

EPHESIANS

PART OF SOMETHING BIG



GOD POWERFULLY SUPPLIES THOSE WHO ASK

EPHESIANS 6:18-20

PART OF SOMETHING BIG



Review:

- We are in a spiritual war
- Put on the armor of God

Ephesians 6:10-17

¹⁰ Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might.

¹¹ Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. ¹² For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. ¹³ Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. ¹⁴ Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, ¹⁵ and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace.

Ephesians 6:10-17

¹⁶ In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; ¹⁷ and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, ¹⁸ praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints, ¹⁹ and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰ for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak.

**As we fight in this spiritual war, prayer is
essential to our victory.**

God provides His armor to those who ask

God provides His armor to those who ask

- **Prayer is the only way to access His armor**

Ephesians 6:18-20

¹⁸ **praying** at all times in the Spirit, with all **prayer and supplication**. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints,¹⁹ and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel,²⁰ for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak.

God provides His armor to those who ask

- **Prayer is the only way to access His armor**
 - God's armor is His alone to give

God provides His armor to those who ask

- **Prayer is the only way to access His armor**
 - God's armor is His alone to give
 - Those who understand the war ask well and ask often

God provides His armor to those who ask

- Prayer is the only way to access His armor
- **So just never say “amen”?**

Ephesians 6:18-20

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God provides His armor to those who ask

- Prayer is the only way to access His armor
- **So just never say “amen”?**
 - View prayer as a posture of life, not just a moment in time

God provides His armor to those who ask

- Prayer is the only way to access His armor
- **So just never say “amen”?**
 - View prayer as a posture of life, not just a moment in time
 - Increased consciousness of God

God provides His armor to those who ask

- Prayer is the only way to access His armor
- So just never say “amen”?
- **What does it mean to pray in the Spirit?**

Ephesians 6:18-20

¹⁸ praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints,¹⁹ and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel,²⁰ for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak.

God provides His armor to those who ask

- Prayer is the only way to access His armor
- So just never say “amen”?
- **What does it mean to pray in the Spirit?**
 - **Accurate approach to who you are praying to**

God provides His armor to those who ask

- Prayer is the only way to access His armor
- So just never say “amen”?
- **What does it mean to pray in the Spirit?**
 - **Accurate approach to who you are praying to**
 - **We pray TO the only one who can provide the armor**

God provides His armor to those who ask

- Prayer is the only way to access His armor
- So just never say “amen”?
- **What does it mean to pray in the Spirit?**
 - **Accurate approach to who you are praying to**
 - We pray TO the only one who can provide the armor
 - **We pray IN the Spirit, the only one who can help use the armor effectively.**

God provides His armor to those who ask

- Prayer is the only way to access His armor
- So just never say “amen”?
- **What does it mean to pray in the Spirit?**
 - **Accurate approach to who you are praying to**
 - We pray TO the only one who can provide the armor
 - We pray IN the Spirit, the only one who can help use the armor effectively.
 - **We pray FOR the glory of God to be seen through us who stand firm in His armor.**

**Alright preacher, give me an example of praying
in the Spirit!**

Ephesians 6:18-20

¹³ Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. ¹⁴ Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, ¹⁵ and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. ¹⁶ In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; ¹⁷ and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God

Praying for the belt of truth

“Lord, I know that I don’t love the truth all the time. I know it’s not the primary thing I run to each hour of the day. I ask that you wrap my life with the belt of truth. Remind me yet again of your love for me. Would the truth of who you are be the foundation of my life. Help me seek the truth, enjoy the truth, and live for the truth.”

Praying for the sword of the Spirit

“Jesus, each time you were tempted in the desert, you used three simple words that I want to rule more of my life...“it is written”. As I fight to find my joy in you, fill me with your words of life. Your word revives my soul and reminds of the joy of obedience. I ask that you give me this sword to wield in my war.”

So when do we pray in the Spirit??

We ask for His armor in everything

EPHESIANS

So we ask for His armor in everything

- We need His armor all the time to stand firm in our faith

Ephesians 6:10-17

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¹¹ Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. ¹² For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. **¹³ Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm.**

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So we ask for His armor in everything

- We need His armor all the time to stand firm in our faith
 - Won't be easy
 - Won't be short

Ephesians 6:18-20

¹⁸ praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. **To that end, keep alert with all perseverance,** making supplication for all the saints, ¹⁹ **and also for me,** that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰ for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak.

So we ask for His armor in everything

- We need His armor all the time to stand firm in our faith
- We need His armor in every relationship

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So we ask for His armor in everything

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 - Paul lives and prays R³

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So we ask for His armor in everything

- We need His armor all the time to stand firm in our faith
- We need His armor in every relationship
 - Paul lives and prays R³
 - Spouses, parents, children, bosses, coworkers, friends, mentors, life groups, sports teams, neighbors, the DMV...

So we ask for His armor in everything

- We need His armor all the time to stand firm in our faith
- We need His armor in every relationship
- We need His armor in every circumstance

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So we ask for His armor in everything

- We need His armor all the time to stand firm in our faith
- We need His armor in every relationship
- We need His armor in every circumstance
 - View every circumstance and opportunity to love and promote Jesus

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So we ask for His armor in everything

- We need His armor all the time to stand firm in our faith
- We need His armor in every relationship
- We need His armor in every circumstance
 - View every circumstance and opportunity to love and promote Jesus
 - Our primary prayer shifts from “fix my circumstances” to “increase my faith with your armor”

The fruit of praying for God's armor

Ephesians 2:10 / 4:1-3

“¹⁰ For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them...¹ I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, ² with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, ³ eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.”

Then why don't we pray more?

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- We have a powerful adversary who is good at lying:

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- We have a powerful adversary who is good at lying:
 - We don't see the devastating consequences and lethal intent of evil and our own sin

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- We have a powerful adversary who is good at lying:
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 - When life is good, who needs to pray?

Then why don't we pray more?

- We have a powerful adversary who is good at lying:
 - We don't see the devastating consequences and lethal intent of evil and our own sin
 - When life is good, who needs to pray?
 - When it's bad, we are hyper focused on fixing our circumstances

“... Lord, I need You, oh, I need You
Every hour, I need You
My one defense, my righteousness
Oh God, how I need You
... So teach my song to rise to You
When temptation comes my way
And when I cannot stand, I'll fall on You
Jesus, You're my hope and stay”

Let's spend some time asking the Lord to powerfully supply us with His armor and to lift up those we love who are in this fight for our joy in Jesus alongside us.