

SPIRITUAL ATTACKS AND THE ARMOR OF GOD

Ephesians 6:10-24

Awareness

Before listening, reflect:

- What is a spiritual attack?
- What is the purpose of armor?

The Apostle Paul does not sugar coat the realities of spiritual life. The rewards and blessings of life in Christ will abound and last for eternity, but in this life, he makes it clear that the hardworking devil will not make our lives of faith easy. Paul cautions and warns believers to stay alert and in Ephesians 6 he uses the imagery of military armor to illustrate how God has equipped us to defend ourselves against the devil's efforts. Join us as we study Paul's teaching about the "armor of God," paying particular attention to his purpose and intent to ensure we do not misuse this passage for our own benefit instead of for God's glory. Together, we'll gain wisdom from Paul's words so they can continue to help us build strong and confident faith lives today.

Listen: Spiritual Attacks and the Armor of God

Reflection

After listening, consider:

- In segment 1, host Scott Hoezee says "We are supposed to be witnessing to the gospel, even in how we withstand the attacks of the evil one." What do you think this means and what might it look like in your life? Can you think of an example of someone you know or someone from Christian history who has done this well?
- In what situations do you find it the most difficult to stand firm in your faith?
- Think about your response to the previous question. After listening to hosts Darrell Delaney and Scott Hoezee discuss each piece of "the armor of God" in segment 2—the belt of truth, the breastplate of righteousness, boots of the gospel of peace, the shield of faith, the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit—, consider which piece or pieces of armor would most help you stand firm in your situation. Why?
- With which piece of armor are you most confident in your faith life? With which piece do you need growth or training?
- Which spiritual disciplines do you think would be most helpful for strengthening the piece or pieces of armor that you feel need growth in your spiritual life?

Related Passages

- Galatians 5:13-26
- Romans 10:1-15

- 1 Peter 5:8-11
- 1 John 4:1-6

Conclusion

The Apostle Paul closes Ephesians by asking for prayer and Scott and Darrell close the episode by discussing the importance of prayer, saying "prayer is often a forgotten weapon." Reread Ephesians 6:18-20:

- 1. Reflect on your comments and thoughts in response to the questions above. What would you like prayer for? Who can you ask to support you through prayer?
- 2. Who do you know that seems to be super strong in their faith like Paul? How can you pray to support them even if you might not know what spiritual attacks they may be facing?

Close your time in prayer for yourself and for the person (or people) you identified above.

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