

Strengthened for the Battle

Ephesians 6:10-13

Halifax: 2 November 2008

Introduction:

We are so pleased today to welcome our new members.

- Some of them are professing their faith for the first time,
 - Some have been recently renewed in their faith,
 - And some are continuing in their faith.
- We have this same variety reflected among our existing membership...
 - Some of you are new in the faith,
 - Some of you have recently renewed your faith,
 - And some of you have been walking faithfully with Christ for a long time.
- But whatever your situation, there is one thing you all ought to do...
 - **Christian, you must do whatever it takes to stand in your faith...**
 - You are in a cosmic war, and you do not want to be casualty in this war.
 - You must do everything you can to see that you are still standing in Christ at the end.
 - That is the focus of our text in Ephesians today.
 - It is very well suited to this occasion.
 - All of you who are members of this congregation had to testify that you did not save yourself—that it was all of Christ...
 - And you had to confess that you yourself had come to Him and were trusting in Him alone for your salvation...
 - And you had to promise that you would endeavour to serve your Lord by His grace to the end...
 - And Ephesians 6:10-13 is a call to you to do what you must do to stand in your profession...
 - to go on to the end of your course with Christ!

TRANS> And so as we begin this morning,

- I want you to consider first of all that...

I. You have a treasure worth holding on to...

- This is not so much directly stated in our text, but is a truth implied from the larger context...

- A. Paul has been talking about the riches Christians have all through Ephesians.
1. In the first three chapters, he spoke about the precious treasures every believer has already been given through redemption in Christ...
 - a. In 1:3, he says that the Lord has blessed us with “every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus.”
 - These spiritual blessings are the blessings of heaven—
 - the blessings that the Son of God has enjoyed from all eternity...
 - eternal communion in happy fellowship with the Father...
 - a sharing together in perfect love where the Father gives all things to the Son and where the Son always pleases the Father.
 - where each takes delight and joy in the other!
 - My brothers and sisters in Christ,
 - These are the blessings that you have been given in Christ!
 - God has chosen you that you should be holy and without blame before Him in love...
 - He is actually going to transform you into a person that pleases Him and who can live in intimate fellowship with Him forever!
 - b. And not only that,
 - but already, if you are in Christ, He has pardoned all your sins and has officially taken you as His own son or daughter!
 - Already He has given you His Spirit as a deposit, and the Spirit has begun a marvellous work of transformation in you...
 - Truly, the same power that raised Jesus from the dead is working in you now to bring about God’s good purpose in you!
 - And Jesus has been made head over all things for the sake of the church such that everything that happens furthers God’s saving work in us!
 - Such grace! such wonderful grace!
 - c. And in chapter 2-3, Paul explains how this grace comes to us sinners...
 - We were dead in our sins and would have never had anything to do with the Lord—we would have spit at the gospel with contempt...
 - Such we were until His grace came to us and made us alive...
 - It was then that new spiritual life began to pulsate through us!
 - It was then that we turned to Christ in faith!

- It was then that we yearned to know Him and to serve Him in all our ways!
 - It was all because of God’s grace, working powerfully in us...
 - The same grace that raised Jesus from the dead is at work in us.
- We were completely without hope, without God in the world...
 - But then the message of the gospel came to us in the power of the Spirit so that we believed...
 - That is how new life began in us!
 - And what a new life it is!
 - Just imagine—eternal fellowship with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ—
 - as sons and daughters who are holy and without blame, totally forgiven, and totally transformed to live in His house...
 - to love as Christ loved forever and ever!
 - That is the precious treasure you have been given!
 - That is the treasure you confessed to be yours when you joined the church.

TRANS> But of course, although we have complete forgiveness of sin in Jesus Christ,

- our lives are not yet fully transformed...
 - We are in pursuit of holiness, we are seeking to grow in grace,
 - but we are yet a long way from the mark...
 - If we are true believers, our hearts have been turned to the Lord so that we want to be holy...
 - but we have not yet attained to perfection.
 - We find that although we want to do good, evil is still present with us
2. And so from chapter 4 on, the Apostle Paul calls you who have received the treasure of redemption to pursue the treasure the new life that has been started in you...
- a. He calls you to “walk worthy of the calling” that you have...
 - the calling to be God’s child—to live in His house forever...
 - the calling to put off the old man that is corrupt,

