

SERMON NOTES

Date: January 10, 2021

Series: God's Riches

Title: Prepare for Battle

Text: Ephesians 6:10-13

Big Idea: Because the enemy wants to steal the riches God has granted us in Christ, we must prepare to stand firm against him in the strength of the Lord's might and dressed in the whole armor of God.

APPLICATION GUIDE

DISCUSS

Looking at our society and the world around you, what examples would you point to as clear evidence of spiritual warfare (cf. 2 Corinthians 10:3-6)?

Life between Eden's perfect peace (Genesis 1-2) and the restored perfection of the new heaven and earth (Revelation 21-22) will force many struggles and spiritual battles upon us. Read each of the following verses and briefly discuss what each says about the reality of our spiritual conflict and how we should fight.

- Romans 13:12
- 1 Peter 2:11
- 1 Timothy 6:12
- 1 John 3:13
- 2 Timothy 2:3
- Psalm 34:7

At what points in your life have you been most aware of the reality of spiritual warfare? What happened?

APPLY THE TRUTH

Where are you currently in your own experience with spiritual warfare? (Check all that apply.)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Civilian life or peacetime | <input type="checkbox"/> Marching to my next engagement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Basic training | <input type="checkbox"/> Thinking of home |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mapping out a strategy | <input type="checkbox"/> Trying to get some R&R |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Advancing up a hill | <input type="checkbox"/> Separated from my platoon |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Engaged in a firefight | <input type="checkbox"/> Prisoner of war |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hiding in a foxhole | <input type="checkbox"/> AWOL (absent without leave) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wounded in action | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

How can you be strong in the strength of the Lord's might as you continue to withstand the enemy (cf. 2 Timothy 2:1; 1 John 2:15-17)?

What is one spiritual battle you need to prepare to fight right now?

What does it look like practically to take up the whole armor of God and stand firm in this situation?

COMMIT THIS WEEK

Because your battle is not against flesh and blood, prayerfully commit to wearing the whole armor of God, knowing that it was Jesus who wore the armor first on your behalf (cf. Isaiah 11:5; 49:2; 52:7; 59:17).