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# Foundational Truth #12

*Preparing for the  
Spiritual Battle*

*Ephesians 6:10-18a*

## Preparation...

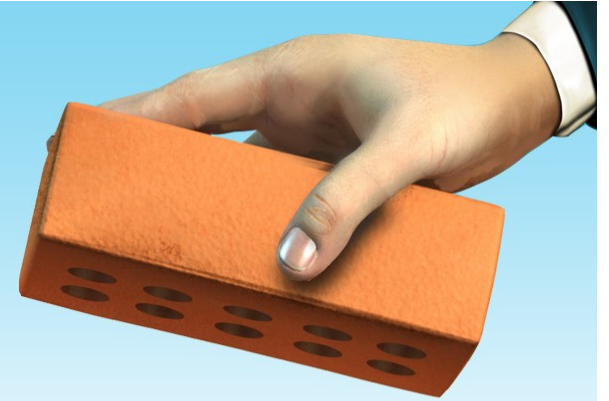
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- There are usually 2 extremes with this topic.
- One group talks about the spiritual battle with only passing interest.
  - The other group sees a demon everywhere.

**We must have a Biblical view!**

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## A. The Spiritual Realm



A true story...



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## **B. Angels, Satan and Demons**

**Gabriel is a messenger - *Luke 1.***

**Michael is the protector of Israel - *Daniel 12.***

**In *Revelation*, they are involved in God's judgment.**

**They are ministering spirits - *Hebrews 1:14.***

***Job 38:1-11* may indicate that angels saw God create the heavens and earth.**

## Isaiah 14:12-14 (ESV)

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“How you are fallen from heaven, O Day Star, son of Dawn! How you are cut down to the ground, you who laid the nations low! You said in your heart, ‘I will ascend to heaven; above the stars of God I will set my throne on high; I will sit on the mount of assembly in the far reaches of the north; I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High.’”

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**Ezekiel 28:11-19** - judgment on Tyre, and a reference to satan as well.

## A few things about satan

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Satan was in a high position but sinned.

He is a fallen *created* being.

He is NOT the opposite of God.

He cannot be everywhere at the same time.

He does not know everything.

He is a defeated foe, (*Colossians 2:15*), but a powerful enemy.

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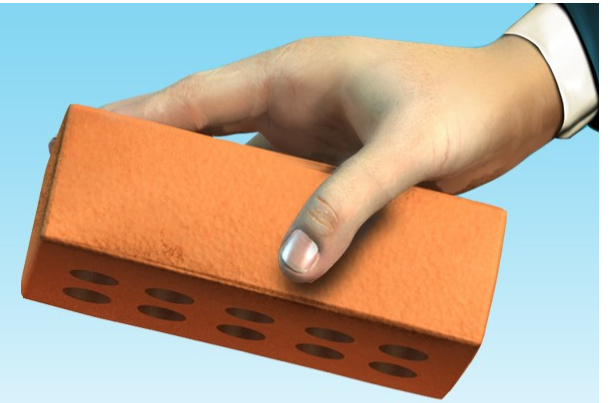


## B. Angels, Satan and Demons

*Daniel 10:4-14* – angelic battle in the heavenlies.  
*Acts 19:11-20* – Jewish exorcists who try to cast out demons, “by the Jesus whom Paul preaches.”  
There may be a communication network for demons, like a demonic internet.



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## C. Satan's Tactics

**Genesis 3:1-7 – Subtle and blatant deception.**

Has God said?

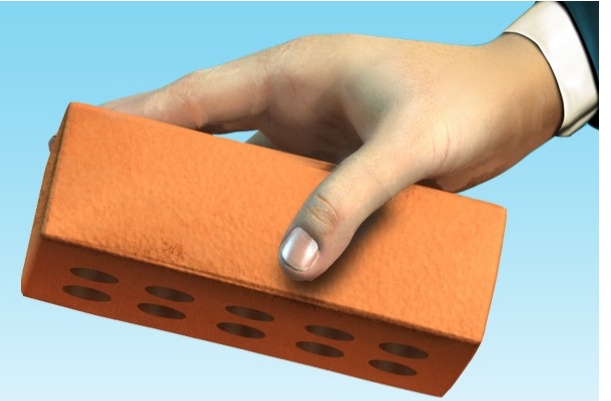
*1 John 2:16* – lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes and pride of life.

He wants us to focus on what we don't have!

Question God's character!

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## **D. Preparing for the Spiritual Battle**



**Ephesians 6:10-18a**



## Ephesians 6:10-18a (ESV)

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Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. 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. 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.

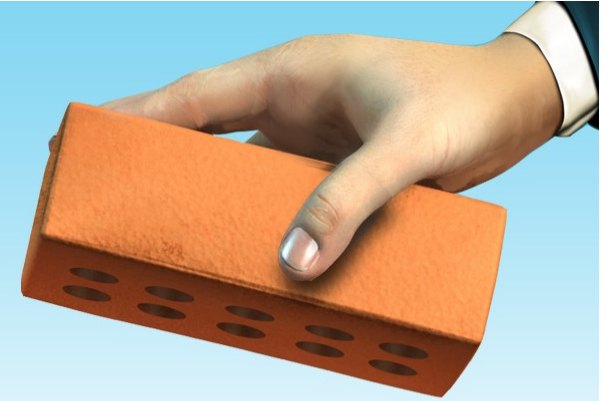
## Ephesians 6:10-18a (ESV)

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Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication.

