

NEW FRONTIERS
SACRED DEFIANCE SERIES – PART 7

I. OUR PROBLEM

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the **schemes of the devil**. For **we do not wrestle against flesh and blood**, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. **Ephesians 6:10-12 (ESV)**

1. OUR ENEMIES ARE NOT OTHER PEOPLE

2. OUR ENEMIES ARE NOT INSTITUTIONAL FORCES

3. OUR TRUE ENEMIES ARE DEMONIC SPIRITUAL FORCES

PAUL IDENTIFIES THREE CHARACTERISTICS OF THESE EVIL SUPERNATURAL FORCES

- a. THEY ARE POWERFUL**
- b. THEY ARE EVIL**
- c. THEY ARE CRAFTY**

II. OUR SOLUTION

1. STAND, KEEP ALERT, PERSEVERE...

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to **stand** against the schemes of the devil.
Ephesians 6:10, 11 (ESV)

Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. **Ephesians 6:13 (ESV)**

To that end **keep alert** with all **perseverance...** **Ephesians 6:18 (ESV)**

2. TIGHTEN THE BELT OF TRUTH

Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth... **Ephesians 6:14a (ESV)**

The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. **John 6:63b (ESV)**

3. PUT ON THE BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

And having put on the breastplate of righteousness... **Ephesians 6:14b (ESV)**

If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened.

Psalms 66:18 (ESV)

4. PUT ON THE SHOES OF THE GOSPEL OF PEACE

And, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. **Ephesians 6:15 (ESV)**

The **God of peace** will soon **crush Satan under your feet**. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. **Romans 16:20 (ESV)**

Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given to you, just as I promised to Moses. **Joshua 1:3 (ESV)**

5. TAKE UP THE SHIELD OF FAITH

In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one..." **Ephesians 6:16 (ESV)**

But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

Hebrews 11:6 (KJV)

6. TAKE THE HELMET OF SALVATION

And take the helmet of salvation... **Ephesians 6:17a (ESV)**

We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and **take every thought captive** to obey Christ. **2 Corinthians 10:5 (ESV)**

7. TAKE THE SWORD OF THE SPIRIT, WHICH IS THE WORD OF GOD

And the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. **Ephesians 6:17b (ESV)**

For the **word of God** is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. **Hebrews 4:12 (ESV)**

8. PRAY AT EVERY OPPORTUNITY WITH ALL KINDS OF PRAYER

Praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication... **Ephesians 6:18 (ESV)**

Different kinds of prayer

- **IN THE SPIRIT**

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. **Romans 8:26 (ESV)**

- **WITH ALL PRAYER**

- **AND SUPPLICATION**