

# Ephesians Bible Study Notes

Tyrannus Korean Baptist Church EM – Arlington Heights, IL

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## Ephesians 6:10-20

Recap – Literary Context

### What was Chapter 1 about?

- Spiritual blessings in Christ
  - o Adoption as children through Jesus Christ (v.5)
  - o Redemption through his blood, forgiveness of sins (v.7)
  - o Obtained an inheritance (v.11)
  - o Sealed with the Holy Spirit (v.13)
- Prayer of Paul
  - o He does not stop giving thanks (v.16) and does not stop praying for them.
    - Because of their faith in Jesus and their love for the saints (v.15)
  - o He prays for God to give them the Holy Spirit (v.17), who will
    - Open the eyes of their heart (v.18) to understand
      - the hope (v.18)
      - the riches (v.18) of his glorious inheritance
      - the greatness of his power (v.19)
        - o This same power that was in work in Christ.
          - Who is far above all rule, authority, power, and dominion.
          - Who has been...
            - given all things under his feet.
            - become the head of the church
              - o church, who is the body of Christ.

### What was Chapter 2:1-10 about?

- Spiritual condition apart from Jesus Christ (v.1-3)
  - o We are dead in our transgressions
- Spiritual condition in Jesus Christ (v.4-10)
  - o Made alive in Jesus Christ

### What was Chapter 2:11-22 about?

- Before the cross
  - o Foreigners
- Through the cross
  - o Unites us (Jews and Gentiles) as one people/humanity to God.
  - o Fellow heirs

- Temple – dwelling place
  - Worship.

#### **What was Chapter 3:1-13 about?**

- The Message (v.1-6)
  - Administration of God's grace – to make the known the mystery (this is known by revelation)
  - Mystery of Christ is...
    - Gentiles are fellow heirs through Jesus Christ
- The Messenger (v.7-13)
  - Paul has been given the gift of God's grace/privilege to be the minister of this mystery.
    - The mystery that was hidden through all ages to all people. (v.9)
    - But he can preach to everyone. (v.9)
    - This mystery that reveals the manifold wisdom of God in the church. (v.10)
    - Through Jesus Christ, which was his eternal purpose. (v.11)

#### **What was Chapter 3:14-21 about?**

- Paul's Petition (v.14-19)
  - God's power so that Christ would dwell in their hearts
  - God's strength to comprehend the love of Christ
  - The fullness of God to fill them.
- Paul's Praise (v.20-21)
  - Praise God for his infinite wisdom.
  - Praise God for his glory in the church and in Christ Jesus.

#### **What was Chapter 4:1-6 about?**

- Walk in a manner worthy of the calling
  - Characteristics of a Christian (v.1-3)
    - humble
    - gentle
    - patient bearing in love
    - **unity** of the Spirit.
  - The reason (v.4-6)
    - Because we are one...
      - body
      - Spirit
      - hope
      - call
      - Lord
      - faith
      - baptism
      - God and Father of all.

### **What was Chapter 4:7-16 about?**

- Part 1 – Christ Gave Gifts to Men
  - Christ was victorious and gave the church gifts.
    - apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, teachers.
- Part 2 – The Building Up of the Body of Christ
  - Work of ministry
  - Spiritual maturity
    - Not wavering by deceit and human philosophies and human cunning.
    - Instead, when every member is functioning properly, building itself up in love.

### **What was Chapter 4:17-32 about?**

- Part 1 – Put Off/Put On
- Part 2 – Characteristics of the Old Self vs. the New Self

### **What was Chapter 5:1-21 about?**

- Part 1 – Two Principles of the New Life in Christ (v.1-2)
  - 1) Be imitators of God (v.1).
  - 2) Walk in love (v.2).
- Part 2 – Be Who You Are (v.3-21)
- **Main idea - We as Christians should live/walk like who we really are in love, holiness, and wisdom, because we are children of God, children of the light, and servants of Jesus Christ.**

### **What was Chapter 5:22-33 about?**

- Part 1 – Instruction to Wives (v.22-24)
- Part 2 – Instruction to Husbands (v.25-30)
- Part 3 – The Great Mystery (v.31-33)
- **Main idea - Wives should wholly submit to their husbands, and husbands should sacrificially love their wives, because the marriage union between man and woman reflects the union between Christ and the church.**

### **What was Chapter 6:1-9 about?**

- Part 1 – Instruction to Children (v.1-3)
- Part 2 – Instruction to Parents (v.4)
- Part 3 – Instruction to Servants (v.5-8)
- Part 4 – Instruction to Masters (v.9)
- **Main idea - Our closest, daily relationships should be honorable as they are informed by the Lord Jesus Christ.**