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## **D. Preparing for the Spiritual Battle**



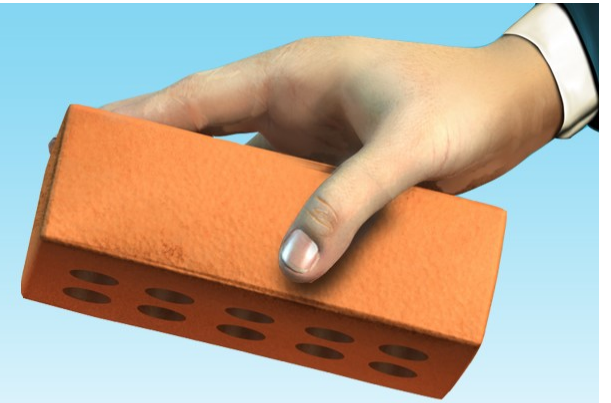
**6:10 – *passive voice* – we can't make ourselves strong. God makes us strong! "Be made strong."**

**6:11 – the way a soldier put on his armor.**

**6:12 – our real enemies are demonic forces and influences behind the thoughts, actions and direction of people.**

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## D. Preparing for the Spiritual Battle



*“Stand”* or *“Stand firm”* – 3 times: vs. 11, 13, 14.  
This was holding your ground in battle and not  
running away!  
Only with God’s strength and His armor can we  
stand firm.

# The Armor of God

## The Belt of Truth

- Held everything together.
- The truth of God, the doctrines of Christianity.
- Living in integrity, honesty and holiness.
- How often do you study Scripture?

### The helmet of salvation

The LORD is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear?  
Ps. 27:1

### The sword of the Spirit

For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword...  
Heb. 4:12

### The shield of faith

Who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.  
1 Peter 1:5

### The breastplate of righteousness

...be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ... Phil 3:9

### The belt of truth

If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free. John 8:31-32

### The shoes of the Gospel

How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace..

Is. 52:7



# The Armor of God

## Breastplate of Righteousness

- Was metal or leather and went all the way around the back.
- Protected vital organs of the body.
- We have the righteousness of Christ, and that righteousness is lived out!

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# The Armor of God

## Feet with Shoes or Boots

- The gospel of peace.
- Had studs on the bottom.
- We stand on, spread and defend the gospel!
- Do you know the gospel?
- Are you confident in the gospel?

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# The Armor of God

## The Shield of Faith


- Large – 2.5 x 4 feet.
- Protect the soldier from the arrows of the enemy.
- Dipped them in water to extinguish fiery arrows.
- Satan's arrows: doubt, perverse thoughts, lust, not forgiving someone...



# The Armor of God

## The Helmet of Salvation

- Protected the head.
- Probably refers to the security of believers.
- Also about our thinking: What and how we think.
- *Spiritual warfare is won or lost in our minds first!*



The helmet of salvation

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# The Armor of God

## The Sword of the Spirit

- God's word and specific words needed in any situation.
- *A defensive and offensive weapon.*
- Used to defend against attacks and used to attack.

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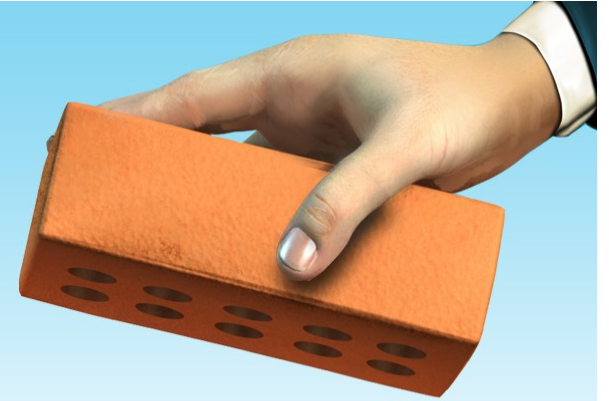
## Prayer

- Prayer is vital!
- Praying in the Spirit is praying in accordance with His will and His word.
- It is submitting ourselves, our desires and our goals to Him.



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## D. Preparing for the Spiritual Battle



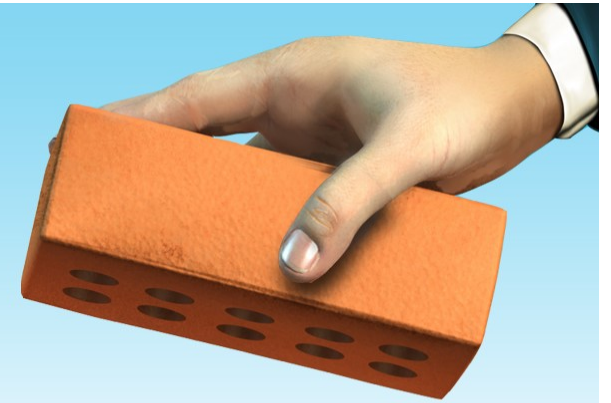
**2 Corinthians 10:3-5** – There is a corporate battle: arguments, opinions, other worldviews and false teachings.

**1 Peter 5:6-9** – Humble yourselves, think clearly and resist the devil.

**James 4:7** – Submit to God, resist the devil.

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## D. Preparing for the Spiritual Battle



- “*Submit*” in *James 4:7* is setting yourself under God’s authority.
- The word “*resist*” in *James 4:7* and *1 Peter 5:9* means “to take a complete stand against” or a 180 degree opposite stance. It is stand your ground without giving up or letting go.