

Ephesians Handout Week Thirty-Two

Review:

12 For our struggle is not against blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.

They are everywhere, in high places all around, of varying ranks, authorities and capabilities. 1 Jn. 5:19

-Rulers: archai Jn. 14:30

-Powers: exousia Jn. 19:10, Lk. 4:33, Lk. 12:4, Mat. 28:18, Lk. 10:17

What is authority for? Lk. 10:17 What is real victory?

-World forces of darkness: kosmokratores Lk. 22:53

-Spiritual forces of wickedness: pneumatike ponerias

Attacks against the individual

Ignorance: 2 Cor. 2:11, 2 Cor. 11:3,

False Prophecy/Teaching: Mat. 7:15, Mat. 24:4

What do we learn?

2 Pt. 2:1, 2 Pt. 1:16, Peter's admonition- 2 Pt. 3:17, John's admonition 1 Jn. 4:1 1 Jn. 4:4

Imitation

Imitates works of Christ. 2 Thes. 2:8

Imitates goodness of Christ. 2 Cor. 11:13 Workers?

Obscures vision of Christ. 2 Cor. 4:4 2 Cor. 4:8 Eph. 1:18

Low Hanging Fruit

Sex. 1 Cor. 7:5 Anger. Eph. 4:26 Self-righteousness. 1 Tim. 4:1

Classics.

Tempting with bad but also with good. Even using the law...Gal. 3:1

Accusing.

T.K. Temptation and accusation are opposite but complimentary strategies. Temptation gets you to take sin too lightly and accusation gets you to take it too heavily. Satan messes with your understanding of your salvation.

Attacks Against the church

Hypocrisy/Lies/Self-Promotion. Acts 5:3

Strife/Division. James. 4:1

Unforgiveness. 2 Cor. 2:6

Pride/inexperienced leaders. 1 Tim. 3:1

Boredom and Gossip and moochers. 1 Tim. 5:13

Suffering/Persecution. 1 Pt. 4:12, 1 Pt. 5:8

Jesus to the church—Rev. 2:9

10 Finally/henceforth, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. 11 Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil (adversary)... 13 Therefore, take up the full armor of God, so that you will be able to resist/stand up in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. 14 Stand firm therefore, having...

Finally/Henceforth:

In the evil day.

Don't dismiss a string of hard things as coincidence. Don't be paranoid either. Don't blame yourself.

Other alternative:

Do acknowledge that the days are evil, and—

*Note

We are told to do two (three) things.

1. Be strong/be strengthened. Plural.	Imperative	Present tense
Passive voice. ??		

You must **be** in the Lord. You must be **in the Lord**. You must know the **strength of His might**.

Eph. 1:18, 3:20 Jer. 32:17

"be strengthened"

2 Cor. 12:9

1 Sam. 30:3

2. Put on the full armor of God. Imperative. Middle voice?

-Put it on. V. 13 take it up-

-When?

-What pieces? Panoplian

-Whose armor is it? What does this mean?

So, it's not let go and let God, but it also isn't grit your teeth and gut it out with your makeshift faith.

Col. 1:29, 1 Cor. 16:8

Discussion

1. How can we know whether an attack stems from Satan or from our sinful flesh or the world? Does it make any practical difference?

2. Read this.

Isa. 40:26 Lift up your eyes on high and see who has created these stars, the One who leads forth their host by number, He calls them all by name; because of the greatness of His might and the strength of His power, not one of them is missing. Why do you say, O Jacob, and assert, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the Lord, and the justice due me escapes the notice of my God"? Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth does not become weary or tired. His understanding is inscrutable.

He gives strength to the weary, and to him who lacks might He increases power. Though youths grow weary and tired, and vigorous young men stumble badly, yet those who wait for the Lord will gain new strength; they will mount up with wings like eagles, they will run and not get tired, they will walk and not become weary.

How is this related to Eph. 6:10-17? What truth are they both teaching?

What does it mean to wait? Use these verses to help you answer. Ps. 25:5, Ps. 37:34 Ps. 69:6 Ps. 130:5 20:22