## The Whole Armor of God (v.10-20)

- What is Paul's final exhortation to the Ephesians (v.10)?
  - 1) To \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ and in the strength/power (κράτος) of his might/ability (ισχύος).
    - ἐνδυναμώω – become strong
  - 2) To \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ of God (v.11).
    - ἐνδύω – put on/dress yourself
      - Also in Ephesians 4:24 – “put on the new self”.
      - Ephesians 4:24 – godly character: life/morality
      - **Ephesians 6:11 – godly faith: spirituality**
- What is the purpose/reason of putting on the whole armor of God (v.11)?
  - so that you may be able to \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ of the devil.
    - \*\*Ephesians 2:2 – “in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient.”
    - \*\*John 8:44 – “You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies.”
    - \*\*1 John 3:8 – “Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil.”
    - \*\*2 Timothy 2:24-26 – “24 And the Lord's servant[e] must not be quarrelsome but kind to everyone, able to teach, patiently enduring evil, 25 correcting his opponents with gentleness. God may perhaps grant them repentance leading to a knowledge of the truth, 26 and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, after being captured by him to do his will.”
- What is the reason for such an exhortation (to be strong and to put on the armor of God) (v.12)?
  - for we do not wrestle against \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, but against
    - 1) \_\_\_\_\_
      - ἀρχή – ruler
      - Eph 2:2
    - 2) \_\_\_\_\_
      - ἐξουσία - authority
      - Ephesians 2:2
    - 3) \_\_\_\_\_
      - κοσμοκράτωρ – world power
        - \*\*Only occurrence in the Bible
    - 4) \_\_\_\_\_
- v. 13 – Paul repeats the command, but uses a different verb – take up.
  - Paul goes full on with the military analogy.
  - What is the purpose of taking up the whole armor of God?
    - to be able to \_\_\_\_\_ in the evil day.

- Ephesians 5:16
      - to \_\_\_\_\_ firm
- Question: What is the point/picture Paul is trying to make/paint using military metaphor?
  - spiritual war – you cannot defeat evil powers by yourself: only with God’s help.
  - thoughtful attack on us – it’s not a random event, this is an organized attack on us.
  - emphasize the urgency/seriousness
- What is Paul’s charge for spiritual battle (v.14)?
  - \_\_\_\_\_
    - \*Same word as v.11,13
    - That is the Christian fight – withstanding.
- What are the various articles of the armor of God (v.14-17)?
  - 1) \_\_\_\_\_ (v.14a)
    - “gird up your loins”
  - 2) \_\_\_\_\_ (v.14b)
  - 3) \_\_\_\_\_ (v.15)
  - 4) \_\_\_\_\_ (v.16)
  - 5) \_\_\_\_\_ (v.17a)
  - 6) \_\_\_\_\_ (v.17b)
- What is the function of each of these articles of the armor of God?
  - Belt of truth
    - Satan can use lies – altering the word of God.
    - You have to know the truth of God to be able to “move forward”
  - breastplate of righteousness
    - human heart.
    - mind/life of righteousness – the main part of protection
  - boot of readiness of the gospel of peace
    - to have the boot of the gospel always ready to be the messenger of the gospel.
  - shield of faith
    - having faith even in situations where your pushed down – you see God ahead of you.
  - helmet of salvation
    - even a fatal blow does not separate us from the salvation we have in Christ.
  - sword of the Spirit (word of God)
    - the sword is always close to us – what we use to combat the testing/temptations of the devil
- What is the means/activity for our fighting/withstanding during this wartime (v.18)?
  - \_\_\_\_\_ at *all times* in the Spirit, with *all prayer* and supplication... all perseverance, for *all the saints*
    - Luke 18:1-8
    - Matthew 26:41; Luke 22:46
  - \*\*Prayer is the Christian way of fighting.
- Question: Does this differ at all from how you thought about prayer before?

## Main Idea

**We, Christians, fight a spiritual battle against the devil and spiritual forces; therefore, we must put on the whole armor of God and fight the battle through constant prayer.**

## Applications for Life and Faith

1. How is this Christian view of the spiritual life different from the world's (maybe other religions)?
2. Truth, righteousness, gospel of peace, faith, salvation, word of God – in what circumstances do you see the need for these in your Christian fight?
3. How does this wartime mindset change your perspective about prayer and how can you be praying more?