
- "Gird up your mind" (1 Pet 1:13)



## EPHESIANS 6:14 (NIV)

### GOD'S RIGHTEOUSNESS – A BREASTPLATE

Righteousness will cause you to stand firm!

We are made righteous by the blood of Jesus but the problem is so many people don't believe they are righteous.

The attack against our righteousness in Christ comes in a few forms:

- Accusations (**Rev 12:10**). Despair, hopelessness, gloom - comes from believing Satan instead of God.
- Condemnation (**Rom 8:1**). Need to speak the truth.
- Spiritual pride. Devil will push you to a place of trusting in your own righteousness instead of Christ's. He will wear you out, driving you to pray, study, witness, etc. to the point of exhaustion.

Our response to the attack on our righteousness in Christ:

- Protection: a heart covered by God's righteousness.
- Pure motives; always seek God's glory.
- Stand in God's righteousness. (**Rom 3:22, 25-26**)



## EPHESIANS 6:15 (NIV)

### GOD'S PEACE - SHOES

The work of the enemy causes distraction, strife and dissension.

Striving with God and man will cause you to lose peace. (Mt 5:11,44)

The attack against our peace in God:

- Harassment (John 16:33)
- Lies
- Compromise
- Passivity

Our response to the attack on our peace in God:

- We must follow the way of peace (Matt 12:18-20)
- We don't wrestle against flesh and blood – we come against the power behind the person attacking you.
- We preach a gospel of peace.



## EPHESIANS 6:16 (NIV)

### GOD'S FAITH – OUR SHIELD

The enemy would love nothing better than to abolish our faith. (1 Tim 6:12)

Our faith is the essence of who we are in Christ.

The attack on our faith happens through:

- Unbelief (Heb 4:2, 3:19)
- Doubt
- Fear (the antithesis of faith)

Our response to these attacks include:

- Trust; our trust in God must always stand as a protection around us.
- Faith is a shield that covers from head to foot.
- Faith actively resists the enemy. (1 Pet 5:9)
- Faith must be released through our mouths.



## EPHESIANS 6:17 (NIV)

### GOD'S SALVATION – OUR HELMET

Our mind is a battlefield.

We must always ensure that our mind is at peace with God, man and ourselves. (Don't try to solve all problems with your mind – 2 Cor 10:5)

The attack on our mind is seen:

- The unrenewed mind remains in darkness (Eph 4:18)
- The carnal mind operates in the flesh (Rom 8:6)
- Imagination can be a source of deception.

The response to the attack on our mind:

- Bring our thoughts into obedience. (Don't let the mind run wild).
- We must be renewed in the spirit of our mind. (Eph 4:23)
- Any bondages of cults and occult broken over our minds.



## EPHESIANS 6:17 (NIV)

### GOD'S WORD – OUR SWORD

The sword of the Spirit is a living sword with divine power to demolish strongholds.

It is an offensive weapon that comes out of the mouth (Rev 19:15).

The attack on the Word of God:

- “Has God said?”
- The enemy twists and distorts and misinterprets the Word.
- The enemy takes the Word out of the heart of hearers. (Matt 13:19)
- Doctrine of demons. (1 Tim 4:1)

Our response to the attack on the Word:

- Do not be afraid to rebuke Satan, James clearly tells us to submit to God and resist the devil.
- State the ground upon which you stand.
- Speak the truth with the authority of Christ.

### IN CONCLUSION;

Stand on all 6 points!

Come to the persuasion that the armour will prevail, in spite of the surroundings and conflicting circumstances!

