

# ARMOR OF GOD AND KNOW THE ENEMY

## **Armor of God:**

We need to daily put on the armor of God. Satan hates God, hates God's people and hates any work done to further God's kingdom. So, to be blunt, that means he hates us. We didn't start the battle, but we are at war. May your Bibles automatically fall open to Ephesians 6:10-28 from your frequent review of those scriptures.

It does not take much work to memorize the armor – the belt of truth, breastplate of righteousness, feet fitted with readiness for the gospel of peace, shield of faith, helmet of salvation, the sword of the Spirit. If you do not have a daily habit of putting this armor on, take a few minutes to memorize the list and then try to tie it to something you do regularly every morning, like brushing your teeth or taking a shower. Let that morning ritual serve as your reminder to put your armor on.

Let's review the Ephesians passages now.

“Finally, be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armor of God so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.”

“Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.”

## **Know the Enemy:**

Now, if we are at war, we certainly need to know the enemy. Some of the below insights from Christian leaders and from the Word of God will help to further prepare you for the battle.

“There is nothing that Satan can do for his evil cause that he does not do. We may be halfhearted, but he never is. He is the very image of ceaseless industry and untiring earnestness. He will do all that can be done in the time of his permitted rage. We may be sure that he will never lose a day.” Charles Spurgeon

“Satan's unexpected, overwhelming seasons of temptations can vary in type, but one thing is for sure: They are tailor-made to catch the believer off guard. Many sincere believers fall before they even know what hit them. It's time we put down the popguns of yesteryear's church. Satan is waging a worldwide nuclear war.” Beth Moore

“Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.” 1 Peter 5:8

“For Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light. It is not surprising, then, if his servants masquerade as servants of righteousness. Their end will be what their actions deserve.” 2 Cor 11:14-15

“He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.” John 8:44

“As soon as they hear it (the Word of God), Satan comes and takes away the word that was sown in them.” Mark 4:15b

Keep in mind that Satan is the ultimate counterfeiter. Anything God does, Satan attempts to counterfeit.

Satan’s objective in taking people captive is to get them to do his will. (2 Tim 2:26)

“The chameleon, when he lies on the grass to catch flies and grasshoppers, takes upon him the color of the grass, as the polypus does the color of the rock under which he lurks, that the fish may boldly come near him without suspicion of danger. In like manner, Satan turns himself into that shape that we least fear, and sets before us such objects of temptation as are most agreeable to our natures, so he may the sooner draw us into his net. He sails with every wind, and blows us the way that we incline ourselves through the weakness of nature.” Thomas Spencer

“When the devil had finished all this tempting, he left him until an opportune time.” Luke 4:13

The thief (Satan) comes to steal and kill and destroy.” John 10:10

Satan desires to “sift us as wheat.” Luke 22:31

Satan “leads the whole world astray” and he is the “accuser of our brothers, who accuses them before our God day and night.” Revelation 12:9, 10b

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