



Memory Verse

*"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." Ephesians 6:12*

In contrast with these lies, what do you know to be true through the Word of God? (Hint: Try reading Ephesians 1!)

*Today pray through the "Spiritual Armor Prayer" again. Make it personal; and today, pray it for others in your life.*

### Thursday

Read Ephesians 6:15. We talked a lot last

weekend about what this means: Being prepared to share the gospel of peace. It's easy for Christians to get off-message. We start to make all sorts of other things our focus rather than the gospel. Why do you think this is?

Read 2 Corinthians 11:1-4. What can distract Christians from the gospel? How would you summarize the gospel of peace?

*Today pray through the "Spiritual Armor Prayer" again. Ask God specifically to help you be ready at all times to share the real gospel!*

### Friday

Read Ephesians 6:16-18. Which of these pieces of armor do you need the most today?

*This weekend we will talk more about prayer as a part of the spiritual battle. Spend some extra time in prayer today listening for God's voice. Pray that Spiritual Armor prayer today, but in your own words.*

### Saturday

*Please pray for the weekend services as we wrap up our Ephesians series! And please pray for the church as we prepare for the 40 Days of Faith! Pray that God will move through us in amazing ways. Thank you!*

## Prayer Updates

### HOSPITALIZED & SURGERIES this past week...

Adrienne Gomes – weekly morning at hospital for brain cancer treatment  
Bob Bowman – knee surgery  
Chris Ramsey – Stanford, fork lift accident, crushed leg  
Linda Cantrall – surgery  
Steve Harper – at UC Davis, liver transplant 8/12, serious breathing problems  
Tristan Beverly (parents Nathan & Catherine) – at Stanford PICU, born 8/15, 1 lb., 6 oz.  
**Recent hospitalizations/surgeries:** Michelle Fahrner, Ron Ince

### HOME WITH THE LORD

Memorial services for **Paul Lloyd** are planned for Saturday, September 8, 10:30am at Twin Lakes Church.

For pastoral support, contact 465-3395 or susie@tlc.org



# WAR OF THE WORLDS

## Part 1: Ephesians 6:10-17

September 1 & 2, 2007  
René Schlaepfer

*The Apostle Paul teaches in Ephesians 6 that we are in a spiritual battle.*

### Three errors I must avoid about the battle:

**1. Don't be \_\_\_\_\_ : I have an \_\_\_\_\_ !**

*"Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes." Ephesians 6:11*

*"Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour." 1 Peter 5:8*

**2. Don't be \_\_\_\_\_ : My battle's not against \_\_\_\_\_ !**

*"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." Ephesians 6:12*

**3. Don't be \_\_\_\_\_ : Take steps to \_\_\_\_\_ !**

*"Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand." Ephesians 6:13*

### Six essential parts of the armor of God:

*"Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God." Ephesians 6:14-17*

**1. The belt of \_\_\_\_\_**

Countering the enemy's weapon of \_\_\_\_\_ by knowing the Word of God

*"When the devil lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies." John 8:44*

*"...the truth will set you free." John 8:31,32*

**2. The breastplate of \_\_\_\_\_**

Countering the enemy's weapon of \_\_\_\_\_ by knowing I am holy in God's sight

*"For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight." Ephesians 1:4*

### 3. The shoes of the \_\_\_\_\_

Countering the enemy's weapon of \_\_\_\_\_  
by staying on-message at all times

"I am afraid that just as Eve was deceived by the serpent's cunning, you may somehow be led astray from your sincere and pure devotion to Christ. For if someone comes to you and preaches... **a different gospel** ... you put up with it easily enough." *2 Corinthians 11:3,4*

"God is reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. **And he has committed to us this message of reconciliation.**" *2 Corinthians 5:19*

### 4. The shield of \_\_\_\_\_

Countering the enemy's weapon of \_\_\_\_\_  
by believing God will keep his promises

"The Lord is **faithful to all his promises** and loving toward all he has made." *Psalms 145:13*

### 5. The helmet of \_\_\_\_\_

Countering the enemy's weapon of \_\_\_\_\_  
by knowing I am saved by grace

"For it is by **grace** you have been saved, through faith — and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God — not of works..." *Ephesians 2:8,9*

### 6. The sword of the \_\_\_\_\_

Countering the enemy's \_\_\_\_\_  
by knowing I have a powerful Helper, the Holy Spirit

"Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised **Holy Spirit**, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance..." *Ephesians 1:14 (See John 14:16)*

### Remember: Don't be \_\_\_\_\_! God's power for you is \_\_\_\_\_!

"Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his **mighty power.**" *Ephesians 6:10*

"...the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world." *1 John 4:4*

## A Spiritual Armor Prayer

"Heavenly Father, thank you for your powerful grace.

