



This Present Darkness...

...and how to live as children of light

Ephesians 6:10-20



Ephesus - The Context





Ephesians - In Summary

Doctrines of the faith

- Blessed
- Forgiven and redeemed
- Jew & Gentile share God's promises
- United body of Christ
- 'In Christ'

Gospel basics

- Dead in sin
- Deserved God's wrath
- BUT...saved by grace through faith
- Now alive with Christ
- Equipped for discipleship



“This Present Darkness”

1:21 *"far above all **rule** and **authority**, **power** and **dominion**, and every **name** that is invoked"*

2:2 *"the **ruler of the kingdom of the air**, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient"*

3:10 *"the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the **rulers** and **authorities** in the heavenly realms"*

4:17-19 *"**futility** of thinking...**darkened** in understanding...separated from the life of God...hardening of hearts...given themselves over to sensuality...indulge in **every kind of impurity**..."*

5:8 *"For you were once **darkness**...Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of **darkness**"*



How are we to “live as children of light”?

*“For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. **Live as children of light**”*
(Ephesians 5:8)

*“**Be alert** and of sober mind. Your **enemy the devil** prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. **Resist him, standing firm in the faith**”*
(1 Peter 5:8)



Put on Christ...and Stand Firm

***“Put on** the full armour of God, so that you can take your **stand** against the devil’s schemes.” – v.11*

***“Put on** the full armour of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to **stand** your ground.” – v.13*

***“Stand** firm then.” – v.14*



Our Best Defence...

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| • Boots of Readiness | STAND |
| • Belt of Truth | WORD |
| • Breastplate of Righteousness | HEART |
| • Helmet of Salvation | MIND |
| • Shield of Faith | HEART & MIND |
| • Sword of the Spirit | WORD ... is attack |



Conclusion and Application

1. We are in a war – Victory is certain – God glorified
2. Put on Christ – Conquer the flesh – God glorified
3. Prayer determines effectiveness of armour – God glorified