



# The Armor of God Ephesians 6:10-24



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# Ephesians 6:11-24

**Are there spiritual forces that are battling against us?**

**What is a spiritual battle?**

**How do we win the spiritual battle?**

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## Ephesians 6:11-24

- The final thing that Paul wants to tell the Ephesians is about Spiritual battles.
- Many of the Ephesian believers had been worshipers of Artemis before they became believers (Acts 19 speaks a lot on this). **They depended on Artemis for their protection.** Artemis represented spiritual wickedness empowered by wicked spiritual forces.

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## Ephesians 6:11-24

### Ephesians 2:1-3

As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, 2 in which you used to live when you followed **the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient.** 3 All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh[a] and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath.

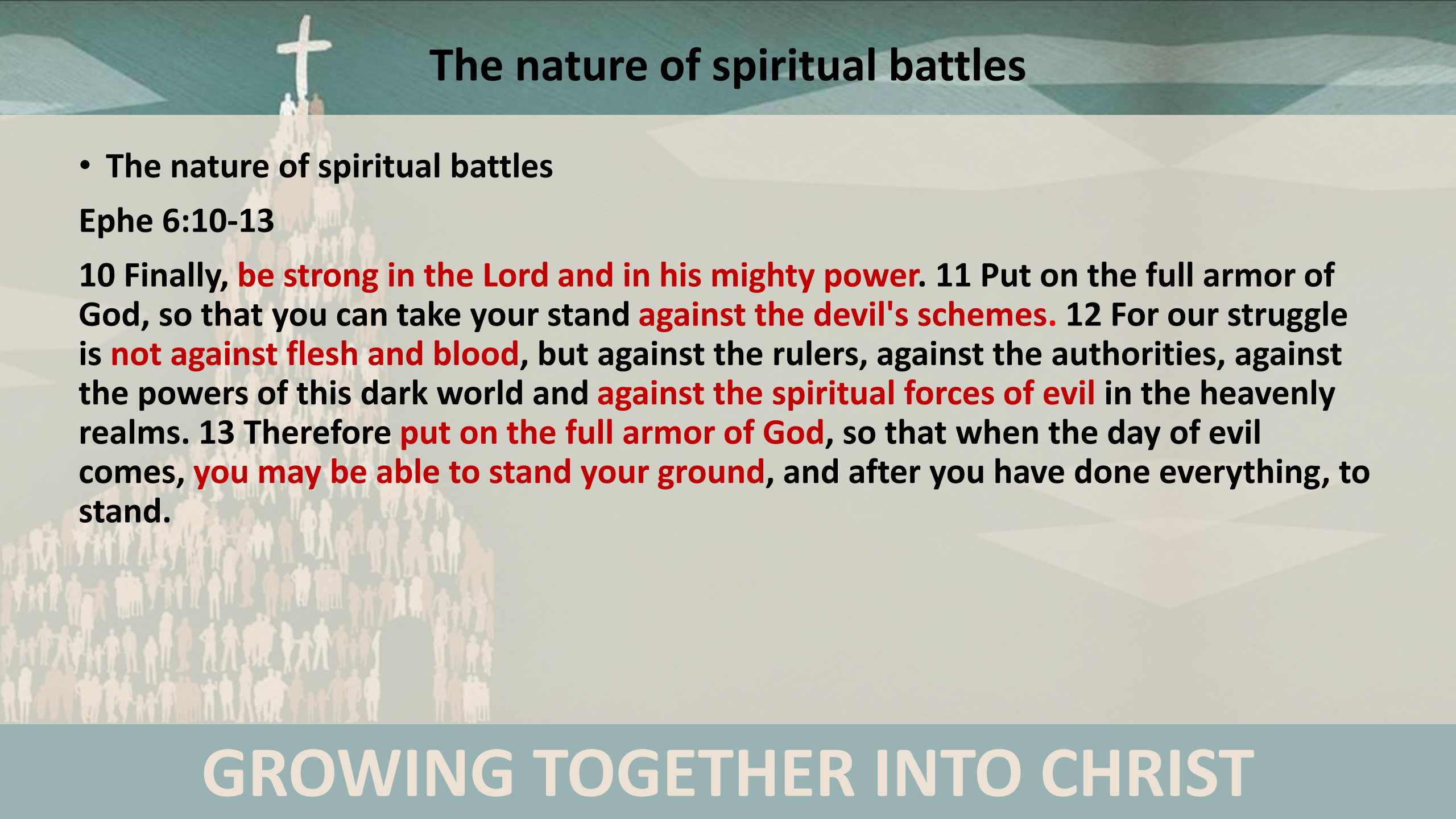
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## Ephesians 6:11-24