- and put on the new man that is renewed in the image of God who created you...
- He calls you to replace lying with truth telling...
 - sinful anger with holy anger...
 - stealing with serving and giving...
 - malice and bitterness with love and forgiveness...
 - immorality with purity...
- b. No longer are you to walk in the darkness, but now as light in the Lord, understanding what His will is...
 - You are to be filled with the Spirit so that you might worship God with sincerity...
 - that you might cultivate an ever deeper gratitude to the Lord for what He has done and live in it...
 - that you might live according to His will in all your relationships...
 - as a husband or wife,
 - as a parent or child,
 - as a servant or a master.
 - In every way you are to pursue the fullness of the new life that God has given you!

TRANS> Oh my brothers and sisters!

- This is a treasure to hold on to and to attain!
 - This is something worth fighting for to the very end!
 - You are only here for seventy years or so, and this treasure is forever and ever!
- And so after describing the riches of this treasure and calling Christians to pursue it throughout this whole epistle...
 - What does Paul do when he comes to the end?

B. He urges you to you to fight so that you win—so that your prevail...

1. Ephesians 6:10-20 is the conclusion to what he has been saying...
 - You can see that because he begins this section with the words
 - “**finally**, my brethren.”
 - The idea is,
 - “now that I have spoken to you about the riches you have in Christ and about the transformed life you are now to pursue,

- I conclude with these words.”
 - This is his final message, bringing together all that he has said...
2. The burden of his message is that you would stand to the end...
- That when the war is over,
 - you will still be standing...
 - that you will not be a casualty...
 - that you will still be in the possession of this precious treasure!
 - Even though ten thousand may fall at your right hand in the heat of the battle,
 - that you would still be standing,
 - having finished your course,
 - having fought the good fight of faith!

TRANS> Oh brothers and sisters, what could be more important than this?

- As our Lord put it,
 - What will it profit you if you gain the whole world and lose your soul?
 - This treasure is everything!
 - This is God’s redemptive grace that brings you to glory!
 - Glory!
 - Not the place where you sit around on the clouds and play harps,
 - but rather where you live in God’s house,
 - beholding the glory of Christ that He had with the Father before the foundation of the world...
 - where you actually serve Him and please Him in all your ways, being perfectly restored by His grace!
 - Where you love the way He loves, and where you live in perfect harmony with all your brothers and sisters!
 - This is the treasure that you came into when you came to Jesus Christ!
 - This is a treasure worth holding on to!
 - But I want you to understand something...
 - and this is the second thing I want you to consider this morning...
 - Understand that...

II. Your treasure is truly threatened

- What I mean is, not everyone who enters the church and confesses Christ with his lips *will* be standing at the end.

- The Lord Jesus said that the love of many would grow cold...
 - but that the one who endures to the end would be saved.
- He taught that there would be those who seemed to stand for a while that would not made it to the end.
 - The nature of true evangelical faith is that it continues to the end,
 - but there is also a temporary faith that does not endure.
- A lot of Christians don't want to accept this, but it is true.

A. Just look around—there are many who do not endure

1. Jesus warned the churches in Revelation that some of them were in danger of having their lamp stands removed...
 - that is, of having the light of the gospel taken away from them!
 - As a judgement, He warned them that He would give them over to darkness so that they would not stand.
 - The church I grew up in was like that...
 - They once faithfully preached the word of God, but over the years, they kept compromising.
 - And by the time I came along, it was all empty—there was no gospel left.
 - They had no treasure to impart to me because they did not stand.
 - They fell from grace and lost their way...
 - There are some older people in the church who know the Lord,
 - but even the minister himself told me that He did not believe that Jesus rose from the dead.
 - The church no longer had God's precious message to preach.
 - They were turned over to darkness.

TRANS> But it is not just churches that fall—that no longer stand...

2. Individuals also have fatal falls

- a. I could name several friends of mine who once made zealous professions of faith who now deny the Lord...
 - If you have been a Christian for very long, I am sure you know of some too.
- b. You need not be surprised about this...
 - Jesus told us it would be so...

