

## Spiritual Warfare 2 – “Standing Up or Giving In” Ephesians 6:10-14

### THE CHRISTIAN’S CALL TO STAND AGAINST THE DEVIL’S SCHEMES

#### 1. The call to “stand” is repeated in this text. v.11, 13a, 13b, 14

- The Greek word means: “to take over” or “to hold a watch post” in a military sense  
-“to stand and hold out in a critical position on a battlefield”  
-Unmoved. NOT: passive (‘don’t do anything’), but active opposition against forces that are at work.

#### 2. A believer must put on the “whole armor of God” in order “to stand.” v.11, 14

#### 3. The whole armor of God.

- Is supplied by God. v.10 Ref. 1:19
- Is put on by believers. v.11, 13
- Comes as a “whole” package. v.14-18a
- Is described as the armor belonging to God himself (using the metaphor of a Roman foot soldier).  
-v.14a: belt of truth. Ref. Isaiah 11:5 (Ref. to the righteous reign of the Branch, the Messiah Jesus Christ)  
-v.14b: breastplate of righteousness. Ref. Isaiah 59:17  
-v.15: shoes fitted with the readiness of the gospel of peace. Ref. Isaiah 52:7  
-v.16: shield of faith. Wood, covered in leather; Approx. 4 ft tall & 2.5 ft. wide. Both defensive & offensive.  
-v.17a: helmet of salvation. Ref. Isaiah 59:17  
-v.17b: the sword of the Spirit—which is the Word of God.

→ Hebrews 4:2: For good news came to us just as to them, but the message they heard did not benefit them, because they were not united by faith with those who listened. [the word + faith = our benefit]

### APPLICATIONS

#### 1. Identify and renounce non-Christian influences/experiences in our life (past and present).

#### 2. Stand against evil’s advances.

- “encroach” = to enter by gradual steps or by stealth into the possessions or rights of another

→ Evil has no intention of stopping.

- Personally and individually... ‘sin gets worse over time’. Ref. Ephesians 4:22
- Socially, culturally... evil doesn’t intend to stop! Evil is not looking for a truce, but for total rule.

#### 3. Identify and renounce vows/agreements that are against the rule of Jesus Christ in your life.

- The LORD works through covenants (i.e., agreements, contracts). Ref. Gen 17; Jer 31:31; Mt 26:26f
- Evil does the same.  
-Active or passive. Knowingly or unknowingly. Good intentions or bad intentions.  
-Often prefaced with: “I will never...” or “I will always”

→ Often people stay in sin or addiction patterns because they have made an ‘agreement’ with evil. (a ‘truce’)

-Example: “I am tired of fighting this sin/issue/problem, therefore I will accommodate it.”

Jesus’ commission of Paul in Acts 26:18: I have appointed you... “to open their eyes, so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.”

Hymn: *O For a Thousand Tongues*

“He breaks the power of cancelled sin, He sets the prisoner free; His blood can make the foulest clean; His blood availed for me.”

**Dear Heavenly Father, please bring to my mind anything and everything that I have done knowingly or unknowingly that involves accommodating evil, the occult, or false religion teachings and practices. Grant me the wisdom and grace to renounce any and all spiritual counterfeits, false religious teachings and practices. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.**

Some examples...

Wicca	Paganism	Magic eight ball
Ouija board	Occult games	Involvement with mediums/channelers
Black magic/White magic	Horror movies	Spells and curses
Freemasonry	Tarot cards	Automatic writing
Astrology/horoscopes	Palm reading/Fortune telling	Nature worship ('Mother earth')
Drugs (NT: 'sorcery')	Seances or circles	Transcendental meditation
Trances	Hypnosis	Dungeons & Dragons game
Ancestor worship	Budda statues	Movies/TV shows about Evil, the devil
Experiences with a psychic		Violent video games, movies, music

→ \*Do not 'play' with evil. It is not a game, toy or 'superstition.'

**Dear Heavenly Father, I confess that I have participated in [specifically name every involvement, event, or experience with non-Christian/demonic spirits] and I renounce them as counterfeits. As Your child who is adopted into Your family and bought by the blood of Jesus Christ, I renounce all attachments and connections to [name specifically] in the name of Jesus Christ, my Lord and Savior. I pray that you will fill me with your Holy Spirit that I may be guided by You. Thank you that in Christ I am forgiven. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.**

**Some reading resources...**

*The Bondage Breaker* by Neil T. Anderson

*Victory over the Darkness* by Neil T. Anderson

*Spiritual Warfare* by Dr. Karl I. Payne

**Daily Prayer:**

Lord, let me make no truce with any sin. Give me a heart which hungers and thirsts for righteousness. Make my life's ambition be husbanding a heart of absolute purity and intimacies only with Lord Jesus – a heart whose only response to the promptings of sin is simple, total annihilation. In Jesus' name, Amen.