

Taking the Offensive pt9

Weapons of our Warfare

Eph 6:10-18



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- What we have learned thus far:
Satan is a REAL enemy....

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The Real Enemy – *it is not each other!*

1. The Tempter (Matt 4:3)

2. Accuser (Rev. 12:10)

3. Liar, Deceiver (John 8:44)

- *Murderer (John 8:44)*

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- **What we have learned thus far:**

The Enemy's Mission

John 10:10 - The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy.

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- **What we have learned thus far:**

The Enemy's Philosophy

- His philosophy is to offer an alternative
(counterfeit) Kingdom
- **Through False Religions**
- **Through a False Lifestyle**

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- **What we have learned thus far:**
The Kingdom of Darkness is an organized Sovereignty, recognized by the Kingdom of Heaven
- **This Kingdom** consist of :
 1. *Satan*
 2. *Unbelievers*
 3. *Fallen Angels (aka. Evil Spirits, Demons)*

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- **What we have learned thus far:**
- **Principalities/ Powers (Arch)- - Primary/Preeminent Rulers; Chief Ruler**
- **Powers/Authority (Exousia)- - Delegated influence: authority, jurisdiction**
- **The Rulers of the Darkness of this age - The architects & planners of present day Evil**
- **Spiritual Wickedness in heavenly places (Pōnēria) – they deliver malicious attacks on believers in the heavenlies/ spiritual attacks**

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1. Stand (histemi/ his-stee-mee) *stand up to, offer resistance to; to cause to stand*

2. Withstand (anthistemi) From *anti*, “against,” and *histemi*, “to cause to stand.” *The verb suggests vigorously opposing, bravely resisting, standing face-to-face against an adversary, standing your ground.*

- Hayford, J. W., & Thomas Nelson Publishers. (1995). *Hayford's Bible handbook*. Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers.

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- **(13vs)** that does 3 things:
 - *requires participation*
 - *gives a reason for your participation,*
 - *determines the outcome of your participation*

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- **NLT:** *Therefore, put on every piece of God's armor so you will be able to resist the enemy in the time of evil. Then after the battle you will still be standing firm.*

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A. The Belt of Truth

- **Truth Defined** by *The American Heritage® Dictionary of the English Language*

1. Conformity to reality, fact or actuality

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A. Truth Defined

- Truth is that which is **absolute** (*unmixed, pure*), **genuine** (*original, real, unaffected*) and **authentic** (*unquestionable, bona fide*)

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- **What makes GOD and His word Truth?**

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- ***He is the Genuine/Original!***
- ***(Jn 1:1-2).*** *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God.*
- ***(1 Jn 5:20).*** *And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us an understanding, that we may know Him who is true; and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life.*
- ***(Jn 17:3-5).*** *And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent. I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do. And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was.*

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A.The Belt – serves as a support to the sword
(THE WORD)

1. Located: around the waist

- The waist is considered the middle or center/core of a person's body
- The belt encircles or encompasses the center of our body

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The Breastplate of Righteousness



- **Righteousness means:**
 - *Blameless, Innocent, In right standing*
- People are not '*made right*'
- People are '*declared to be in the right*' in a judicial sense

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Righteousness Imputed

Every former sinner has been “made” **the righteousness of God**

- (1 Co 1:30). *But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God— and **righteousness** and sanctification and redemption*
- (2 Co 5:21). *For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him*

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A. Why do we need His righteousness?

- (Isaiah 64:6) *But we are all like an unclean thing, and all our righteousness are like filthy rags...*

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A. Understanding the Breastplate

- In Roman era, two types of Breastplates

1. Lorica/Cuirass – worn by most soldiers

2. Muscle/Heroic Cuirass – worn by those in a position on honor (high ranking officials)

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The Muscle Cuirass or Heroic Cuirass

The cuirass was either
molded to the shape of a
man's torso OR

It would have impressions
showcasing the various
heroic gods

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- (Pr 11:6). *Righteousness guards him whose way is blameless, But wickedness overthrows the sinner.*
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- (Pr 13:6). *The righteousness of the upright will deliver them, But the unfaithful will be caught by their lust.*