### **This is how Paul addresses believers**

- Paul talks about the nature of Spiritual battles from verses 10-13
- The armor that is needed for the spiritual battles 14-18
- Paul writes a message of Farewell to the Ephesians 19-24

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# The nature of spiritual battles

- The nature of spiritual battles

Ephe 6:10-13

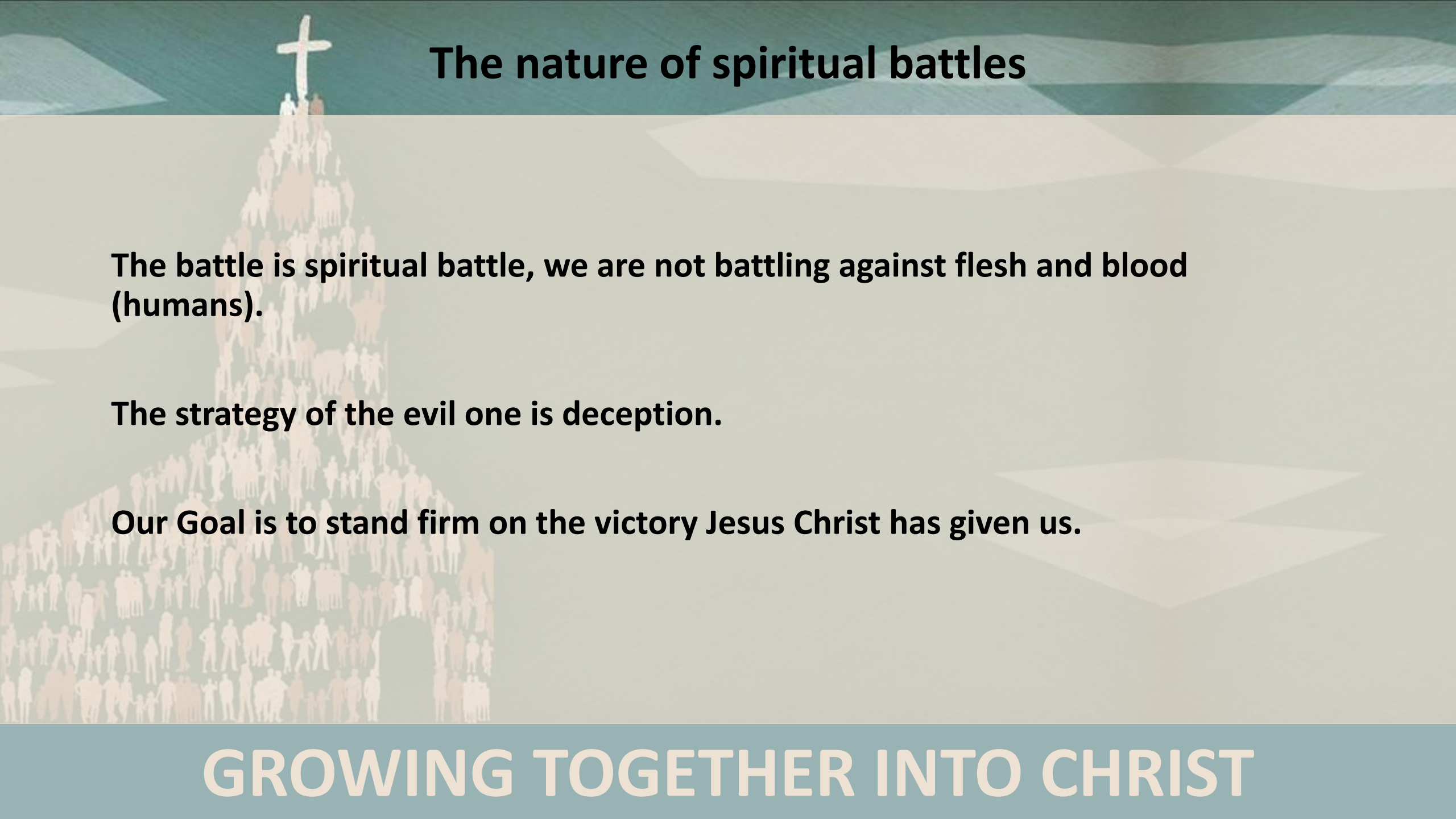
10 Finally, **be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power**. 11 Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand **against the devil's schemes**. 12 For our struggle is **not against flesh and blood**, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world 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.