- Even among His disciples there was a Judas...
 - And among Paul's, a Hymenaeus and Alexander who suffered shipwreck.
- In the parable of the Sower,
 - Jesus speaks of temporary believers as stony ground that receive the word and a plant quickly springs up,
 - but just as quickly falls away when troubles or persecution comes...
 - They do not endure the day of trials...
 - You know, the one who witnesses and sees no fruit—who is laughed at a little and ostracised a little and decides the treasure is not worth standing for...
 - That is the stony ground hearer who does not endure...
 - And Jesus tells of another that receives the seed in ground that is encumbered with weeds,
 - The plant grows up, but is choked out by the weeds before it can bring forth fruit...
 - the weeds representing the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches...
 - a heart of covetousness that is drawn to other things.
 - You know the sort—the one who wants a bigger house and who begins to skip family worship to work a little more...
 - and then begins to break the Sabbath day...
 - and soon the soul is so barren that whatever life once seemed to be there is completely gone.

TRANS> Oh my brothers and sisters, be warned!

- There are many who do not stand to the end!
 - It is a real danger...
 - Some even fall fatally so that they never recover...
- 3. But there are other individuals who have falls that are not fatal,
 - but these can still be very harmful...
 - You might say that they fall in a battle, but not so as to lose the war...
 - Such was the case with David...

- He ran so well as a man after God's own heart until he began to give way to his lusts...
 - And soon he was in bed with Bathsheba, committing adultery and then murder to try to hide his sin...
- David was restored—he did not fall fatally,
 - but what losses he sustained!
 - His covenant children were mostly rebels.
 - This division in his household was God's punishment of him for his sin.

TRANS> Brothers and sisters, you see that there is a real danger here...

- You have been given a very precious treasure, and you are called here to stand...
 - You are in a battle, but you are called to do what you must to endure to the end because there is a real threat...
 - You need to see that....

B. We have some very dreadful enemies who are bent on our fall...

- We saw them in Psalm 25 last week,
 - and now we see them in Eph 6:11-12 this week.

TRANS> I want you to notice first of all what it says about them at the end of verse 12:

1. It says that they are found in the heavenly places...
 - a. What are these heavenly places?
 - If you look back in Ephesians 2:6,
 - you can see that it says that we who are in the church have been raised up with Christ to sit with him in the heavenly places...
 - We are not in heaven yet, but we have been given things that belong to the world to come...
 - especially, forgiveness of sin, communion with God, and the gift of the Holy Spirit.
 - These are some of our spiritual blessings that we enjoy.
 - b. And the enemies that are spoken of here are said to be in those heavenly places...
 - They invade these heavenly realms to wage war on us!

- They come in with the intent of pulling us down from these heavenly places to the earth!
 - They want to pervert our highest doctrines that set forth the glory of God...
 - They want to cloud our vision of Christ as His saving work...
 - They want to bring us down from a high view of God's law and of God's worship.
 - They want to pollute and divide and secularise and overthrow...
 - They tempt us to apostasy...
 - They try to make us think that evil is good and good is evil.

TRANS> These enemies come right into the church to bring us down if they can.

- We must wrestle with them...
 - And look what else it says about them...

2. They are very crafty

- a. You see at the end of verse 11, it speaks of the "wiles of the devil."
 - Of course the devil is the leader of our spiritual enemies...
 - His wiles are his stratagems...
 - his carefully laid plans and methods for leading us astray!
 - He is putting his mind to the task!
- b. He is especially dangerous because he does not come with a red suit and pitch fork...
 - He comes as an angel of light—as a friend with good advice to help us...
 - He comes as one who is looking out for our best interests...
 - He recommends some plausible doctrine...
 - He sets before us a temptation that he knows will not repel us...
 - He exaggerates our sufferings and promises us relief...
 - He offers us pleasures that seem perfectly harmless and clean, and leads us to indulge until we are ensnared.
 - He quotes scripture and he mixes truth with his error.

TRANS> This is much more dangerous than open battle!

- In open battle, you at least know who your enemies are!
 - but Satan hides his malice under the guise of friendship.

