

Ephesians 6:10-24

Author: Paul

Recipients: Church in Ephesus

Location: Western shore of modern day Turkey; Aegean Sea

Key Theme: "The Body of Christ is Blessed"

#### v. 10

Finally

- Paul is wrapping up the letter to the Ephesians with some final encouragement and instruction.
- He tells them to be strong but not in their own strength rather in the strength of God.
- He tells them what this is in the coming verses.
- Imagine how hard it is for Paul to write a letter to a church that he started and try to keep it all together in one writing.
- He wrote one known letter to the Ephesian church and now he is finishing it.
- There was probably so much that he wanted to say and address but he had to stop at some point and he ended it with the armor of God.

#### v. 11-17

The Armor of God

- Paul instructs us to put on the WHOLE armor of God.
- This isn't merely one part or something small but rather a covering for our entire being.
- Paul uses armor as an analogy because he is about to use warfare and battle as an analogy.

## Spiritual Warfare

- We are told here that the battle we face on a daily basis is not one against humans at the core.
- It is a spiritual battle in which Satan and his fallen angels are the real enemy.
- How often do we view sinful people as our enemy and fail to realize that they are being influenced by demonic power?

## Armor of God

- 1) Belt of truth
- 2) Breastplate of righteousness
- 3) Shoes for your feet
- 4) Shield of faith
- 5) Helmet of salvation
- 6) Sword of the Spirit

Each one of these has been given by God as a gift for protection against the schemes of Satan.

## v 18-20

### Prayer and Perseverance

- We are told to pray at all times in the Spirit
- This doesn't mean to literally bow our heads and be distracted all of the time; it simply means to maintain a constant posture of communication with the Lord.
- We are to pray for one another in an effort to persevere to the end. This is vital.
- Paul requests prayer for himself. If he needed it we definitely need it.

v. 21-24

Conclusion

- His associate Tychicus is going to deliver the letter and minister to the church.
- Paul leaves them with grace and peace in the Lord.

Small Group Questions

- 1) Paul tells the Ephesians to be strong but Who does he tell them to be strong in?
  - The Lord. As sinful people we are weak and stubborn. God is strong in every way.
- 2) How are we to be strong in the Lord?
  - By putting on the armor of God
- 3) Discuss the armor of God.
- 4) Who is our real enemy?
  - Satan and his fallen angels. This should change the way that we view lost people from a place of contempt to a place of love, care, and even pity to a degree.
- 5) What should our prayer be for?
  - Perseverance
  - Revelation 16:15