

Standing Against The Devil's Schemes

August 9, 2020

Ephesians 6:10-13 ESV

10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might.

Matthew 26:41 ESV

41 Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."

Luke 22:41-44

41 And he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, and knelt down and prayed,

42 saying, "Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me. Nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done."

43 And there appeared to him an angel from heaven, strengthening him.

44 And being in agony he prayed more earnestly; and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground.

Ephesians 6:13-18 ESV

13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm.

14 Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness,

15 and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace.

16 In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one;

17 and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God,

18 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,

Ephesians 6:10-13 ESV

11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.

- stand (*histēmi*) make firm, fix, establish, cause to stand, uphold, sustain, to keep one's place, kept intact, stand firm, immovable
- schemes (*methodeia*) strategy, cunning arts, craft, trickery

2 Timothy 4:6-8 ESV

6 For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come.

7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

8 Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.

STANDING AGAINST THE DEVIL'S SCHEMES

- **ENTICEMENT, SEDUCTION** - *Satan knows exactly how to tickle the lust of your flesh, the lust of your eyes and the pride of your life*

Genesis 3:4-6 ESV

4 But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die.

5 For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

6 So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate...

- **DISTRACTION, NEGLECT** - *the guilt-free way of forsaking God*

Luke 14:16-18 ESV

16 But he said to him, "A man once gave a great banquet and invited many.

17 And at the time for the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, 'Come, for everything is now ready.'

18 But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a field, and I must go out and see it. Please have me excused.'

Hebrews 2:1-3 ESV

1 Therefore we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it.

2 For since the message declared by angels proved to be reliable, and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution,

3 how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation?

- **DECEPTION, BATTLE FOR THE MIND** - *believing there is "truth" to the contradiction of God's Word*

2 Corinthians 11:3 ESV

3 But I am afraid that as the serpent deceived Eve by his cunning, your thoughts will be led astray from a sincere and pure devotion to Christ.

- **BATTLE-FATIGUE, PTSD** - *continual harassment drives you to seek peace anyhow, anywhere*

Daniel 7:21-22 ESV

21 As I looked, this horn made war with the saints and prevailed over them,

22 until the Ancient of Days came, and judgment was given for the saints of the Most High, and the time came when the saints possessed the kingdom.

Daniel 7:25 ESV

25 He shall speak words against the Most High, and shall wear out (harass constantly, to wear away) the saints of the Most High, and shall think to change the times and the law; and they shall be given into his hand for a time, times, and half a time.

- **FRUSTRATION, ANGER**

Ephesians 4:26-27 ESV

26 Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger,
27 and give no opportunity to the devil.

James 1:20 ESV

20 for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

Romans 12:19 ESV

19 Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord."

Romans 12:21 ESV

21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

- **AFFLICTION, ADVERSITY** - Satan can and will certainly meddle in life circumstances

Luke 22:31 ESV

31 "Simon, Simon, behold, Satan demanded to have you, that he might sift you like wheat."

Job 1:11-12 ESV

11 But stretch out your hand and touch all that he [Job] has, and he will curse you to your face."

12 And the LORD said to Satan, "Behold, all that he has is in your hand. Only against him do not stretch out your hand." So Satan went out from the presence of the LORD.

- **SUCCESS, FAME** - the irresistible temptation

Matthew 4:5-6 ESV

5 Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple

6 and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, "'He will command his angels concerning you,' and "'On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.'"

Luke 5:15-16 ESV

15 But now even more the report about him went abroad, and great crowds gathered to hear him and to be healed of their infirmities.

16 But he would withdraw to desolate places and pray.

- **GUILT, CONDEMNATION**

Revelation 12:10 ESV

10 And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, "Now the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ have come, for the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God.

1 John 4:16-18 ESV

16 So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.

17 By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world.

18 There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love.

Ephesians 6:10-13 ESV

12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.

13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm.

- may be able (*dynamai*) to be able, to have power, capable, strong
- withstand (*anthistemi*) to set against, withstand, resist, oppose
- to stand firm (*histemi*) make firm, fix, establish, cause to stand, uphold, sustain, to keep one's place, kept intact, stand firm, immovable

1 Peter 5:8-10 ESV

8 Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around (*peripateō* - to be occupied, to conduct or pass one's life) like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

9 Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world.

10 And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will Himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you.

- *The experience of the Christian in this world is one of suffering beneath the continual, violent blows and assaults of the enemy.*
- *Can we hold our ground and keep the faith to the end?*