- c. How do you think churches that have fallen into apostasy came to fall?
- It began with the best of intentions—
 - The focus shifted from seeking to worship God as He commands to doing what will attract more people—or help people to better understand the gospel.
 - And so, where God had called for simple singing, music began to be performed—and lo and behold—it worked! More people came!
 - And then the lyrics that God gave us began to be modified to make them more agreeable to man’s sentiments—I mean—Christian sentiments...
 - All that stuff about the wrath of God was taken away.
 - And lo and behold, people began to be more comfortable to God—He became more attractive to them.
 - And so it wasn’t long until some of those offensive things that were removed from songs were removed from preaching—
 - just in an effort to be more relevant you know—to help people...
 - And so God was presented as a very kindly sort of friend—
 - not a God who judges people—
 - not a God who is holy—
 - and of course there was no more church discipline because that would be inconsistent...
 - and then of course the gospel didn’t make sense because Jesus did not need to bear God’s wrath in the place of sinners...
 - He just came to be a friend and an example!
 - So all you had left was a social club that tries to do good in the community.
 - It all began with the best of intentions!
- d. And now if I might give you one more example... somewhat related—of Satan’s stratagems...
- Just last Wednesday I watched that Ben Stein movie—*Expelled*...
 - And you know, there was some great material in it,
 - showing how the elite in the universities are systematically rejecting those who reject evolution—flawed as that theory is—in favour of intelligent design—
 - the idea that the world was made by an intelligent being.

- But it was rather remarkable how subtly this movie managed to set aside the true God as utterly unacceptable...
 - All along the way, those advocating intelligent design were careful to make sure that they were not basing their views on Scripture—for that would be utterly unscientific...
 - And at the very end, Ben Stein was interviewing Richard Dawkins, and Dawkins spoke of his disdain for the God of the Bible...
 - And Stein said (more or less)—yes of course, but what about a more loving God such as many have today—
 - what would be so bad about that!
- The movie brought out the attitude of those who allow no intelligent discussion of other views,
 - but it was in the final analysis an attack upon the true faith that teaches us of a holy God who punishes sinners and requires nothing less than the blood of His Son to make atonement!
 - That message was all the more strongly rejected.
 - Such is the subtlety of Satan.

TRANS> Let's see what else is true of Satan and his allies—our enemies...

- Not only do they invade the heavenly places to pull us down...
 - not only are they full of subtlety and craftiness...
3. They are also very powerful
- In verse 12, the apostle says that we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities and powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age...
 - a. Their power is seen in that they are not flesh and blood—
 - They are spiritual beings who are not encumbered with bodies as we are.
 - It is their work even to blind the minds of those who do not believe, as we are told in 2 Cor 4.
 - We are no match for them—this is not flesh against flesh!
 - b. Their power is further seen in that they are called principalities and powers.
 - This speaks of their lofty position—
 - They are foes of a mighty rank with the nobility of chieftains of the fallen spirit-world.
 - Again, they are much stronger than we are—

- much more noble than the best of men.
- c. And their power is still yet further seen in that they are called rulers of the darkness of this age...
- What a huge domain this is—for the whole world lies in darkness, and they are the rulers of this vast dominion!
 - They exercise imperial sway and hold the world under tyrannical control...
 - I mean, just look at how great the darkness is in this world!
 - That intelligent men should actually entertain the very notion that this world came into being by natural causes!
 - that they should actually believe in Darwinian Evolution and a Big Bang...
 - The demons must find it hilarious that they could lead men into such notions...
 - That human beings should be reduced to addiction that leads them around like animals—
 - tramping over others to get their fix,
 - destroying their families and their vocations for another drink,
 - lusting after one another and engaging in filthy, unchaste practices,
 - quarrelling with one another even to point of murder.
 - The rulers of the darkness much surely laugh to see to what depths they can reduce a human being.

TRANS> Oh my brothers and sisters, you see what we are up against...

- these ones who come right into the heavenly places to pull us down...
- these crafty ones...
- these powerful ones...
- and fourthly, I want you to see that...

4. They are very malicious...

- a. Last week I spoke to you about how our enemies want nothing less than pull us away from our reconciled relationship with the Lord...
- They want to turn us away from Him because of spite and envy—
 - they gain nothing by our fall but the satisfaction of seeing our destruction and misery.
 - They are wicked through and through... from stem to stern...

- b. This is why Paul calls them “spiritual hosts of wickedness...”
 - Wickedness is their commission, their nature, and their practice...
 - They are hell-bent on our destruction...
 - Satan is described as a roaring lion, walking about, seeking whom he may devour...
 - He has made it his very employment to ruin us!

TRANS> And so you see in this description of our enemies what you are up against!

