

Staying Strong – Part 3 – The Secret Weapon

Ephesians 6:10-20

I. Introduction – “The gift without the giver is bare” – James Russell Lowells

II. Staying Strong and Standing Firm – Ephesians 6:10-20

10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. **11** Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. **12** For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual *forces* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*. **13** Therefore, take up the full armor of God, so that you will be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. **14** Stand firm therefore, HAVING GIRDED YOUR LOINS WITH TRUTH, and HAVING PUT ON THE BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS, **15** and having shod YOUR FEET WITH THE PREPARATION OF THE GOSPEL OF PEACE; **16** in addition to all, taking up the shield of faith with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil *one*. **17** And take THE HELMET OF SALVATION, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. **18** With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints, **19** and *pray* on my behalf, that utterance may be given to me in the opening of my mouth, to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, **20** for which I am an ambassador in chains; that in *proclaiming* it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

- a. Part 1 – Knowing your real enemy and his schemes – Ephesians 6:10-13; 2 Timothy 2:24-3:4
- b. Part 2 – Putting on the Armor of God – Ephesians 6:14-17
- c. Part 3 – Using the Secret Weapon – Ephesians 6:18-20

III. 3 Keys to using the secret weapon of prayer –

a. Learn to pray for _____ - v. 18

i. Learn this dimension of the Christian life called “_____”.

1. All _____ and _____ -
2. All _____ (seasons)
3. All times in the _____ - 4:30, 5:18, 6:17
4. All _____ - Ex of Epaphrus – Col 4:12
5. All _____ -

ii. Learn to pray (while) in the _____ - “with this in view” – v. 18; Luke 18:1-8

b. Learn to pray for _____ - v. 18, 1 Sam 12:23; John 17

c. Learn to request prayer from _____ - v. 19

2 Lessons on prayer:

i. Request prayer for boldness to confess Christ in the midst of your _____ . V. 20; 2 Cor 12:7-9; Acts 26:16-18; Phil 1:12-14

ii. Pray for your _____ -

1. That we would _____ in the battle. Matt 26:31
2. For our _____ - clarity and courage