

## Ephesians 6:10-14a - Part 1

EMC Wednesday Night Bible Study - 2-10-16

### Review

#### The Full Armor of God

Paul's emphasis:

- Four-fold
  - Paul wants us to \_\_\_\_\_. His is a concern for Christian \_\_\_\_\_
- Note the contrast between 5:21-6:9 and 6:10ff.
- "evil day"
  - Cf. 5:16; 6:12
  - "Evil day" = a time of \_\_\_\_\_

Significant vocabulary in vv. 12-13:

- V. 12 - πάλη (palē): wrestle. Hand-to-hand combat. Engagement characterized by cunning and strategy.
- V. 13 - ἀναλάβετε (analabete): take up. Military term for the last preparation and final step necessary before the battle begins.
  - Aorist imperative = \_\_\_\_\_
- V. 13 - πανοπλίαν (panoplion): full armor of a heavily armored soldier.
  - Emphasis is on its \_\_\_\_\_: "of God"
  - For OT reference (Isa. 59:17)
  - Shared with the church
- V. 13 - ἀντιστῆναι (antistēnai): resist. Four occurrences in the NT:
  - Matthew 5:39 - "But I say to you, do not **resist** an evil person; but whoever slaps you on your right cheek, turn the other to him also."
  - Luke 21:12-15 - "12 "But before all these things, they will lay their hands on you and will persecute you, delivering you to the synagogues and prisons, bringing you before kings and governors for My name's sake. 13 It will lead to an opportunity for your testimony. 14 So make up your minds not to prepare beforehand to defend yourselves; 15 for I will give you utterance and wisdom which none of your opponents will be able to **resist** or refute."
  - Acts 6:10 - "But they were unable to **cope** with the wisdom and the Spirit with which he (Stephen) was speaking."
- V. 13 - κατεργασάμενοι (katergasamenoi): "having done everything" there is to do. Having made all the necessary preparations the crisis demands.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ is needed!

## Church militant vs. church triumphant

- Inherent tension
  - Church militant:
    - Constant conflict with the world, the flesh, and the devil (Rom. 7:23; Gal. 5:17; I John 5:4),
    - Struggling ceaselessly against the powers of evil (Eph. 6:10; I Pet. 5:8-9).
    - Not a military battle but a \_\_\_\_\_ one
  - Church triumphant
    - Have been given the crown of life (Rev. 2:10)
    - Saints in heaven are comprised of persons of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues who live in ceaseless praise of God (Rev. 7:9)
- All are the body and bride of Christ!
- Already, but not yet
- Recurring thematic elements throughout the NT:
  - I Pet. 4:12-5:11:
    - V. 12 - these things are “for your testing”
    - V. 13 - we share in the sufferings of Christ now, but will one day share in his glory/exaltation
    - 5:1-5 - meanwhile, elders and younger men are to relate to one another in humility
    - Vv. 8-9 - be sober, resist the devil who prowls like a lion, and stand firm in your faith
    - Vv. 9-10 - “the same experiences of suffering are being accomplished by your brethren **who are in the world**. 10 **After you have suffered for a little while**, the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself perfect, confirm, strengthen and establish you”
  - Colossians 2:1-15:
    - Vv. 2-3 - the body is knit together in love, knowing the fullness of the mystery of Christ
    - Vv. 4, 8 - do not be deluded by persuasive arguments, philosophies or deception
    - V. 6 - received Christ, not walk in him
    - V. 10 - he is head over all authority
    - Vv. 12-13 - we have died and been buried with him and God has made us alive together with him
    - V. 15 - he has disarmed the rulers and principalities and triumphed over them
  - Romans 8:31-39:
    - V. 34 - Christ has died but has been raised and it at the right hand of God
    - Vv. 35-36, 38-39 - No external power or force can separate us from his love
    - V. 37 - “through him” we can overwhelmingly conquer all these things

## Summary

- We are already the body, the church, who is the temple of the Holy Spirit who dwells in us
- We have not already attained the final triumph over the world, the flesh, and the devil
- We are promised a battle in this life, which has the effect of working like a trial/test of our faith
- He promises us victory and to those who persevere until the end is promised a crown
- He supplies to tools to wage the war in the present evil age
- His armor and weapons are all we need, but we have to take them up and use them