
I'm Still Standing in Holiness, Part II (Standing on the Word of God)

The Requirements of Holiness

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Sermon: The Requirements of Holiness: I'm Still Standing in Holiness, Part II (Standing on the Word of God)

New Series Messages: "The Requirements of Holiness"

- Theme Scriptures:
 - 1 Peter 1:15–16 “To Be Holy”
 - Micah 6:8 “The Requirements of Holiness”
- Sermon: The Righteousness of Holiness (Doing Justly)
- Sermon: The Forgiveness of Holiness (Loving Mercy)
- Sermon: The Meekness of Holiness (Walking Humbly)
- Sermon: Standing Still in Holiness
- Sermon: I'm Still Standing in Holiness (Knowing Your True Enemy)
 - I'm Still Standing Against the Wiles of the Devil
 - I'm Still Standing Against the Unclean Spirits of the Devil
 - I'm Still Standing Against the Evil Days of the Devil

Lesson Text

Ephesians 6:13–17 (AV)¹³ 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. ¹⁴ Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; ¹⁵ And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; ¹⁶ Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. ¹⁷ And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:

Introduction

Last week we looked at Standing when we're under attack. We learned that the key to this battle is to realize from whom the attacks are coming from. And that is not each other, but against the unclean spirits that the enemy has unleashed against us to take us out.

Ephesians 6:12 (AV)¹² 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*.

Today we want to look at some of what God has given to us to equip us for this battle, namely the whole armor of God!

This armor consists of six strategic pieces: belt, breastplate, shoes, shield, helmet, and sword.

Today we will look at the three pieces of God's armor that specifically deal with His Word: The Belt of Truth, The Gospel of Peace, and The Sword of the Spirit.

The enemy is coming at us relentlessly to cause us to fall, to lose it, break us, to cause us to give up in defeat.

But we put him on notice that no matter what he comes at us with, "I'm Still Standing"!

Series and Sermon: The Requirements of Holiness: I'm Still Standing in Holiness, Part II (Standing on the Word of God)

"I'm Still Standing with the Truth, I'm Still Standing with the Gospel, and I'm Still Standing with the Sword"

I. I'm Still Standing with the Truth (Holding on to the Word)

Ephesians 6: ¹⁴ Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;

Standing with one's loins girt about with the truth deals with God's Word from the perspective of Stability (that is keep it or holding it all together)

Ephesians 6:14 (NLT)¹⁴ Stand your ground, putting on the **belt of truth** and the body armor of God's righteousness.

Life comes at us in all directions, we are troubled on every side, we are flooded with the cares of the world, we have many afflictions and persecutions. It creates anxiousness and anxiety, worry and desperation, or frustration and depression.

And when to the things we normally hold on to, they may even fail us. Our jobs and careers may fail us, our family and friends may fail us, our government and institutions may fail us.

The Answer is to hold on to what will never fail us, and what will hold everything all together, and that is the belt of truth, the word of God:

- Isaiah 59:¹⁹ ... When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the LORD shall lift up a standard against him. **(Hold on to God's Word)**
- Psalm 66:¹² Thou hast caused men to ride over our heads; we went through fire and through water: but thou broughtest us out into a wealthy *place*. **(Hold on to God's Word)**
- Psalm 34:¹⁹ Many *are* the afflictions of the righteous: but the LORD delivereth him out of them all. **(Hold on to God's Word)**
- 2 Corinthians 4:⁸ *We are* troubled on every side, yet not distressed; *we are* perplexed, but not in despair; ⁹ Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed; **(Hold on to God's Word)**

Matthew 24:35 (AV)³⁵ **Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.**

"I'm Still Standing because I'm Holding on to the Word of God"

II. I'm Still Standing with the Gospel (Sharing the Word)

Ephesians 6: ¹⁵ And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;

Standing with one's feet sod with the preparation of the gospel of peace deals with God's Word from the perspective of Foundation.

Ephesians 6:15 (NLT)¹⁵ For shoes, put on the peace that comes from the Good News so that you will be fully prepared.

Osteoporosis is a condition where bones lose their density or strength. It happens because the remodeling process of bones is off-balance, and bones become fragile and more likely to break.

One potential cause of osteoporosis is a lack of calcium. And when they don't get enough, the bones will eat themselves up from the inside to try and get it.

This is what happens to a church when they stop doing what is necessary to maintain their strength, it will literally eat itself up from the inside (***I call this Spiritual Osteoporosis***):

- 1 Corinthians 3:3 (AV)³ For ye are yet carnal: for whereas *there is* among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men?
- 2 Thessalonians 3:11 (AV)¹¹ For we hear that there are some which walk among you disorderly, working not at all, but are busybodies.
- Romans 16:17 (AV)¹⁷ Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them.

To avoid Spiritual Osteoporosis, maintain and sustain our spiritual strength, we must have our feet sod with the preparation of the gospel of peace, we must share the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Romans 1:16 (AV)¹⁶ For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

Matthew 28:19 (AV)¹⁹ **Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:**

Acts 1:8 (AV)⁸ **But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.**

III. I'm Still Standing with the Sword (Using the Word)

Ephesians 6: ¹⁷ And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:

1. First, I'm Still Standing because I'm Holding on to the Word
2. Second, I'm Still Standing because I'm Sharing the Word
3. Finally, I'm Still Standing because I'm Using the Word

Standing with the sword of the Spirit deals with God's Word from the perspective of going on the offense.

Too many people stay in a constant struggle because they only fight from a defensive perspective. They only react and respond to what's happening to them. And so, they always feel beat up, beat down, and beat all around.

But God didn't call us to be punching bags, he didn't call us to wimps, he didn't call us to let the enemy just beat us down.

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Yes, we are to turn the other cheek, but when we turn, come back with the sword of the spirit.

The enemy wants to wear us out. He uses the cares of this world to choke us out. He uses principalities to run us out. But God gave us the sword of the Spirit to fight our way out!

I'm Still Standing because I'm Fighting using the Word of God

- 1 Timothy 6:12 (AV)¹² Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.
- Romans 8:37 (AV)³⁷ Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.
- Isaiah 54:17 (AV)¹⁷ No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; ...

Midweek Study Lesson Plan (Sermon: I'm Still Standing in Holiness, Part II (Standing on the Word of God))

Lesson Text

- Ephesians 6:13–17

Sermon Outline (Notes)

I. *I'm Still Standing with the Truth (Holding on to the Word)*

II. *I'm Still Standing with the Gospel (Sharing the Word)*

III. *I'm Still Standing with the Sword (Using the Word)*

Questions

I. Getting to Know “Me”

1. What is one thing you are really good at?
2. What are five things you are thankful for?

II. Into the Bible

1. “Death and life *are* in the power of the tongue...”, (Proverbs 18:21). How does this truth correlate with using the sword of the Spirit?
2. Psalm 27 says, KJV “wait on the Lord”, other versions say: “Wait *and* hope for and expect the Lord” AMPC / “Stay with God” MSG / “Wait patiently for the Lord” NLT. This verse is in essence directing us to **wait in faith** for the Lord. How does the shield of faith help us to wait on the Lord?

III. Life Application

1. How does sharing the gospel with others help you to stand firmly in holiness? Can you share an example of when this has happened in your life?
2. Imagine or recall a specific life situation in which a believer is under attack. What scriptures should that sister or brother use as their sword of the Spirit to attack back?