

Stand in the Evil Day pt 2

Ephesians 6:10-18

Ephesians 6:10–18 (NKJV)

¹⁰ Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. ¹¹ Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. ¹² For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual *hosts* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*. ¹³ 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.

¹⁴ Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, ¹⁵ and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; ¹⁶ above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. ¹⁷ And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; ¹⁸ praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints—

Introduction

Here's How the New Christian Left Is Twisting the Gospel

Peek behind the curtain of some "progressive" or "hip" evangelical churches, past the savvy technology and secular music, and you will find more than just a contemporary worship service. You'll find faith leaders encouraging young evangelicals to trade in their Christian convictions for a gospel filled with compromise. They're slowly attempting to give evangelicalism an "update"—and the change is not for the good.

It's painful for me to admit, but we can no longer rest carefree in our evangelical identity—because it is changing. No doubt you have seen the headlines declaring that evangelicalism is doomed because evangelical kids are leaving the faith. It is no secret that there is an expanding gulf between traditional Christian teachings and contemporary moral values. But the sad truth is that the ideological gulf between America's evangelical grown-ups and their kids, aka the millennials, seems to be widening too.

Somehow the blame for this chasm is being heaped on traditional churches. They are accused of having too many rules as well as being homophobic and bigoted. Yes, we've heard those false claims from popular culture in its desperate attempt to keep Christianity imprisoned within the sanctuary walls. But now popular culture is being aided by Christ-professing bedfellows whose message to "coexist," "tolerate" and "keep out of it" is more marketable to the rising generation of evangelicals.

The seasoned Christian soldiers are noticing these distortions of the gospel. But for young evangelicals, the spiritual haze is harder to wade through.

Desperate for acceptance in a fallen world, many young evangelicals (and some older ones) choose not to take Christ out of the chapel, and so they are unwittingly killing the church's public witness. In this uphill cultural battle, mired by scare tactics and fear, three types of evangelical Christians are emerging:

- **Couch-potato Christians:** These Christians adapt to the culture by staying silent on the tough culture-and-faith discussions. Typically, this group will downplay God's absolute truths by promoting the illusion that neutrality was Jesus' preferred method of evangelism.
- **Cafeteria-style Christians:** This group picks and chooses which Scripture passages to live

by, opting for the ones that best seem to jive with culture. Typically, they focus solely on the "nice" parts of the gospel while simultaneously and intentionally minimizing sin, hell, repentance and transformation.

- **Convictional Christians:** In the face of the culture's harsh admonitions, these evangelicals refuse to be silent. Mimicking Jesus, they compassionately talk about love and grace while also sharing with their neighbors the need to recognize and turn from sin.

I know about these three types of Christians because at one time or another, I have fallen into each of these three categories. My parents will tell you that even though I was raised in church, I morphed into a full-fledged feminist, told my parents they were ignorant for not endorsing homosexuality and bought into the distorted social justice rhetoric that confuses caring for the poor with advancing socialist or big government systems and demonizing the United States for its free-market system.

I'm not ashamed to share my story because my experiences and those of my fellow bold evangelicals are a testimony of God's awesome, transforming power. Being countercultural for Christ isn't easy. What does the Great Commission say? Jesus commanded us to go, "teaching them to

observe all things I have commanded you" (Matt. 28:20a).

Where Did We Go Wrong?

I see so many parents scratching their heads trying to figure out where they went wrong with young evangelicals. Following the instructions of Proverbs 22:6—"Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it"—many evangelical parents took their children to church and prayed with them every night before bed. Yet the values those children now hold dear do not reflect the traditional teachings of Jesus.

To be perfectly clear, I want to let you know up front that this isn't a parenting how-to guide that, if followed, will lead your loved ones to salvation. Instead, what I can offer you is a glimpse into the world of a 20-something who sees thousands of young evangelicals being spiritually and emotionally targeted on Christian university campuses, in college ministries and at churches nationwide by a growing liberal movement cloaked in Christianity. Research tells us evangelicals are drifting further away from the orthodox truths their parents and grandparents held dear.

Our churches have rarely—if ever—faced the exodus we are seeing today. This will have a direct effect on the spiritual and moral values that will

shape the nation in the coming years. That is why it is urgent that concerned Christians start acting now before the situation gets worse.

