

***“Behold the Power of
Your God!”***

Ephesians 6:10-20

February 22, 2009

The Main Point Last Week...

To live the Christian life is to live a life of war, and therefore to be a Christian is to be a warrior—we may be good or bad warriors but everyone who's in Christ is indeed a warrior

John 8:44

*“You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father’s desires. **He was a murderer from the beginning, and has nothing to do with the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies.**”*

John 10:10

*“The thief comes only to steal and kill and
destroy.”*

1 Peter 5:8-9

“Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world.”

All to say...

As strong as the devil is, it is the will of the Lord to make every Christian stand against him; it is the will of the Lord to display his power through our weakness!

The Word “Stand”...

... in this context means “to stand and keep on standing,” or “to stand your ground,” or “to stake a claim and hold onto that claim.”

The Main Idea of Eph. 6:10-20 is...

*...that in order to stand against the schemes of the devil we must be strengthened in the Lord and in the power of his might **by** clothing ourselves with the whole armor of God, namely, with truth, righteousness, eagerness for the gospel, faith, salvation, and the Word of God.*

“Be Strong”

1. In the Greek this word is passive which means it ought to be translated “be **made strong**” or “be strengthened.”

“In the Lord”

I take this phrase to mean “be made strong in what Christ has accomplished for you. Be made strong by believing in Christ, by trusting in Christ, by resting in Christ, by looking to Christ to provide all you need and give you success in battle.”

“In the Lord”

If we are not connected to Christ we have no hope of victory, but if we are connected to Christ our enemy has no hope of victory!

“In the Strength of His Might”

The idea here is that by virtue of our connection to Christ we have access to his immense power which is what makes us strong.

- This phrase is not repetitious because the word for “strength” denotes rule or control so that taken together this phrase means “the ruling control of his might.”

2 Kings 6:15-18

“¹⁵ When the servant of the man of God rose early in the morning and went out, behold, an army with horses and chariots was all around the city. And the servant said, ‘Alas, my master! What shall we do?’ ¹⁶ He said, ‘Do not be afraid, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them.’ ¹⁷ Then Elisha prayed and said, ‘O LORD, please open his eyes that he may see.’ So the LORD opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw, and behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha. ¹⁸ And when the Syrians came down against him, Elisha prayed to the LORD and said, ‘Please strike this people with blindness.’ So he struck them with blindness in accordance with the prayer of Elisha.”

The Book of Job

When Satan wanted to attack this man of God and his family remember that he had to go through the Lord to get permission to do so.

Zechariah 3:1-4

“Then he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right hand to accuse him. [And make no mistake about it, Satan’s design in bringing the accusation was to cause the Lord to destroy Joshua. But listen to the Lord’s reply.]² And the LORD said to Satan, ‘The LORD rebuke you, O Satan! The LORD who has chosen Jerusalem rebuke you! Is not this a brand plucked from the fire?’

Zechariah 3:1-4

“³ Now Joshua was standing before the angel, clothed with filthy garments. ⁴ And the angel said to those who were standing before him, ‘Remove the filthy garments from him.’ And to him he said, ‘Behold, I have taken your iniquity away from you, and I will clothe you with pure vestments.’”

Luke 4:1-14

“...¹³ And when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from him until an opportune time. ¹⁴ And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee, and a report about him went out through all the surrounding country.”

Matthew 8:28-34

*“What have you to do with us, O Son of God?
Have you come here to torment us before the
time?”*

Luke 22:31-32

“³¹ Simon, Simon, behold, Satan demanded to have you, that he might sift you like wheat, ³² but I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned again, strengthen your brothers.”

Acts 19:13-20

“¹³ Then some of the itinerant Jewish exorcists undertook to invoke the name of the Lord Jesus over those who had evil spirits, saying, ‘I adjure you by the Jesus, whom Paul proclaims.’ ¹⁴ Seven sons of a Jewish high priest named Sceva were doing this. ¹⁵ But the evil spirit answered them, ‘Jesus I know, and Paul I recognize, but who are you?’...

Acts 19:13-20

“...¹⁶ And the man in whom was the evil spirit leaped on them, mastered all of them and overpowered them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded.¹⁷ And this became known to all the residents of Ephesus, both Jews and Greeks. And fear fell upon them all, and the name of the Lord Jesus was extolled.¹⁸ Also many of those who were now believers came, confessing and divulging their practices...

Acts 19:13-20

“... ¹⁹ And a number of those who had practiced magic arts brought their books together and burned them in the sight of all. And they counted the value of them and found it came to fifty thousand pieces of silver. ²⁰ So the word of the Lord continued to increase and prevail mightily.”

1 Peter 5:9-11

“⁹ Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world. ¹⁰ And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹ To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.”

Revelation 22:3-6

“³ No longer will there be anything accursed, but the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it [the City], and his servants will worship him. ⁴ They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. ⁵ And night will be no more. They will need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever. ⁶ And he said to me, ‘These words are trustworthy and true. And the Lord, the God of the spirits of the prophets, has sent his angel to show his servants what must soon take place.’”

“Be Strong”

1. In the Greek this word is *passive* which means it ought to be translated “be **made strong**” or “be strengthened.”
2. This word is *imperative* which means we are being commanded to find our strength in God.
3. The word is *present* which means we must be made strong on a daily basis.