

Ephesians 6:10–13

"Standing by Grace, in the Evil Day, for the Glory of God"

***What is our spiritual warfare like?** Pastor leads his family in tomorrow's "Hopewell @Home" passage. In these four verses, we learn that the evil day of 6:13 draws us back to where we left off in 5:15–17. If we are to walk as children of light through the filling of the Spirit (5:22), we must do so standing against the onslaught of an organized, evil, powerful enemy who hates that we are seated with Christ in the heavenlies, and hates how God's transforming grace is displayed in how we conduct ourselves in our marriages, parent-child relationships, and everyday work.*

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Ephesians chapter 6 verses 10 through 13, these are God's words. Finally my brethren be strong in the Lord and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armor of God. That you may be able to stand against the walls of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood.

But again principalities against powers against the rulers of the darkness of this age against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God. That you may be able to stand withstand in the evil day and having done all. To stand.

So far. The reading of God's inspired an inner word. The Lord here is talking about.

Our spiritual war our wrestling. We do not wrestle verse 12 against flesh and blood and so forth and in this wrestling as far as our spiritual life with God is concerned it is a walking walking as children of life walking in a manner worthy. Of the calling with which we have been called we had those three walkings in the first half of Ephesians 5 and the last one.

See then that you walk circumspectly not as fools but as wise redeeming the time because the days are evil and that's effusions 5 versus 15 through 16 and here we're talking about the same period. You look at the end of verse 13. And he says that you may be able to withstand in the evil day and having done all to stand so you can see how the apostle is tying what was in chapter 5 up through verse 21 and what is now in chapter 6 starting at verse 10.

He's telling those things together. This is the evil day. When we think about our living with respect to God and what he's doing we are walking. He's sustaining us. He's transformed us from darkness into light. He's called us Saints. He's called. Us holy ones and he has given us his spirit for wisdom for how to walk.

But when we think about our opposition. What we're commanded to do is stand not to lose ground not to give up to know that we aren't we aren't walking unopposed. As we walk with God in the things that he's been talking about. What has he been talking about? He's been talking about marriage.

Well, I've submitting to husbands husbands loving their wives. He's been talking about the parent child relationship children obeying and honoring their parents and parents and especially fathers seeking to give their children at. Every possible advantage for loving the Lord and living a saints and therefore the discipline of the Lord the training of the Lord.

The instruction of the Lord and then our everyday work and so when you think about how things are going in your marriage, and when you think about how things are going with you and your parents or when your parents with you and your children when you think about how things are going in your everyday work, you're tempted to think of your primary problem as your spouse or your children or your parents or your coworkers or your boss.

Or your. Is he says if you think that's the primary obstacle you're mistaken because in all the things that God has commanded you to do in walking with him you have an enemy who is very powerful very evil and very organized who is trying to stop you from walking that way.

If you have a terrible husband or a terrible wife or terrible children or terrible parents. Or terrible boss or terrible employees that doesn't stop you from obeying Jesus. But you're fleshliness would. And so you are under the attack of the devil the wilds of the deadly says finally my brethren be strong in the Lord and in the power of his might put on the whole armor of God that you may be able to stand against the walls of the devil and there are many places and scripture where talks about how the devil works and the devices of the devil, yes.

What does wild mean? That means his strategy his schemes his plans how he works. There are many places in Scripture where talks about that. I don't know if we have it on. The Kindle but we can get it if you're interested in it wonderful book just opening up all those scriptures about it.

Precious remedies against Satan's devices by Thomas Brooks. But here those Wiles are specifically his organized forces. Sometimes when I read about verse 12, there's all these attempts to explain, you know, the realm of the devil and who you know, which part of it is each of these but the Bible just doesn't give us.

A lot of details. It's giving us a description of a organized strong evil enemy. So principalities and powers and rulers of the darkness of this age and spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenlies, that is they are attacking us where we are. When he talks about in the heavens, he's using language, he's used earlier in the letter about where Christ has gone and where we are seated with him and united with him and where God's the riches of God's grace are displayed as we are conformed to Jesus.

Well, the you know, the devil hates your marriage. Sure or hates for you to honor your parents or hates for you to do your school work or your chords diligently and joyfully, but he hates the display of Jesus more than anything else. And so it's describing his attempt with all of his forces to stop you from living as someone who trusts in Jesus and deceived with him and heaven because you belong to him and are living on earth as someone who's heavenly character is starting to come out.

In. Way you treat your brothers and sisters the way you treat your mom and dad and later the way you treat your wife or your husband and so this is a heavenly battle in which the glory of God displayed in the gracious work of Jesus Christ to transform those who were darkness.

And now are light no longer under the rulers of the darkness of this age verse 12, but now our light. And we are in this battle in our in our daily life so it's to be done in the strength of the Lord and we know that because he said the way you do this is by being filled with his spirit and that's why he's given you to admonish one another in Psalms him spiritual songs.

Making melody in your hearts doing everything in the name of Christ so this is done in your everyday life against a very organized powerful evil enemy in the strength of the Lord so that you can stand so that you will stand and if you aren't living your life this way if you're not viewing trying to obey mom and dad as the spiritual battle that you're trusting in the Lord and when you come to family worship your your thinking you're asking God wanting God to work in you by his word or work in you by The prayer to work in you by his by his spirit using this things then you're gonna lose ground you think about it the commander of the battle comes to us here and he says and we're trying to advance and he's commanding to stand what does that mean?

That means we need to be reminded that the onslaught the attack of the enemy is this strong that we are in danger of losing ground. And so as we walk with the Lord. One of the things we need to be mindful of is that we need to stand against the devil and all of his forces who want to take the opportunity of our remaining fleshliness of our remaining sin and instead we want to dwell upon and live out of our union with Jesus Christ so that our our new self our true self in him will put to death the flesh and will resist the onslaught of the wicked one and all of his forces and we will be at.

Able to stand so that we may continue walking with our master and not give ground and he will be glorified in our everyday life marriage parent child relationships your everyday work. So. We thank God for reminding us that we are in the midst of the battle because it's very easy for us when we're not at worship to just kind of slouch and we end up sliding giving ground and failing to stand.

Says that we're unable to walk, let's pray. Father. I pray for my family pray for me my wife and my children. Hey you would help us to recognize the schemes of the devil recognize that weakness of remaining sin remaining fleshliness from our former nature. But that you would also make us to recognize our strength that you have joined us to Jesus.

And that the reason he is glorified when we live well is because it is his grace his strength by which we are able to walk with you. And so we pray that you would help us to be mindful of the battle mindful of the enemy mindful of remaining sin, but most of all mindful of Christ and that we would stand and that we would walk and that you would be glorified.

By the way each one and this family interacts with one another and does our work and live before you showing that indeed you are gracious and good and powerful and you have transformed us from darkness into light glorify yourself, we pray by producing this effect in each of us and in this family as a whole for we ask it in Jesus name and your children hear say amen.