

# Armor of God - Purpose

## **Ephesians 6:10–20**

<sup>10</sup>Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. <sup>11</sup>Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. <sup>12</sup>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. <sup>13</sup>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. <sup>14</sup>Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; <sup>15</sup>And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; <sup>16</sup>Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. <sup>17</sup>And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: <sup>18</sup>Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints; <sup>19</sup>And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel, <sup>20</sup>For which I am an ambassador in bonds: that therein I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.” (KJV)

***Remember the intent of Ephesians...Paul is looking to reflect the calling in which Jesus has for us upon our lives. He is giving practical exhortation to tells us how to live our Christian lives, particularly in this wicked world. It is plain that Paul is giving us clear advice on what, how and why in spiritual warfare.***

### **Purpose of this passage (3 questions)**

- **What does Paul want us to do?**
  - **Be strong (v. 10)**
    - **in the Lord**
    - **In the power of His might**
- **How does he want us to do it?**
  - **Putting on the whole armor of God (v. 11)**
- **Why does he want us to do it?**
  - **To be able to stand against...the devil (v. 11)**
    - **The enemy is not human, but spiritual and he's stronger than us**

***Spiritual warfare has the elements of exerting strength, not of ourselves, but in the authority of the “Commander in Chief” in opposition to the adversary.***

### **The power of His might**

#### **Ephesians 1:18–23**

I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you will know what is the **hope of His calling**, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is **the surpassing greatness of His power** toward us who believe. These are in accordance with the **working of the strength of His might** which He brought about in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, **far above all rule and authority and power and dominion**, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. And **He put all things in subjection** under His feet, and gave Him as head over all things to the church, which is His body, **the fullness of Him** who fills all in all.” (NASB)

***We’ll read the verse in James shortly, but the idea of receiving the power of His might, the authority that give strength is the idea that our expectation and responsibility (hope of His calling) is to bypass the idea that we have anything to offer or that we have any sustenance of our own. The unity of a believer and the “power of His might” (the power of resurrection) is the submission to the one who has all authority, all power, all dominion, the One with a Name above every name, completely obedient to the Head of the Church, a part of His body, forming in to His likeness.***

***This is not a bestowing of authority upon the church or exercise over other believers, but a God’s method to empower His children to resist the scheme of the enemy and the carnal nature that we might fulfill our calling and receive the inheritance of eternal life.***

***Simply put, to stand in the “power of His might” means to submit to Him. To have His power in our life means we must be weak, to have His favor we must be humble...this is the power for spiritual battle!***

### 3 keywords for strength in this passage

1. Be Able (capacity for being strong)
  - a) Eph 6:11 that ye may be able to stand against the wiles
  - b) Eph 6:13 that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day
  - c) Eph 6:16 wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery
2. Stand (position of strength)
  - a) Eph 6:11 that ye may be able to stand against the wiles
  - b) Eph 6:13 in the evil day, and having done all, to stand
  - c) Eph 6:14 Stand therefore
3. Against/Resist (exertion of power)
  - a) Eph 6:11 be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.
  - b) Eph 6:12 against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness, against spiritual wickedness in high places.
  - c) Eph 6:13 so that you will be able to resist in the evil day (NASB)

### Be Able (capacity for being strong)

- a) A present verb – not developing or developed
- b) δύναμαι *dunamai* - to possess capability by permission of law or custom (whether because of personal or external factors) for experiencing or doing something
- c) To be capable of having sufficient power, skill, or resources to accomplish an action marked by intelligence, knowledge, skill, or competence

***Ability is not a human institution of education, talents, or physical strength, but a servant's authority to work for the master...it is only in His presence that we have any sufficiency. He is our complete capacity to do anything, including living.***

### Romans 14:4

Who are you to judge another's servant? To his own master he stands or falls. Indeed, he will be made to stand, for God is able to make him stand." (NKJV)

### Stand (position of strength)

- a) An aorist verb – stand and continue to stand
- b) ἵστημι *histēmi* – to take up and maintain one’s position (location or action) or as if in committed scale suggestive of fidelity and stability
- c) It is rendered “lay to the charge” as in “stand charged of”

### Ephesians 4:14

Then we will no longer be immature like children. We won’t be tossed and blown about by every wind of new teaching. We will not be influenced when people try to trick us with lies so clever they sound like the truth.” (NLT)

*When we have come into complete submission to Christ, we will then have the courage to endure...our solidity, integrity, potency, and valor are a result of His impartation.*

### Against (exertion of power)

- a) A preposition – descriptive of position
- b) πρὸς *pros* - expressing direction, facing directly opposite in preparation, course, or provision
  - a) marker of opposition, direction, or aspect from which something is determined
  - b) Implies the probable implication of a reaction or response to a previous event

### Colossians 1:13

He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,” (NKJV)

*Christ has delivered us...what we were once part of, we are now versus...we are on God’s side, the winning side.*

### Resist (exertion of power)

- a) Aorist verb – continuing action
- b) ἀνθίστημι *anthistēmi* - to be resistant to power or pressure
- c) To exert force in opposition, to exert oneself so as to counteract or defeat, to withstand the force or effect of harm

### James 4:7

So be subject to God. Resist the devil [stand firm against him], and he will flee from you.” (AMP)

### **The whole armor of God**

- **The panolpy (full armor) of a soldier**
- **πανοπλία *panoplia* – the complete equipment of a heavy-armed soldier (usually infantry)**
  - **Full armor for endurance in battle, providing protection for the whole person, a complete or perfect covering**
  - **Implies having all distinguishing characteristics and enjoying all authorized rights and privilege, not lacking in any essential equipment, training, or power**

**Within the NT, this Greek word is only used in the Eph 6 passage.**

### **3 categories of “panoplia”**

- 1. Protective armor**
- 2. Weapons**
- 3. Tactics and Strategies**