The Collision of Faith and Culture

Faith and culture will continue to collide in America. The culture wars, the growth of family, the success of missions, the prosperity of our great nation—the future rests on millennial evangelicals' worldview. And that is cause for concern, because something has gone wrong with young evangelicals' theology. The millennial generation's susceptibility to "feel-good" doctrine is playing a big part in America's moral decline. Millennials' religious practices depend largely on how the actions make us and others feel, whether the activities are biblical or not. For example, we only attend churches that leave us feeling good about our lifestyle choices, even if those choices conflict with God's clear commandments. We dismiss old hymns that focus on God's transforming salvation, love and mercy and opt for "Jesus is your boyfriend" songs. Or we contribute to nonprofits that exploit and misuse terms such as justice, oppressed and inequality because tweaking the language makes us feel more neutral, less confrontational.

Popular liberal evangelical writers and preachers tell young evangelicals that if they accept abortion and

same-sex marriage, then the media, academia and Hollywood will finally accept Christians. Out of fear of being falsely dubbed "intolerant" or "uncompassionate," many young Christians are buying into theological falsehoods. Instead of standing up as a voice for the innocent unborn or marriage as God intended, millennials are forgoing the authority of Scripture and embracing a couch potato, cafeteria-style Christianity, all in the name of tolerance.

This contemporary mindset is what Dietrich Bonhoeffer, the German theologian whose Christian convictions put him at odds with the Nazis and cost him his life, called "cheap grace." In his book *The Cost of Discipleship* Bonhoeffer wrote: "Cheap grace is the preaching of forgiveness without requiring repentance, baptism without church discipline, Communion without confession, absolution without personal confession. Cheap grace is grace without discipleship, grace without the cross, grace without Jesus Christ, living and incarnate."

Right now, cheap grace theology is proliferating around evangelical Bible colleges, seminaries and Christian ministries.

Christian Doctrine Hijacked

It is not that millennial evangelicals were not taken to church by their parents. It is that their training has

been hijacked by ineffective and sometimes intentionally distorted doctrine.

As constant and pervasive as the attacks on Christianity are at public universities, it is important to remember that millennials' worldviews do not start taking shape after they move out of their parents' houses. Their understanding of Jesus' teachings and cultural convictions begins to form while they are still at home and under the influence of their local church.

What I hope and pray evangelical parents and leaders come to realize is that the church has been too trusting. In our jam-packed lifestyles, parents have treated Sunday school as they do softball or ballet class—drop off the kids for an hour, then pick them up and hope they learned something.

Early on in my Sunday school teaching days, my co-teacher and I followed the curriculum pretty narrowly, the exception being that my co-teacher had an outstanding knowledge of biblical history that he imparted to the kids.

We taught all about Jesus' birth, resurrection and saving grace. Thinking the fluffy kids ministry curriculum covered all of the necessary bases, I felt confident these kids had a firm grasp on their Christian worldview. Boy, was I wrong!

One day my co-teacher and I decided to play "True or False." We casually went down a list of worldview questions with our class, sure that our little evangelicals would nail every question correctly.

No. 1: Jesus is God. "True." Great job.

No. 2: Jesus sinned. "False." Bingo!

No. 3: Jesus is one of many ways to heaven. "True."
What?!

Shocked is the only way to describe how I felt. Hadn't they been listening to us? When I asked who taught them that, one girl said, "Coexist." Yes, these young evangelicals had been listening to their Sunday school teachers and their parents, but they had also been listening to their public school teachers, TV celebrities and rock stars.

Youth ministers, volunteer leaders and pastors also have to start preparing these kids to deal with the very real hostility that faces young evangelicals.

If we never talk about abortion in church, how can we expect the rising evangelical girl to calmly explain the option of adoption to her frightened best friend who just admitted she is pregnant?

What will surprise you is how much young evangelicals actually crave honest discussions about abortion, sexuality, sexual exploitation, feminism and radical Islam. My friend and Evangelical Action adviser Richmond Trotter has two

non-negotiable topics when addressing youth: creation and life. Having volunteered in church youth ministry since 1996, Richmond is not afraid to have serious discussions about what Scripture says about abortion, evolution and homosexuality. Make no mistake: The trend away from biblical truth is not concentrated in the hipster city limits. It is unfolding in the crevices of America's plains, hills, mountains and swamplands. All across this nation, "old-fashioned" conservative evangelicalism is being traded in for a bright and shiny, mediocre Christianity.

