

# *Ephesians*

(28) Preparing to Stand

## **Eph.6:13-17** ESV (*emphasis added*)

<sup>13</sup> 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.

<sup>14</sup> **Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist**, with the breastplate of righteousness in place,

<sup>15</sup> and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace.

<sup>16</sup> In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one.

<sup>17</sup> Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

<sup>18</sup> praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints,

<sup>19</sup> and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel,

<sup>20</sup> for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak.

## **Stand firm then...**

Who is the devil? **Rev.12:7-11; Mt.4:3; Jn.8:44; IPet.5:8; Gen.3:1; Rev.12:9; IICor.11:13-15, 4:4**

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What does his army look like? **Rev.5:11, 12:1-6; Heb.12:22** (myriad=indefinitely large number)

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What *kind* of battle are we in with the devil? **6:12; Rom.8:38-39; Col.2:15**

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What is the spiritual battle like? **Dan.10, 12:1...Col.1:13; IICor.10:3-5**

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So, why do *we need* to take the *whole* armor of God? **6:11, 13** (schemes=wiles, craftiness)

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What does **6:13** imply about our *ability to stand* when attacked? **Lu.21:36; Col.4:12**

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What is the *first* piece of armor God has given believers? **6:14a; 4:17; Jn.8:44; IICor.2:11, 11:14**

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And what is one of the most critical truths you need? **Rom.10:8-13; IJn.1:8-10; IICor.13:5**

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Where is TRUTH available? **Jn.14:6; 17:13-21; Ps.119:151; Pr.3:3; IITim.3:16-17**

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What happens when a lie breaks our belt of truth? And the solution? **Ps.32:1-7; Ps.51:1-9**

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## Stand firm then...

Who is the devil? **Rev.12:7-11; Mt.4:3; Jn.8:44; IPet.5:8; Gen.3:1; Rev.12:9; IICor.11:13-15, 4:4**

**The accuser, tempter, murderer, liar, lion, serpent, dragon, angel of light, god of this age.**

What does his army look like? **Rev.5:11, 12:1-6; Heb.12:22** (myriad=indefinitely large number)

**The devil's army is 1/3 of myriads and myriads, and thousands and thousands!**

What *kind* of battle are we in with the devil? **6:12; Rom.8:38-39; Col.2:15**

**We wrestle (against spiritual forces of evil...). This is hand-to-hand combat. Personal!**

What is the spiritual battle like? **Dan.10, 12:1...Col.1:13; IICor.10:3-5**

**Angels can be captured (by other angels), yield to 'chief princes'. Demons rule nations...**

So, why do *we need* to take the *whole* armor of God? **6:11, 13** (schemes=wiles, craftiness)

**Because we have such powerful and diverse foes. Rulers, authorities, cosmic powers...**

What does **6:13** imply about our *ability to stand* when attacked? **Lu.21:36; Col.4:12**

**When the evil day (day of attack) comes, the full armor allows us to stand against attack.**

What is the *first* piece of armor God has given believers? **6:14a; 4:17; Jn.8:44; IICor.2:11, 11:14**

**It is the belt of truth buckled around your waist. The truth holds everything together!**

And what is one of the most critical truths you need? **Rom.10:8-13; IJn.1:8-10; IICor.13:5**

**Your personal salvation. Doubt here is a fatal opening. Call on Him; Confess your sins!**

Where is TRUTH available? **Jn.14:6; 17:13-21; Ps.119:151; Pr.3:3; IITim.3:16-17**

**Every jot / tittle of the Word of God are Truth. We need to be saturated with the Word.**

What happens when a lie breaks our belt of truth? And the solution? **Ps.32:1-7; Ps.51:1-9**

**We're open to attack and God's discipline! Solution...Repent, confess, and put the belt on!**