

Ephesians 6:10-24. *Be Strong in the Lord God*. In conclusion, be strong—in the Lord God; He’s the one with power that surmounts everything. Put on the whole armor of God so you can stand against Satan and his schemes. Remember, our struggle is not against the natural world or people, but against the powers of spiritual evil.

- Q What makes the Lord’s power “mighty?”
- Q Why are we to put on the “full armor” [πανοπλίαν, 3833] of God?
- Q Which “powers of the dark world” do you fear the most? Note: Is it “power,” if force has to be exacted to achieve compliance?

So what? Put on the entire suit of armor for when the day of evil comes, you’ll be able to stand your ground. Here’s how to stand firm—

1. Buckle up the **belt of truth** around your waist.
2. Slip on the **breastplate of righteousness**.
3. Fit your feet with the **good news that comes from peace** (εἰρηνην).
4. Grab the **shield of faith** (it’s good for extinguishing the evil one’s arrows).
5. Then, put on the **helmet of salvation**.
6. Finally, put your **sword on, the very Spirit**, the word of God Himself.

With your armor on [and there’s no guidance indicating we take it off], **pray according to Holy Spirit’s guidance**. Then you can be alert, always praying for all the believers.

#### EPHESIANS 6:10-24

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. <sup>11</sup> Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.

<sup>12</sup> 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.

<sup>13</sup> 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. <sup>14</sup> Stand firm then, with the (1) belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the (2) breastplate of righteousness in place, <sup>15</sup> and with your feet (3) fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. <sup>16</sup> In addition to all this, take up the (4) shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one.

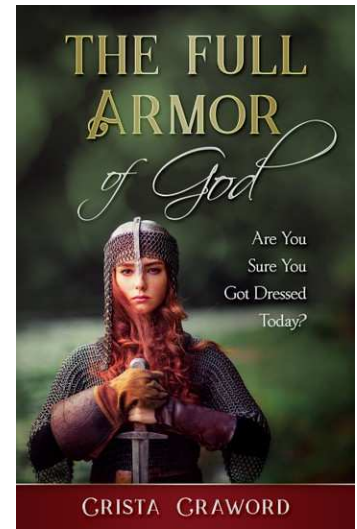
<sup>17</sup> Take the (5) helmet of salvation and the (6) sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. <sup>18</sup> And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.

<sup>19</sup> Pray also for me, that whenever I open my mouth, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, <sup>20</sup> for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.

<sup>21</sup> Tychicus, the dear brother and faithful servant in the Lord, will tell you everything, so that you also may know how I am and what I am doing. <sup>22</sup> I am sending him to you for this very purpose, that you may know how we are, and that he may encourage you.

<sup>23</sup> Peace to the brothers, and love with faith from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>24</sup> Grace to all who love our Lord Jesus Christ with an undying love.

- Q What is there about Truth that helps you fight evil?
- ✓ Righteousness?
  - ✓ The news of reconciliation?
  - ✓ Faith?
  - ✓ Salvation?
  - ✓ Holy Spirit, the word of God?
- Q Why are we not committed to “praying for all the saints?”



Please pray for me so that whenever I talk may Holy Spirit’s words will allow me to fearlessly reveal the mysteries of the good news for which I’m an ambassador in chains. Pray for my fearlessness in that regard. Pay attention to Tychicus who’ll inform you about everything; he’ll encourage you. May reconciliation be known among the brethren, and love with trust from the God the Father, and the Lord Jesus the Christ. Mercy to all who love our Lord, Jesus the Christ, with an undying love!

- Q Who speaks for you when you speak about the Christ? [Thank Him; He’s often overlooked, especially among “modern evangelicals.”]
- Q What is the “mystery of the gospel?” That is, what makes the gospel a mystery?
- Q Who is the Tychicus in your life? Examples please.
- Q What makes love an “undying love?”

