

FIGHTING FROM VICTORY

(Ephesians 6:10-18)

INTRODUCTION

*Life is an unending struggle...
it begins at the time we were born
until the time we find peace in our grave.*



Eph. 6:10-13 - Spiritual Warfare

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.

Colossians 2:15 - “And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.”



Falkland Island – Argentina

(a British Colony since 1841)

Argentine Army - fighting **for** victory

British Army - fighting **from** victory

We are **not** fighting for victory but from victory.

How do we claim this victory?

“Put on the whole armor of God” (6:11a)



THE STRATEGY OF THE DEVIL

Martin Luther writes:

*“For still our ancient foe, doth seek
to work us woe; His craft and power
are great, and armed with cruel hate,
on earth is not his equal.”*

“The devil is a liar and a murderer from the beginning.”
(**John 8:44**)



**How does the devil plan to oppose
the work of God in the world?**

By *murdering* and by *destroying*.

In **Revelation: Destroyer** (Apollyon).

He *destroys* by *deceiving*, by *lying*,
by *distorting*, by *counterfeiting*,
by *play-acting*, by *illusion*, and *fantasy*.



Direct assault

- “**demonization**”
- **soothsaying, accultism, spiritism, black magic arts**
 - such as astrology,
horoscopes, fortune telling

Indirect approach

- The “**world**”
- The “**flesh.**”



13 “...put on the full armor of God,”

Story is told by Leroy Eims

Sergeant: `You all right, Eims?'

Eims: `Yeah, I'm OK, Sarge.'

Sergeant: `Eims, where is your helmet?'

Eims: `Must be in the tank, Sarge.'

Sergeant: `Where's your duty belt?'

Eims: `Must be in the tank, Sarge.'

Sergeant: `As a matter of fact, Eims, where's your rifle?'



2 general divisions of the pieces of armor

The 1st division – first 3 pieces,
(6:14,15a).

- “with the belt of truth buckled around your waist”
- “with the breastplate of righteousness in place”
- “with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace”



The 2nd division – last 3 pieces,
(6:16,17).

- *“take up the shield of faith”*
- *“take the helmet of salvation”*
- *Take “the sword of the Spirit” – Word of God*



1. “With the belt of truth buckled around your waist” (6:14).

Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” (John 14:6)

2. “With the breastplate of righteousness in place”(6:14b)

“and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ - the righteousness that comes from God and is by faith” (Philippians 3:9)



“There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.”

(Romans 8:1)

3. *“And with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace.”*

“I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.” (John 16:33)

- Truth, Righteousness, Peace***



1. *“Take up the shield of faith”* (6:16)
 2. *“Take the helmet of salvation”* (6:17a)
 3. *Take “The Sword of the Spirit”* (6:17b)
(which is the Word of God)
- Logos – refers to the total utterance of God
 - Rhema – means a specific saying of God,
a passage or a verse



PRAY IN THE SPIRIT (6:18)

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.

“Pray in the Spirit” (v.18a).

“we don't know how to pray as we ought...” “the Spirit himself makes intercession for us with groaning which can't be uttered” (Romans 8:26).



“Pray...on all occasions” (v.18b)

“Pray without ceasing.” (1 Thess. 5:17)

“with all kinds of prayers and requests”
(v.18c).

A general and particular needs.

“be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord’s people” (v.18d).



CONCLUSION

The *offensive work* was done nearly 2000 years ago at the cross and the resurrection.

That very moment the devil lost !



The Korean war

(June 1950 to July 1953)

Corpsman: *"Baker Company,
do you read me?"*

Baker Coy: *"This is Baker Company"*

Corpsman: *"What is your situation?"*

Baker Coy: *"The enemy is to the east of us, the enemy is to the north
of us, the enemy is to the west of us, the enemy is to
the south of us."*

Baker Coy (Sergeant): *"The enemy is not going to get away from us
now!"*



We are fighting from victory!

- ***Truth***
- ***Righteousness***
- ***Peace***
- ***Faith***
- ***Salvation***
- ***Word of God***

But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. (1 Cor. 15:57)