If America's evangelicals disengage from the public square and fail to engage the rising generation of Christian leaders, then we risk losing our public voice, then our religious liberty, then liberty altogether.

What Happened to the Religious Right?

The last several decades witnessed tremendous evangelical influence in the United States. Leaders such as Billy Graham, Jerry Falwell, Pat Robertson, Tim and Beverly LaHaye, Paige and Dorothy Patterson, James Dobson and James and Betty Robison made a bold impact on America's families, churches and government. Now that those few leaders are aging or retiring, or have died, there are very few traditional evangelical leaders left holding

the torch, and even fewer candidates to whom they can pass it.

But religious convictions in America are not on the verge of disappearance just yet. There is still hope. In the book *God Is Alive and Well: The Future of Religion in America*, Gallup Inc. Editor-in-Chief Frank Newport opines: "Christianity will prevail in the U.S. America will remain very much a Christian nation in the decades ahead, albeit less so than in the past because of an increase in Americans who don't have a religious identity."

Heed the Warning Signs

Evangelicals and culture warriors in the U.S. do not have to look far to discover what happens when Christian denominations give up on their traditional convictions and teachings. All we have to do is look at the dwindling memberships of mainline Protestant denominations.

In order to safeguard the trajectory of young evangelicals, we must uphold the authoritative Word of God. It is imperative that those in a position to influence millennials have transparent and honest discussions about the culture wars in which evangelical youth are already engaging. Otherwise they will be silent and accepting in the face of persecution and false doctrine.

The importance of arming the next generation of evangelicals cannot be overstated. If we continue to follow the example of mainline Protestants, evangelicalism will have a gloomy future. We must offer sorely needed leadership, but before we can do that, we need to know exactly whom and what we are up against. 🚩

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This is a war we are in,
Its not play time.

We are in a battle for our souls and the souls of men and women and children.

2 Timothy 2:24–26 (NKJV)

²⁴ And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient, ²⁵ in humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth, ²⁶ and *that* they may come to their senses *and escape* the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to *do* his will.

Listen to how Paul talked.

2 Timothy 2:3–4 (NKJV)

³ You therefore must endure hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. ⁴ No one engaged in warfare entangles himself with the affairs of *this* life, that he may please him who enlisted him as a soldier.

1 Thessalonians 5:8 (NKJV)

⁸ But let us who are of the day be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and *as* a helmet the hope of salvation.

Romans 6:13 (NKJV)

¹³ And do not present your members *as* instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members *as* instruments of righteousness to God.

hóplon – properly, an implement (normally used for warfare).

Romans 13:12 (NKJV)

¹² The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light.

Lesson:

The Exhortation
The Explanation
The Equipment

I. The Exhortation

10 Finally, my brethren, **be strong** in the Lord and in the **power** of His might. ¹¹ Put on the whole armor of God,

So How do we do this?

1. Believe it, Trust in the Lord and his power
2. Obey it. Do what God says
3. Continue in it.

10 Finally, my brethren, **be strong** (**pres Imperative**) in the Lord and in the power of His might.

How to do this is explained in the next verses.
We are to Put on the Whole Armor of God
and that we may be able to stand.

11 Put (Aorist Imp.) on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

13 Therefore **take up (Aorist Imp,) the whole armor of God**, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

11 Put on the whole armor of God, **that** you **may be able** (pres.m/p inf) to stand against the wiles of the devil.

that

πρὸς= toward the goal that

Put on the whole armor, toward the goal that you may be able and have the power to continually stand

13 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.

dunamai: to be able, to have power

Original Word: δύναμαι

Part of Speech: Verb

Transliteration: dunamai

Phonetic Spelling: (doo'-nam-ahee)

Definition: to be able, to have power

Usage: (a) I am powerful, have (the) power, (b) I am able, I can.

