



“How We Stand”

Carry the Light
Eph. 6:10-13

Eph. 6:10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.

11 Put on the whole armour of God, **that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.**

12 For **we wrestle** not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high *places*.

13 Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

Review

Our theme for 2017 is “Carry the Light.” The conduct of a true Christian, one who is genuinely “born again,” is the outcome of a doctrinal foundation. **We are “living out our faith,” and our testimony indicates the quality of it, be it good or bad.**

As I believe, therefore I live.

We need to believe that spiritual warfare is real, face it, fight it, & live victoriously!

I. THE REALITY OF SPIRITUAL WARFARE

II. THE REASON FOR SPIRITUALWARFARE

III. THE RUSE OF SPIRITUAL WARFARE

Last week we began a new perspective:

IV. THE RESPONSE TO SPIRITUAL WARFARE

A. A Word of Encouragement, 6:10

Eph. 6:10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.

B. A Word of Enlightenment, 6:11

Eph. 6:11 Put on the whole armour of God, **that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.**

C. A Word of Enablement, 6:12-17

Eph. 6:12 For **we wrestle** not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high *places*.

1. The Arena, 6:12

a. The Opportunity – 12a “For we wrestle...”

b. The Opposition – 12b-e “...against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high *places*.”

Last week we considered the question, “*Why We Wrestle.*”
Today we will look at...

“How We Stand”

- We have opportunity to impact our present world by the impact of heaven’s influence THROUGH us.
- We wrestle because we are created for God’s glory, and HE has an enemy.
- We wrestle because God is working in us and through us.
- How God has worked through us during our lifetime will be what brings Him glory when we stand before the Judgment Seat of Christ.

2. The Armor, 6:13-17

a. The Demand, 6:13

Eph. 6:13 Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

In order for us to live our lives with a power of influence that exhibits the impact of Heaven's influence on our hearts, we must realize how the truth is to impact our conduct.

As I believe, therefore I live.

- The Identification of the Believer
 - The Challenge before Us – “Wherefore...”

Eph. 6:10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.

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What we know and believe WILL affect our conduct!

Properly, heavenly, referring to **the impact of heaven's influence** on the particular situation or person = how God is working THROUGH us!

Original Word: ἐπουράνιος

Transliteration: epouranios

Definition: heavenly, celestial, in the heavenly sphere, the sphere of spiritual activities; met: divine, spiritual. (“...in **high places.**”)

epouránios (an adjective, derived from *epí*, "on, fitting," which intensifies *ouranós*, "heaven") – properly, heavenly, referring to **the impact of heaven's influence** on the particular situation or person. <http://biblehub.com/greek/2032.htm>

- The Conquering THROUGH us – Eph. 6:10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.

The armor is worthless without God's power working through us!

We are identified by the conduct of our lives, as God is working through us.

- The Inspiration to the Believer
 - The Charge to Us – "...take unto you..."

The imperative command issued by our Commander in Chief.

- The Completeness available for us – "...the whole armour of God..."

The armor is “of God” – not of human ingenuity.

We need it all – “...the WHOLE armour of God...”

- The Capability for us – “...that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day...”

Original Word: ἀντίστημι

Transliteration: anthístēmi

Definition: I set against; I withstand, resist, oppose.

anthístēmi (from *antí*, "opposite/against" and *hístēmi*, "to stand") – properly, *take a complete stand against*, i.e. a "180 degree, *contrary* position"; (figuratively) **to establish one's position publicly by conspicuously "holding one's ground,"** i.e. *refusing to be moved* ("pushed back").

anthístēmi ("oppose *fully*") means to *forcefully declare one's personal conviction* (where they unswervingly stand); to *keep one's possession*; **ardently withstand, without giving up** (letting go).

[(*anthístēmi*) was a *military* term in classical Greek (used by Thucydides, etc.) meaning, "to strongly resist an opponent" ("take a *firm stand against*").] <http://biblehub.com/greek/436.htm>

Jas. 4:7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. **Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.**

1 Pet. 5:9 Whom **resist steadfast in the faith**, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.

- The Conviction in us – “...and having done all, to stand.”

Original Word: κατεργάζομαι

Transliteration: katergazomai

Definition: I effect by labor, achieve, work out, produce, accomplish, bring about.

katergázomai (from *katá*, "down, exactly according to," intensifying *ergázomai*, "work, accomplish") – **literally, "work down to the end-point," i.e. to an exact, definite conclusion** (note the prefix, 2596 /katá); **bring to decisive finality** (*end-conclusion*).

<http://biblehub.com/greek/2716.htm>

2 Cor. 4:17 For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, **worketh** for us a far more exceeding *and* eternal weight of glory;

Phil. 2:12 Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, **work out** your own salvation with fear and trembling.

2 Cor. 1:24 Not for that we have dominion over your faith, but are helpers of your joy: **for by faith ye stand.**

Mt. 12:25 And Jesus knew their thoughts, and said unto them, Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation; and every city or house **divided against itself shall not stand:**

- A weak, worldly Christian is divided within himself over how to live a life pleasing to the Savior.
- Such a believer is vulnerable to spiritual instability and failure.

Jas. 1:8 A double minded man *is* **unstable in all his ways.**

Rom. 5:2 By whom also **we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand**, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

Conclusion

The Identification of the Believer =
“Wherefore...”

- By standing fast, we identify with our Savior, honoring Him by resisting His enemies, and honoring Him because we love Him.

The Inspiration for the Believer = “...take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.”



- As we realize our weakness, within ourselves, we put our faith and trust in His power, taking the tools He has provided for us, in order to stand for Him.

Heb. 6:9 But, **beloved, we are persuaded better things of you**, and **things that accompany salvation**, though we thus speak.

God has provided what we need in order to win in the warfare of life.

We are responsible to apply His armor, and trust in His power, in order to be victorious!

Phil. 4:13 I can do all things **through Christ** which strengtheneth me.

Rom. 8:37 Nay, in all these things **we are more than conquerors through him** that loved us.

