

The Battle is the Lord's: Divine Strength in Christ

Ephesians 6:10-18

Ephesians 6:10-11 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might.

¹¹Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the **schemes** of the devil.

Schemes (methodeia): crafty scheming with the intent to deceive

Ephesians 1:1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To the **saints** who are in Ephesus, and are **faithful in Christ Jesus**:

Saints

Faithful

In Christ

The basic irreducible minimum what constitutes a Christian.

Saints

Saints (hagios): holy ones, set apart, consecrated

The question is, are we truly separated as persons, are we essentially different from the world? This not only means that we are set apart in an outward sense, it means that we are set apart because we are cleansed inwardly. That is the real meaning of the word 'saint.'

Lloyd-Jones, D. M. (1978). [*God's Ultimate Purpose: an Exposition of Ephesians 1*](#) (p. 26). Banner of Truth Trust.

Titus 2:11-12 For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, ¹²training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age,

James 1:27.... to keep oneself unstained from the world.

Faithful (pistos): one who trusts in, belief that trusts

Jude 3 Beloved, although I was very eager to write to you about our common salvation, I found it necessary to write appealing to you to **contend for the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints**.

In Christ

Ephesians 1:3–14 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us **in Christ** with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴even as he chose us **in him** before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. **In love** ⁵he predestined us for adoption **to himself** as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us **in the Beloved**. ⁷**In him** we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, ⁸which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight ⁹making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth **in Christ** ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things **in him**, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹**In him** we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, ¹²so that we who were the first to hope **in Christ** might be to the praise of his glory. ¹³**In him** you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed **in him**, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

Ephesians 2:8–9 For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

Christless
Stateless
Friendless
Hopeless
Godless

Ephesians 2:13–18 But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility ¹⁵by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, ¹⁶and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility. ¹⁷And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near. ¹⁸For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father.

Ephesians 6:10 Finally, **be strong** in the Lord and in the strength of his **might**.

Be strong (endynamousthe): to make someone able; to give capability to; to enable; to strengthen; to empower

Might (ischyos): capability; strength

Ephesians 1:19–20 and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might ²⁰ that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places,

John 10:18 No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father.”

Finally be strengthened in God’s enabling might

Philippians 2:13 for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Philippians 4:13 I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

One is strengthened in God’s might by receiving and believing the Word of God, which makes one wise for salvation and empowers one resist the devil so that he will flee.

James 1:19–25 Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰ for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God. ²¹Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and **receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls**.

²² But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. ²³ For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. ²⁴ For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. ²⁵ But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.

The message of the Bible from beginning to end is designed to bring us back to God, to humble us before God, and to enable us to see our true relationship to Him. And that is the great theme of this Epistle; it holds us face to face with God, and what God is, and what God has done; it emphasizes throughout the glory and the

greatness of God—God the Eternal One, God the everlasting, God over all—and the indescribable glory of God.

Lloyd-Jones, David Martyn. 1978. [God's Ultimate Purpose: An Exposition of Ephesians 1](#). Edinburgh; Carlisle, PA: Banner of Truth Trust.

You are not a saint; you are not faithful and therefore cannot be in Christ

Spiritual warfare: is putting to death what is earthly in a believer through the word of Christ dwelling richly in the believer so that the Holy Spirit empowers the believer to understand, **to believe**, and be obedient to God's holy commands.

Before the throne of God above
I have a strong and perfect plea
A great high priest who's name is Love
Who ever lives and pleads for me

When Satan tempts me to despair
And tells me of the guilt within
Upward I loo, and see Him there
Who made an end of all my sin

Zechariah 3:1–5 Then he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right hand to accuse him. ²And the LORD said to Satan, “The LORD rebuke you, O Satan! The LORD who has chosen Jerusalem rebuke you! Is not this a brand plucked from the fire?” ³Now Joshua was standing before the angel, clothed with filthy garments. ⁴And the angel said to those who were standing before him, “Remove the filthy garments from him.” And to him he said, “Behold, I have taken your iniquity away from you, and I will clothe you with pure vestments.” ⁵And I said, “Let them put a clean turban on his head.” So they put a clean turban on his head and clothed him with garments. And the angel of the LORD was standing by.

Romans 8:14–17 For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

putting ourselves under sound teaching, seeking prayerful association and accountability to others in the church, and serving one another in healthy family relationships—nourishes Christlikeness in us. Following these well-worn paths to godliness informs and aids Christian living. Ours is not a magic religion full of mysterious incantations, secret handshakes, and arcane codes. Thus we have a duty to challenge others and ourselves to be faithful in these ordinary patterns of spiritual preparation if we are to progress and persevere in spiritual maturity as God intends. Our immersion in, and integrity with, these patterns of Christian association and accountability are the ordinary means by which we grow in godliness.

Chapell, Bryan. 2009. [Ephesians](#). Edited by Richard D. Phillips, Philip Graham Ryken, and Daniel M. Doriani. Reformed Expository Commentary. Phillipsburg, NJ: P&R Publishing.