Cognate: 1410 δύναμαι (a primitive verb) – to show ability (power); able (enabled by God), empowered. See the cognate-noun, 1411 /δύναμις ("ability, power").

that

πρὸς= toward the goal that

13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that (hina) you **may be able (Aorist Pass.)** to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that, for the purpose that, you having been enabled or empowered (by the armor of God) to **withstand (stand against)** the evil day.

anthistémi: to set against, i.e. withstand

Original Word: ἀντίστημι

Part of Speech: Verb

Transliteration: anthistémi

Phonetic Spelling: (anth-is'-tay-mee)

Definition: to set against, withstand

Usage: I set against; I withstand, resist, oppose.

436 anthístēmi (from 473 /antí, "opposite/against" and 2476 /hístēmi, "to stand") – properly, take a complete stand against, i.e. a "180 degree, contrary position"; (figuratively) to establish one's position publicly by conspicuously "holding one's ground," i.e. refusing to be moved ("pushed back").

436 /anthístēmi ("oppose fully") means to forcefully declare one's personal conviction (where they unswervingly stand); to keep one's possession; ardently withstand, without giving up (letting go).

All the words for stand, or withstand are Aorist.

We are to do this and, not keep getting up and taking a stand by to make your stand and remain standing.

There is not running after the enemy, no chasing after or pursuing the enemy.

He will find you soon enough.

We are commanded to Be strong in The LORD

Take up the whole Armor of God and PUT it on
and

Stand and Stand firm.

The admonition to acquire divine strengthening is not an end in itself: God's almighty power is required for a specific purpose, namely, that believers, both individually and together as a unity, might stand against the powers of darkness and successfully resist them. The three exhortations of vv. 10, 11, and 13, which are similar in meaning and stress the need for divine empowering, at the same time remind the readers that the devil can be resisted since God has provided all the necessary resources for the battle.

O'Brien, P. T. (1999). *The letter to the Ephesians* (p. 470). Grand Rapids, MI: W.B. Eerdmans Publishing Co.

I. The Exhortation

II. The Explanation

There are 2 reasons to have the whole armor on to be able to stand

1. The Age
2. Adversaries

1. The Age

¹³ 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.

Ephesians 5:16 (NKJV)

¹⁶ redeeming the time, because the days are evil.

2 Timothy 3:1–8 (NKJV)

3 But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: ² For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, ³ unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, ⁴ traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, ⁵ having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away! ⁶ For of this sort are those who creep into households and make captives of gullible women loaded down with sins, led away by various lusts, ⁷ always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth. ⁸ Now as Jannes and Jambres resisted Moses, so do these also resist the truth: men of corrupt minds, disapproved concerning the faith;

2 Timothy 4:3 (NKJV)

³ For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, *because* they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers;

2 Peter 3:3 (NKJV)

³ knowing this first: that scoffers will come in the last days, walking according to their own lusts,

1 John 2:18–19 (NKJV)

¹⁸ Little children, it is the last hour; and as you have heard that the Antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come, by which we know that it is the last hour. ¹⁹ They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us; but *they went out* that they might be made manifest, that none of them were of us.

2 Thessalonians 2:3 (NKJV)

³ Let no one deceive you by any means; for *that Day will not come* unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition,

Romans 1:21–24 (NKJV)

²¹ because, although they knew God, they did not glorify *Him* as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. ²² Professing to be wise, they became fools, ²³ and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man—and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things.

²⁴ Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves,

1. The Age

2. The Adversaries

¹² **For** we do not **wrestle** against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual *hosts* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*.

ΟΤΙ ΟΥΚ ΕΣΤΙΝ ΗΜΙΝ **η παλη** προς αιμα και σαρκα αλλα προς τας αρχας προς τας εξουσιας προς τους κοσμοκρατορας του σκοτους

ΤΟΥ ΑΙΩΝΟΣ ΤΟΥΤΟΥ ΠΡΟΣ ΤΑ ΠΝΕΥΜΑΤΙΚΑ ΤΗΣ
ΠΟΝΗΡΙΑΣ ΕΝ ΤΟΙΣ ΕΠΟΥΡΑΝΙΟΙΣ

hoti: that, because

Original Word: ὅτι

Part of Speech: Conjunction

Transliteration: hoti

Phonetic Spelling: (hot'-ee)

Definition: that, because

Usage: that, since, because; may introduce direct discourse.

