

The Way To Be A Strong Christian

Scripture: Eph. 6:10-18 (How do you become strong?)

Intro: In this world (politically, socially, religiously) where lying, dishonesty, and stealing is an acceptable practice along with divorce, adultery and immorality. The Bible in this passage tells us how to be strong and have the power of God's might. Eph. 6:10-11

1. Satan's arsenal: conflict with him on every level. (Eph. 6:12)
 - a. Wiles: tricks and strategy. Attacks ordered against every Christian right.
 - b. Darts: flaming and fiery. Obsessions occupying one's time and life.CONFLICT
2. Saviour's armour: Conquest through Him at every level. (Ro. 8:37)
 - a. One has to stand: Defend the Gospel. (Phil. 1:17) Upright. Straight.
 - b. One has to withstand: Contend for the faith. (Jd. 3)CONQUEST (Ro. 12:21; Ro. 8:37) CORONATION (Jas. 1:12; II Tim. 4:8; Heb. 6:10)

I. Tell The Truth (Eph. 6:14; Ps. 58:3; 33:15)

- A. Protect the mouth: Your lips. (Jas. 1:26-27; Col. 3:9; Pr. 25:11)
 1. Silence is not always golden: times when speaking is necessary
 2. Speak that for which there is no shame: exaggerate, omission.
 - a. Cover up when good people may suffer so your hide can be saved.
 - b. Confess remorsefully when the truth is public.
- B. Protect the heart: Your life. (Pr. 4:18; Lk. 6:45; Eph. 2:3)
 1. Desires must be right. (Pr. 3:5-6; Ps. 51:6; I Pet. 2:2-3)
 2. Decisions must be right. (Mt. 6:33; I Pet. 3:15)"First things first". Attitude (wants) Then activity (work). (Phil. 2:12-13). Can be in every outward way a good Christian but have a foul attitude, but get a proper attitude and you will be a good Christian.

II. Tell The Story (Eph. 6:15; Ro. 10:15; Ps. 126:5-6)

- A. Feet: Movements. (Eph. 6:15)
 1. Preparation: Learning and living process. (II Tim. 2:15)
 2. Proclamation: Show and tell.
- B. Faith: Motivation. (Eph. 6:16)
 1. Shield: Wards of discouragement, quitting, lust. (Ro. 12:21)
 2. Serve: Works of Christianity
- C. Feel: Emotion. (Eph. 6:17)
 1. Salvation's helmet: Assurance. (II Tim. 1:12)
 2. Spirit's sword: Word. (Heb. 4:12)

III. Talk To The Lord (Eph. 6:18; I Tim. 2:1-2)

- A. Prayer is vital: Prayerful vigilance. (Mt. 26:41; I Pet. 4:7)
 1. Supplication in the Spirit. (Phil. 4:6; Jd. 20)
 2. Supplication for all saints. (Acts 1:14)
- B. Prayer makes victorious: Prayerful vision. (Jas. 5:16)
 1. Victorious in affliction. (Jas. 5:13,15)
 2. Victorious in rescue. (I Jn. 5:16)