By faith, I put on the belt of truth. Help me to meditate on your truth so I can counter the enemy's lies.

By faith, I put on the breastplate of righteousness. Thank you for the righteousness of Christ. Help me to live a righteous life by your power in me.

By faith, I put on the shoes of the gospel of peace. Help me to be ready to be a peacemaker today as I stay on-message: You want to reconcile everyone to yourself by grace through Christ.

By faith, I take up the shield of faith. I trust in you and your promises and will not add fuel to the enemy's fiery darts of worry.

By faith, I put on the helmet of salvation. Protect my mind from dwelling on my sinful past. Keep me from despairing that I will ever be good enough. Thank you for the finished work of Christ for me.

By faith, I take up the sword of the Spirit. Help me to see the incomparably great power of the Holy Spirit available to me. Thank you for the Word inspired by that same Holy Spirit. Help me today, Lord, by your power.

May this day be a day of victory!  
In Jesus' name, amen."

## Monday

What point from this weekend's message really struck home for you? Read Ephesians 6:10-12. According to these verses, against what enemies do we struggle?

What battles are you fighting right now?

- |   |                                       |  |
|---|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Insecurities     | <input type="checkbox"/> Mouth        | <input type="checkbox"/> Temper              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Greed            | <input type="checkbox"/> Gossip       | <input type="checkbox"/> Self-esteem         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Laziness         | <input type="checkbox"/> Workaholism  | <input type="checkbox"/> Worry               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fear             | <input type="checkbox"/> Pride        | <input type="checkbox"/> Relationship issues |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Physical desires | <input type="checkbox"/> Thought life | <input type="checkbox"/> Envy/discontent     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____     |                                       |  |

*Today pray through the "Spiritual Armor Prayer". We will ask you to pray it each day this week, but remember, it's not a magic formula. It's just an example of how to put the pieces of the armor on in prayer, by faith.*

## Tuesday

Ephesians 6:11 says the devil "schemes" against us; that is, he strategizes, analyzing weaknesses and vulnerabilities. Read 1 Peter 5:8. To what is the devil compared?

Lions hunt for vulnerable prey. When are you most vulnerable?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> When I'm discouraged with my job                           | <input type="checkbox"/> When I'm on trips away |
| <input type="checkbox"/> When I feel lonely   | <input type="checkbox"/> When I'm angry         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> When I feel hopeless emotionally, financially, etc.        | <input type="checkbox"/> When I'm tired         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> When my spouse and I are not hitting it off                | <input type="checkbox"/> When I feel guilty     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> When I'm feeling bored and purposeless                     | <input type="checkbox"/> When I'm tired         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> When I'm around people who have more or have achieved more |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____   |   |

*Ask for God to give you wisdom and protection when you are vulnerable today! Today pray through the "Spiritual Armor Prayer" again. Make it personal!*

## Wednesday

Read Ephesians 6:14 and John 8:43-45. In John 8, Jesus is speaking to religious leaders. It's possible to be very religious and yet still be vulnerable to the lies of the devil.

What lies are you hearing?

- Lies about my value: "You are worthless. God doesn't really love you!"
- Lies about God's concern: "If God exists, He doesn't care about your problem!"
- Lies about what God approves: "Go ahead — God just wants you to be happy!"
- Lies about what's true: "The only thing that matters is if you're sincere!"
- Lies about my potential: "You could never be used by God!"
- Lies about consequences of my behavior: "No one will ever know."
- Lies about what matters: "This world is all there is!"
- Lies about my future: "Your life's been a waste, and nothing good is ahead!"