We need to put on the armor and stand
BECAUSE of the Fight.

¹² **For** we do not **wrestle**
οτι ουκ εστιν ημιν **η παλη**

wrestle

η παλη

The word wrestle is not the verb, it is the subject.
could be better understood as
“Because, the Conflict, is not with flesh and blood.
Or, battle, or struggle, of fight.

It has the definite Article, which may emphasize the
significance and centrality of the fight. Not any fight,
but the fight, the one that matters

palé: wrestling, generally fight

Original Word: πάλη, ης, ἡ

Part of Speech: Noun, Feminine

Transliteration: palé

Phonetic Spelling: (pal'-ay)

Definition: wrestling, generally fight

Usage: wrestling, a wrestling bout; hence: a struggle, fight, conflict, contest.

3823 pálē – properly, "a wrestling bout; hence, a struggle, a conflict" (Souter).

[Ephesians 6:12 N-NFS](#)

[1 Occurrence](#)

πάλη originally referred to the hand-to-hand encounter of wrestling but in time was applied more widely to other types of fighting, including battles and war; this means there is no need to envisage here, where the word is negatived, an encounter with the contestants a distance apart and not meeting hand to hand

Best, E. (1998). [A critical and exegetical commentary on Ephesians](#) (p. 593). Edinburgh: T&T Clark International.

The word used to describe this struggle is a term found nowhere else in the Greek Bible, but which was commonly used for the sport of wrestling in the first century. One might have expected the more regular words for a battle or struggle¹⁰⁷ to appear. But the popularity of wrestling in the games of western Asia Minor may account for the use of the

word here, and particularly if it was intended to ‘heighten the closeness of the struggle with the powers of evil’

O’Brien, P. T. (1999). [The letter to the Ephesians](#) (p. 465). Grand Rapids, MI: W.B. Eerdmans Publishing Co.

Παλη [*Palē*] is an old word from παλλω [*pallō*], to throw, to swing (from Homer to the papyri, though here only in N. T.), a contest between two till one hurls the other down and holds him down

Robertson, A. T. (1933). [Word Pictures in the New Testament](#) (Eph 6:12). Nashville, TN: Broadman Press.

¹² For we do **not wrestle against flesh and blood,**

but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual *hosts* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*.

ΟΤΙ ΟΥΚ ΕΣΤΙΝ ΗΜΙΝ Η ΠΑΛΗ **ΠΡΟΣ ΑΙΜΑ ΚΑΙ**

ΣΑΡΚΑ αλλά προς τας αρχας προς τας εξουσιας προς τους κοσμοκρατορας του σκοτους του αιωνος τουτου προς τα πνευματικα της πονηριας εν τοις επουρανιοις

In a contrasting statement the apostle declares that this spiritual warfare is not against human opposition

(lit. ‘blood and flesh’; cf. Heb. 2:14), that is, humanity in its weakness and frailty (Matt. 16:17; 1 Cor. 15:50; Gal. 1:16), but against far more deadly foes that can be resisted only through divine empowering. The apostle’s antithesis is not absolute, however, since he does not deny that believers may be tempted or deceived by other human beings, perhaps even by fellow Christians. The readers have already been warned about being misled by deceitful persons who seek to manipulate them through evil trickery (4:14).

O’Brien, P. T. (1999). [*The letter to the Ephesians*](#) (p. 466). Grand Rapids, MI: W.B. Eerdmans Publishing Co.

Ephesians 4:14 (NKJV)

¹⁴ that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting,

Matthew 24:11 (NKJV)

¹¹ Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many.

2 Corinthians 11:13–16 (NKJV)

¹³ For such *are* false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ.

¹⁴ And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. ¹⁵ Therefore *it is* no

great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works.

Acts 20:29–30 (NKJV)

²⁹ For I know this, that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. ³⁰ Also from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves.

Paul is not talking about what may come as a result of being a Christian that can come in the form of attacks because you are are Christians or proclaim or stand for the gospel.

ie. Persecution, harassment, poverty, injustice, false accusations and misrepresentations.

He is rather talking about the external attacks that can come against you in the form of evil temptations and evil plotting to derail you and to discredit you and to make you non effective in the forward march of the gospel.

