

Ephesians

The Armor Of God: Knowing The Enemy

Ephesians 6:10-18 (NIV) – Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. ¹¹ Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes. ¹² For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. ¹³ Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.

Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, ¹⁵ and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. ¹⁶ In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷ Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. ¹⁸ And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests.

How Satan Is Described In The Bible

The name, “Satan,” means adversary

He is also called “the devil” in the New Testament which means “false accuser” or “slanderer”

Other descriptions of Satan:

- The tempter** (1 Thessalonians 3:5)
- The accuser of Christians** (Revelation 12:10)
- The ruler of this world** (John 12:31)
- The god of this age** (2 Corinthians 4:4)
- An angel of light** (2 Corinthians 11:14)
- The deceiver** (Revelation 12:9)
- A liar** (John 8:44)

•**The Christian who continually seeks to grow in his knowledge and obedience to God’s Word and to serve the Lord more faithfully will experience victories that are often followed by difficulties and opposition.**

¹ Peter 5:6-8 (NLT) - So humble yourselves under the mighty power of God, and at the right time he will lift you up in honor. ⁷ Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about you. ⁸ Stay alert! Watch out for your great enemy, the devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour. ⁹ Stand firm against him, and be strong in your faith.

•**Satan tries to keep us from understanding God’s Word.**

Matthew 13:18-19 – (NLT) Jesus said, “Now listen to the explanation of the parable about the farmer planting seeds: ¹⁹ The seed that fell on the footpath represents those who hear the message about the Kingdom and don’t understand it. Then the evil one comes and snatches away the seed that was planted in their hearts.”

•**Satan tries to make us believe false teaching.**

2 Timothy 2:25-26 (NLT) - Gently instruct those who oppose the truth. Perhaps God will change those people’s hearts, and they will learn the truth. ²⁶ Then they will come to their senses and escape from the devil’s trap. For they have been held captive by him to do whatever he wants.

•**Satan tempts us to lust.**

1 Corinthians 7:5 (NLT) -Do not deprive each other of sexual relations, unless you both agree to refrain from sexual intimacy for a limited time so you can give yourselves more completely to prayer. Afterward, you should come together again so that Satan won’t be able to tempt you because of your lack of self-control.

•**Satan tempts us to be proud and arrogant.**

1 Timothy 3:6-7 (NIV) - He (an overseer) must not be a recent convert, or he may become conceited and fall under the same judgment as the devil. ⁷ He must also have a good reputation with outsiders, so that he will not fall into disgrace and into the devil’s trap.

•**Satan drives us to bitterness and unforgiveness.**

Ephesians 4:25-27 (NLT) - So stop telling lies. Let us tell our neighbors the truth, for we are all parts of the same body. ²⁶ And “don’t sin by letting anger control you.” Don’t let the sun go down while you are still angry, ²⁷ for anger gives a foothold to the devil.

•**Satan keeps unbelievers from accepting the gospel.**

2 Corinthians 4:4 (NLT) - Satan, who is the god of this world, has blinded the minds of those who don’t believe. They are unable to see the glorious light of the Good News.