- Clearly, we are no match for these powerful foes!
 - There is a real threat to your soul...

C. Now you will ask me, “But doesn’t God keep us?”

1. Of course He does!

- a. He has promised to keep His elect.
 - Jesus said He would not lose one of the ones that the Father had given to Him... and He won’t!
 - As it says in Romans 8:29,
 - Rom 8:29-30: For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son...Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.
 - If we are appointed to salvation,
 - Satan can never make us fall away from the Lord.

b. And not only that,

- but the Lord also promises that if anyone will come to Him, He will not cast them out...
 - These promises are certain—they cannot fail—they cannot be broken.

2. But you see, the danger is real because there are those in the church who are not truly converted—they are not elect.

a. And these ones can and do fall—they do not stand to the end.

- It is only those who are elect and those who truly believe that cannot fall...

b. And this is how the Lord keeps them...

- He keeps them by keeping them looking to Christ—

- He keeps them holding to Christ—
 - He causes them to see that the threat is real and because they do not want to fall way, they do continue in Christ.
- They believe the threat—they know that it is real...
 - And that is why they avoid it...
 - I mean, who, if they really understood what we have in Christ,
 - and really believed it...
 - and really believed that there was fiery hell...
 - Who would ever let go of Christ?

TRANS> And so you see...

- The Lord shows you the danger you are in here with these enemies—with this real threat against your soul—
 - not to cause you to despair,
 - but to show you the urgency of your need to do what it takes to stand...
 - to do what He tells you to do in order that you may stand...
- And of course I have already told you...
 - But let's look at this as our third heading...

III. What must you do to stand?

- Well, here are three things from our text...
 - A. First, v. 10: you must “be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might”
 - 1. This means that you must receive your strength from Him!
 - a. It could be translated—
 - “Be empowered in the Lord and in the strength of His might.”
 - 1) This is really quite remarkable, because it suggests that the Lord does more than simply drive off our enemies or keep them from attacking us...
 - He does something much greater than this...
 - He actually empowers us to be able to resist them...
 - He actually strengthens us with His power so that we can do what we could not have done by our own innate power.
 - 2) But you see, you are the one who actually does the standing...

- He works deeply in you so that you don't cave in, so that remain true to Him—so that you see the truth and believe the truth and are not deceived!
 - This is better than just keeping Satan away from us...
 - Because we actually grow stronger, but His grace, when we are attacked.
 - It is just like it was when you first believed...
 - He did not believe for you, but He imparted grace to you so that you believed...and so that you saw you sin and repented... and you saw your Saviour and trusted in Him...
- b. And look at what He strengthens us with—"the power of His might."
 - This is what Paul spoke about back in Eph 1:19 as:
 - "the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe."
 - Paul said that this power that works in us is the same power that raised Christ from the dead when all our sins were laid on Him!
 - Brothers and sisters, it is that power that is giving you strength to stand against your spiritual enemies!

TRANS> Wow!

- It is for you to believe and to look to this mighty power to strengthen you so that you will stand when your enemies come against you!
- 2. You know that you began by grace...
 - a. All of you who are members of this church had to confess that it is only by God's grace in Christ that you are saved...
 - You were dead and He made you alive...
 - You could not atone for your own sins, nor could you change your own heart...
 - He did it by His grace...
 - Just as Israel was redeemed out of Egypt by God's mighty hand,
 - so you were redeemed from Satan by God's mighty hand...
 - b. But now that you have been redeemed, you are called to go on in the battle by God's grace...
 - having begun by grace, you go on by grace...
 - And you see, that is what you are exhorted to do in this passage...
 - To stand by the grace of God...

- To be empowered by the mighty power of Christ.
- This is like Israel when they came to the Promised Land...
 - The enemies were bigger and stronger and better trained and stood behind powerful fortifications...
 - And they were to go in and take them...
 - And the only way they could do this is by God's grace—if He enabled them and gave them strength...
- You are not supposed to look at your enemies, as they did at first,
 - and say, "They are too big—I cannot defeat them."
 - No, you are to go trusting in the Lord—looking to Him to give you the strength you need to stand...
 - You are to be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.

TRANS> That's first thing you are to do...