Note προς [*pros*] again (five times) in sense of “against,” face to face conflict to the finish

Robertson, A. T. (1933). [*Word Pictures in the New Testament*](#) (Eph 6:12). Nashville, TN: Broadman Press.

The supernatural, powerful, and cunning nature of the opposition makes the use of God's armour absolutely necessary.

O'Brien, P. T. (1999). [*The letter to the Ephesians*](#) (p. 465). Grand Rapids, MI: W.B. Eerdmans Publishing Co.

Ephesians 6:12 (NKJV)

¹² For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual *hosts* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*.

Romans 8:38 (NKJV)

³⁸ For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come,

Ephesians 1:20–21 (NKJV)

²⁰ which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated *Him* at His right hand in the heavenly *places*, ²¹ far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that

is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come.

Ephesians 3:10 (NKJV)

¹⁰ to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly *places*,

Colossians 1:16 (NKJV)

¹⁶ For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him.

Colossians 2:13–15 (NKJV)

¹³ And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses, ¹⁴ having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. ¹⁵ Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it.

1. principalities
2. powers
3. Rulers of the darkness of this age
4. Spiritual host of wickedness

In the Heavenly places.

epouranios: of heaven

Original Word: ἔπουράνιος, ον

Part of Speech: Adjective

Transliteration: epouranios

Phonetic Spelling: (ep-oo-ran'-ee-os)

Definition: of heaven

Usage: heavenly, celestial, in the heavenly sphere, the sphere of spiritual activities; met: divine, spiritual.

2032 epouránios (an adjective, derived from [1909](#) /epí, "on, fitting," which intensifies [3772](#) /ouranós, "heaven") – properly, heavenly, referring to the impact of heaven's influence on the particular situation or person.

[The prefix (epi) shows this always "fits" – from the standpoint of heaven.]

1. Principalities= rulers Plural

arché: beginning, origin

Original Word: ἀρχή, ἡς, ἡ

Part of Speech: Noun, Feminine

Transliteration: arché

Phonetic Spelling: (ar-khay')

Definition: beginning, origin

Usage: (a) rule (kingly or magisterial), (b) plur: in a quasi-personal sense, almost: rulers, magistrates, (c) beginning.

746 arxé – properly, from the beginning (temporal sense), i.e. "the initial (starting) point"; (figuratively) what comes first and therefore is chief (foremost), i.e. has the priority because ahead of the rest ("preeminent").

ruler (supernatural) n. — any supernatural being (besides God) acting in a ruling or commanding capacity; either good or evil.

Matthew 12:24 (NKJV)

²⁴ Now when the Pharisees heard *it* they said, "This *fellow* does not cast out demons except by Beelzebub, the ruler of the demons."

John 12:31 (NKJV)

31 **Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be cast out.**

Ephesians 2:2 (NKJV)

² in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience,

2. Powers= Authorities plural

exousia: power to act, authority

Original Word: ἐξουσία, ας, ἡ

Part of Speech: Noun, Feminine

Transliteration: exousia

Phonetic Spelling: (ex-oo-see'-ah)

Definition: power to act, authority

Usage: (a) power, authority, weight, especially: moral authority, influence, (b) in a quasi-personal sense, derived from later Judaism, of a spiritual power, and hence of an earthly power.

1849 eksousía (from 1537 /ek, "out from," which intensifies 1510 /eimí, "to be, being as a right or privilege") – authority, conferred power; delegated empowerment ("authorization"), operating in a designated jurisdiction.

In the NT, 1849 /eksousía ("delegated power") refers to the authority God gives to His saints –

authorizing them to act to the extent they are guided by faith (His revealed word).

ruler ⇔ **authority** n. — a person who exercises (administrative) control over others.

1 Peter 3:22 (NKJV)

²² who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, angels and authorities and powers having been made subject to Him.

1 Corinthians 15:24–25 (NKJV)

²⁴ Then *comes* the end, when He delivers the kingdom to God the Father, when He puts an end to all rule and all authority and power. ²⁵ For He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet.

3. Rulers of the darkness of this age

kosmokratór: a ruler of this world

Original Word: κοσμοκράτωρ, ορος, ὁ

Part of Speech: Noun, Masculine

Transliteration: kosmokratór

Phonetic Spelling: (kos-mok-fat'-ore)

Definition: a ruler of this world

Usage: ruler of this world, that is, of the world as asserting its independence of God; used of the

angelic or demonic powers controlling the sublunary world.

