
I'm Still Standing, Part III (God's Weapons)

The Fight of Holiness

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Sermon: The Fight of Holiness: I'm Still Standing, Part III (God's Weapons)

Lesson Text

Ephesians 6:13–18 (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: ¹⁸ Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

2 Corinthians 10:3–4 (AV)³ For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: ⁴ (For the weapons of our warfare *are* not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)

Introduction

To close out 2020, we've been looking at the "Fight of Holiness – I'm Still Standing"

- The Real Fight (**God's Fight**) – We wrestle not against flesh and blood
- **God's Protection** – The whole armor of God
- Finally, today we look at **God's Weapons** – Going on the Offense

So far, we've been dealing with the fight or battle on our territory, in our homes, on our jobs, in our ministry and church.

And we do have to learn how to defend our territory; however, there comes a time when you go on the offense and fight on the enemy's territory.

Matthew 11:12 (AV)¹² **And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force.**

Our Christian battle is not just being on the defensive trying to fend off the devil, but actually advancing against him into camp and taking back everything that the devil stole from us.

Just like our battle is not flesh and blood but against unclean spirits; our weapons are not carnal but spiritual to destroy Satan's kingdom by pulling down his strongholds!

Series and Sermon: The Fight of Holiness: I'm Still Standing, Part III (God's Weapons)

"Fighting With Your Shoes, Fighting With Your Helmet, Fighting With Your Sword, Fighting With Your Spirit"

I. Fighting With Your Calling (The Shoes)

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

This is about our Calling (coming to God to get our assignment), and our Mission (going to accomplish our purpose). It is about our feet!

In combat, you can't successfully fight hand to hand if you don't have yourself secured and anchored. Before you can box with your hand, you have to develop your foot work.

Some of you probably remember the scene in the movie "Glory" where Denzel Washington was being flogged for desertion. **(MOVIE CLIP "Glory")**

But do you know why he left? He wasn't deserting the army, he was looking for some shoes so that he could successfully fight in the army!

As Christians, we need our shoes, and our shoes are our calling to preach the Gospel of Peace.

We don't just fight; we must fight with a calling and we must fight with a purpose! Our feet must be prepared when we come (our Calling), and they must be prepared when we go (Our Purpose)

God Called us to the Gospel of Peace (To Come)

- Matthew 22:14 (AV)¹⁴ For many are called, but few *are* chosen.
- Matthew 11:28 (AV)²⁸ **Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.**

God Sent us into the World with the Gospel of Peace (To Go):

- 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.**

But whether you are coming or going, you have to have your feet on a solid foundation.

1 Corinthians 3:11 (AV)¹¹ For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

- *My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness*
- *I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name*
- *On Christ the solid rock I stand, all other ground is sinking sand. All other ground is sinking sand!*

II. Fighting With Your Salvation (The Helmet)

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

The enemy wants to drive us crazy, out of our mind, out of head; the battlefield of the mind!

Luke 4:18 (AV)¹⁸ **The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,**

It's bad enough to be poor in spirit, brokenhearted, in spiritual captivity, blinded making the same mistakes. But when you are bruised, it speaks to being oppressed with the same attacks over and over and over again!

The Bruised or Oppression that Jesus is talking about here can be translated into the modern-day vernacular "Chronic Encephalopathy:" which is where the brain becomes damaged and diseased because of constant trauma over and over again.

Just like the persistent concussions of Boxers and Football Players without an opportunity to heal before the next injury; the enemy gives us Spiritual Chronic Encephalopathy!

So, God has prepared us for this fight with the Helmet of Salvation.

"Stop letting the Devil live in your head Rent Free"

It is the constant knowledge that no matter what happens to us, We Are Saved! Not trying to get saved or hoping to be saved; knowing without a shadow of doubt that we are saved!

Matthew 1:21 (AV)²¹ And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.

1 Thessalonians 5:8 (AV)⁸ But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation.

"Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! O what a foretaste of glory divine! Heir of salvation, purchased of God, Born of his Spirit, washed in his blood."

III. Fighting With Your Word (The Sword)

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

Notice that up to now all the armor and weapons have been of a defensive nature; protecting us from the attack of the enemy. But now it's time for us to go on the offense!

Our first offensive weapon is the Sword of the Spirit which is the Word of God!

At a certain point we stop sitting back and letting the devil beat us down over and over, and we go on the offense, go into his territory, go into the enemy's camp and take back what's ours.

Matthew 11:12 (NLT)¹² **And from the time John the Baptist began preaching until now, the Kingdom of Heaven has been forcefully advancing, and violent people are attacking it.**

We forcefully advance with our sword!

Hebrews 4:12 (AV)¹² For the word of God *is* quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and *is* a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

The Word of God coming out of our mouth is Our Sword that is

- Quick (Alive) – The Living Word of God for everyone in every situation
- Powerful (Anointed) – It destroys yokes, tears down strongholds, forcefully advances
- Sharp (Cut Through) – It cuts through lies; it cuts through drama; it cuts through hate

Isaiah 54:17 (AV)¹⁷ No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue *that* shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This *is* the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their righteousness *is* of me, saith the LORD.

1 John 4:4 (AV)⁴ Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.

IV. Fighting With Your Prayer (The Spirit)

Ephesians 6: ¹⁸ Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

Prayer is the spiritual power behind our weapons! Prayer is what spiritually supercharges us. Prayer is what spiritually re-energizes and strengthens us.

Luke 18:1 (AV)¹ And he spake a parable unto them *to this end*, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint;

Prayer is how we get reinforcements from headquarters; prayer is how we call in a bombing strike.

- Philippians 4:6–7 (AV)⁶ Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.
- James 5:16 (AV)¹⁶ Confess *your* faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.
- 1 Thessalonians 5:16–18 (AV)¹⁶ Rejoice evermore. ¹⁷ Pray without ceasing. ¹⁸ In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

Use the Word to cut the devil, Pray the Word to overpower him!

P.U.S.H – Pray Until Something Happens!

Midweek Study Lesson Plan (Sermon: I'm Still Standing, Part III (God's Weapons))

Lesson Text

- Ephesians 6:10–13

Sermon Outline (Notes)

I. *Fighting With Your Calling (The Shoes)*

II. *Fighting With Your Salvation (The Helmet)*

III. *Fighting With Your Word (The Sword)*

IV. *Fighting With Your Prayer (The Spirit)*

Questions (What was your main takeaway from Sunday's Sermon?)

I. Getting to Know "Me"

1. What are your favorite types of gifts to give at Christmas?
2. If you could choose, would you rather be invisible or be able to fly?

II. Into the Bible

1. According to 2 Cor 10:3-4, what are strongholds? Where do strongholds reside? What is the purpose of strongholds? Name some spiritual weapons the believers can use to break down strongholds?
2. Hebrews 4:12 states the Word of God is sharper than any two-edged sword. What does this mean for the believer?

III. Life Application

1. Our battle is in our mind. What strategy will you use for the next seven days to help safeguard your mind?
2. As you go on the offensive in the upcoming year, what scripture(s) will you hide in your heart to resist the devil?