- That's what you are to so that you can keep on moving forward...
 - But secondly,

B. You must put on the whole armour of God

1. This is your fighting clothes that are designed to protect you...
 - a. They are provided for you by the Lord...
 - We are going to look at these in detail starting next week...
 - You can see that in verses 14-17,
 - each piece of armour is mentioned...
 - b. But for now, I want you to see that you are to put on His armour—the armour that He provides...
 - Don't go into the battle with your own armour, for it will fail you...
 - There are many ways this is done...
 - Some go in with the armour of pride and self-confidence...
 - the power of positive thinking...
 - This has led many to hell—we are to trust the Lord.
 - Some go into the battle invoking saints or angels...
 - but Colossians says such persons are deceived...
 - God may send angels to help us, but we are not to pray to them

- Some try to stand by secluding themselves—going off to a cave where it is thought they can be more holy--
 - But this also will fail you because it is not the way God has appointed.
 - One of Satan’s stratagems is get you to look to your own armour so as to keep you from wearing the Lord’s armour.
 - But your own protection will fail you...
 - He alone must be your protection...
2. And let me add that you must wear **all** of it (not just part of it)
- a. In verse 11 and in verse 13 you are told to take the **whole** armour of God.
 - This battle is such that partial protection will not do...
 - You must be fully protected or you will fall.
 - b. But don’t misunderstand...
 - This is not some kind of formula—
 - Essentially, the armour of the Lord is just the sincere life of faith that He calls us to lead.
 - Essentially, you are to go on sincerely serving Him, looking to His word for direction and relying on His Spirit to strengthen you.
 - The idea is not so much that you count up each peace,
 - but rather that you give yourself to following Christ and doing what He has called you to do by His grace...
 - And as you do, He strengthens you and enables you to stand.

TRANS> So the first thing you must do if you are to stand is to be strengthened in the Lord and the second thing is that you must put on the whole of His armour...

- and now thirdly,
 - I want you to see that...

C. You must keep your armour on for the rest of your life

- 1. The war does not end in this life.
 - a. There are many battles and you must be ready for each one...
 - You need to always have your armour on so that you are ready in the evil day whenever it comes...
 - Verse 13 speaks about the evil day,

- and the best interpretation of it, it would seem,
 - is that it is the day when the attack of the enemy is especially strong for whatever reasons...
 - When temptation is especially powerful and alluring...
 - When you are weary in your service...

- b. And the point is that there will be many such evil days...
 - Jesus had such a “day” when He was taken up into the wilderness to be tempted...
 - That was the day when Satan brought his carefully laid plan to work it upon Jesus.
 - Of course he failed.
 - Jesus was able to stand in the evil day...

 - But I want you to notice what the Bible says in Luke 4:13:
 - Lu 4:13: “Now when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from Him until an opportune time.”

 - The Devil did not give up!
 - He was going to come back again when the time was right—most suited to his purposes.
 - And of course he did come back...
 - many times, but especially, perhaps, in the Garden of Gethsemane.
 - But He did not find Jesus without His spiritual armour on.
 - The disciples had taken their armour off and were sleeping,
 - but the Lord Jesus was vigilant—
 - He was fully prepared when the devil came.

TRANS> And there is a lesson for us here...

2. Do not take your armour off just because you have won a battle—though it be a great battle!
 - a. The devil will return and you cannot rely on past victories...
 - In Chronicles we read of the wonderful victory of Asa when he met an army of a million Ethiopians and defeated them by faith in the Lord...

- But then how latter, in a less daunting battle, he turned to the Syrians for help instead of looking to the Lord...
 - He took off his armour after his victory and then he fell when the second battle came.
- b. But what does this mean practically...for us...
- How do you keep your armour on? How do you keep from resting in past victories...
 - Well, brothers and sisters,
 - It means that you must keep on seeking the Lord...

Conclusion:

- Examine yourself!
 - Have you grown sluggish?
 - Do you allow yourself to grow sluggish in seeking Christ?
 - Do you let things go and suppose it will be okay?
- I warn you, you must not do so!
 - You have been given great riches and you must not let your enemy separate you from them...
 - Your enemy is much stronger than you and He is very aggressive...
 - You must not suppose that things will be okay if you are found by him without your armour.
 - Consider what you have in Jesus Christ...
 - Come to Him with joy and gladness and do not let go of Him.
 - He is your Saviour and as you began with Him, so you must go on with Him.