2888 kosmokrátōr (from 2889 /kósmos, "world" and 2902 /kratéō, "to rule") – properly, world-ruler, referring to Satan (demons) influencing the lives of worldly people (used only in Eph 6:12).

world influence n. — any influential, governing authority over the inhabited world understood in terms of physical control; including both human and preternatural authorities.

4. Spiritual host of wickedness

pneumatikos: spiritual

Original Word: πνευματικός, ἡ, ὄν

Part of Speech: Adjective

Transliteration: pneumatikos

Phonetic Spelling: (pnyoo-mat-ik-os')

Definition: spiritual

Usage: spiritual.

4152 pneumatikós (an adjective, derived from 4151 / pneúma, "spirit") – spiritual; relating to the realm of spirit, i.e. the invisible sphere in which the Holy Spirit imparts faith, reveals Christ, etc.

spiritual adj. — concerning the immaterial and supernatural aspect of reality; especially as of human souls and other supernatural entities.

ponéria: iniquity

Original Word: πονηρία, ας, ἡ

Part of Speech: Noun, Feminine

Transliteration: ponéria

Phonetic Spelling: (pon-ay-ree'-ah)

Definition: iniquity

Usage: wickedness, iniquities.

Cognate: 4189 ponēría (from 4192 /pónos, "pain, laborious trouble") – properly, pain-ridden evil, derived from 4192 (pónos) which refers to "pain (pure and simple)" – resulting in "toil, then drudge, i.e. 'bad' like our . . . criminal" (WP, 1, 325). [See 4190](#) (ponēros).

In this list we do not have different groups, but more or less synonymous designations of the forces of the devil with which believers have to contend. These forces are called rulers of the world in order to bring out the terrifying power of their influence and

comprehensiveness of their plans, and thus to emphasise the seriousness of the situation.⁸

Michaelis, W. (1964–). [κράτος \(θεοκρατία\), κρατέω, κραταιός, κραταιόω, κοσμοκράτωρ, παντοκράτωρ](#). G. Kittel, G. W. Bromiley, & G. Friedrich (Eds.), *Theological dictionary of the New Testament* (electronic ed., Vol. 3, p. 914). Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans.

Demonology

Demons are Fallen Angels

Revelation 12:3–4 (NKJV)

³ And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great, fiery red dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems on his heads. ⁴ His tail drew a third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was ready to give birth, to devour her Child as soon as it was born.

There are 3 groups of Demons

1. Temporarily Bound
2. Permanently Bound
3. Free to Roam

1. Temporarily Bound

Luke 8:26–32 (NKJV)

²⁶ Then they sailed to the country of the Gadarenes, which is opposite Galilee. ²⁷ And when He stepped out on the land, there met Him a certain man from the city who had demons for a long time. And he wore no clothes, nor did he live in a house but in the tombs. ²⁸ When he saw Jesus, he cried out, fell down before Him, and with a loud voice said, “What have I to do with You, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg You, do not torment me!” ²⁹ For He had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. For it had often seized him, and he was kept under guard, bound with chains and shackles; and he broke the bonds and was driven by the demon into the wilderness.

³⁰ Jesus asked him, saying, **“What is your name?”**

And he said, “Legion,” because many demons had entered him. ³¹ And they begged Him that He would not command them to go out into the abyss.

³² Now a herd of many swine was feeding there on the mountain. So they begged Him that He would permit them to enter them. And He permitted them.

Revelation 9:1–5 (NKJV)

9 Then the fifth angel sounded: And I saw a star fallen from heaven to the earth. To him was given

the key to the bottomless pit. ² And he opened the bottomless pit, and smoke arose out of the pit like the smoke of a great furnace. So the sun and the air were darkened because of the smoke of the pit.

³ Then out of the smoke locusts came upon the earth. And to them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power. ⁴ They were commanded not to harm the grass of the earth, or any green thing, or any tree, but only those men who do not have the seal of God on their foreheads.

⁵ And they were not given *authority* to kill them, but to torment them *for* five months. Their torment *was* like the torment of a scorpion when it strikes a man.

2. Permanently Bound

2 Peter 2:4 (NKJV)

⁴ For if God did not spare the angels who sinned, but cast *them* down to hell and delivered *them* into chains of darkness, to be reserved for judgment;

Jude 6–7 (NKJV)

⁶ And the angels who did not keep their proper domain, but left their own abode, He has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment

of the great day; ⁷ as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities around them in a similar manner to these, having given themselves over to sexual immorality and gone after strange flesh, are set forth as an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.

1 Peter 3:18–20 (NKJV)

¹⁸ For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit, ¹⁹ by whom also He went and preached to the spirits in prison, ²⁰ who formerly were disobedient, when once the Divine longsuffering waited in the days of Noah, while *the* ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight souls, were saved through water.

Genesis 6:1–7 (NKJV)

6 Now it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born to them, ² that the sons of God saw the daughters of men, that they *were* beautiful; and they took wives for themselves of all whom they chose.

³ And the Lord said, “My Spirit shall not strive with man forever, for he *is* indeed flesh; yet his days shall

be one hundred and twenty years.”⁴ There were giants on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of men and they bore *children* to them. Those *were* the mighty men who *were* of old, men of renown.

⁵ Then the Lord saw that the wickedness of man *was* great in the earth, and *that* every intent of the thoughts of his heart *was* only evil continually.⁶ And the Lord was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart.⁷ So the Lord said, “I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth, both man and beast, creeping thing and birds of the air, for I am sorry that I have made them.”

1. Temporarily Bound
2. Permanently Bound

3. Free to Roam

Matthew 9:32–33 (NKJV)

³² As they went out, behold, they brought to Him a man, mute and demon-possessed.³³ And when the demon was cast out, the mute spoke. And the multitudes marveled, saying, “It was never seen like this in Israel!”

1 Corinthians 10:19–20 (NKJV)

¹⁹ What am I saying then? That an idol is anything, or what is offered to idols is anything? ²⁰ Rather, that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice they sacrifice to demons and not to God, and I do not want you to have fellowship with demons.

Acts 16:16–18 (NKJV)

¹⁶ Now it happened, as we went to prayer, that a certain slave girl possessed with a spirit of divination met us, who brought her masters much profit by fortune-telling. ¹⁷ This girl followed Paul and us, and cried out, saying, “These men are the servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to us the way of salvation.” ¹⁸ And this she did for many days.

But Paul, greatly annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, “I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.” And he came out that very hour.

Demon Possession does occur today. But in many cases we have recategorized it and renamed it. We call it mental illness, or suicidal tendencies, multiple personality disorder, schizophrenia etc.

Our approach is to lock them up and drug them up.

There have been are are solid evangelical preachers and missionaries that encounters demons and demonic possession.

But the greatest treat today are the demons in and around the schools, the public schools, the universities and colleges and seminaries. The books, and the articles and blogs that are persuading undiscerning minds The ones in the governments and high offices of law makers.

Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Rules Committee Chairman James McGovern **proposed** on Friday a change to the House of Representatives' rules package that would "honor all gender identities by changing pronouns and familial relationships in the House rules to be gender-neutral."

The House's Code of Official Conduct would replace familial terms like "father, mother, son, daughter, brother, sister" with "parent, child, sibling."

<https://disrn.com/news/pelosi-proposes-removing-gendered-terms-from-house-rules>

The primary issue today is the hiding, corrupting and distorting of the truth. The Gospel truth.

2 Corinthians 4:3–4 (NKJV)

³ But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, ⁴ whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.

2 Corinthians 10:3–5 (NKJV)

³ For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. ⁴ For the weapons of our warfare *are* not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, ⁵ casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ,

Conclusion

1 Thessalonians 5:1–8 (NKJV)

5 But concerning the times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need that I should write to you. ² For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night. ³ For when they say, “Peace and safety!” then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape. ⁴ But you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day

should overtake you as a thief. ⁵ You are all sons of light and sons of the day. We are not of the night nor of darkness. ⁶ Therefore let us not sleep, as others *do*, but let us watch and be sober. ⁷ For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk are drunk at night. ⁸ But let us who are of the day be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and *as* a helmet the hope of salvation.