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# The nature of spiritual battles

- **Jesus Christ is far above these spiritual beings,** and we are seated in Christ Jesus at the right hand of God too.
- This shows us that **the victory is certain, but the battle is not over.**

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# The nature of spiritual battles

**The battle is spiritual battle, we are not battling against flesh and blood (humans).**

**The strategy of the evil one is deception.**

**Our Goal is to stand firm on the victory Jesus Christ has given us.**

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# The armor that is needed for the spiritual battles

- **The armor that is needed for the spiritual battles Ephesians 6:14-18**
  - This "armor of God" was mentioned in the Old Testament.
  - As the Messiah's followers, we need to make the attributes of the Messiah our own as God's Children; we need to imitate Christ.
  - Putting on the full armor is the functional equivalent of putting on the new nature (4:24) in Christ remember

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# The armor that is needed for the spiritual battles

- **The first piece of the armor of God:  
The belt of Truth/life filled with truth**
  - This belt was about six inches wide, made of leather. It holds the other pieces of armor in places, such as the breastplate and the sheath for the sword
  - Truth is not only speaking the truth but knowing deeply that the schemes of the evil one are filled with deception.



source: <http://www.spwickstrom.com/armor/>

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**The armor that is needed for the spiritual battles**

**Are you being influenced by the lies of the evil one?**

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# The armor that is needed for the spiritual battles

- **The second piece of the armor of God:  
The breastplate of righteousness**
  - Both strong and light, it was said that an arrow shot from 15 meters left only a slight scratch on it. This piece of frontal armor was vital for the protection of the chest, lungs, and heart.
  - The righteousness that must be taken up is the believer's own personal conduct.



source: <http://www.spwickstrom.com/armor/>

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**The armor that is needed for the spiritual battles**

**Unrighteous acts that are not taken care of by  
repentance/Forgiveness give Satan a foothold in our lives.**

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## The armor that is needed for the spiritual battles

- **The third piece of the armor of God: Feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace**
- **The Roman soldier wore a low half-boot with a strong sole and open leather work above. It was studded with sharp nails to ensure a firm grip.**
- **Paul's irony should not be overlooked: the gospel of peace makes us ready for war.**



source: <http://www.spwickstrom.com/armor/>

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# The armor that is needed for the spiritual battles

We stand on the foundation of the gospel, and we march for the gospel.

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# The armor that is needed for the spiritual battles

- The fourth piece of the armor of God: the shield of faith
- While some armies used a small, round shield, the Romans used a large, rectangular one that "covers the whole man like a door." It is also used for the protection of the whole army when soldiers stand side by side
- Faith gives us the strength to stand against Satan with firm courage, even when he uses his most fearsome weapons.



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# The armor that is needed for the spiritual battles

**We are assured that our God will always be with us; he will never leave us, not forsake us.**

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# The armor that is needed for the spiritual battles

- **The fifth piece of the armor of God: the helmet of salvation**
  - **The helmet of the Roman soldier was made of bronze, often with two hinged cheek-pieces fastened by a chin-band.**
  - **This is the hope of eternal salvation. One day God will give us the final victory. After that time, there will no longer be any spiritual battle.**



source: <http://www.spwickstrom.com/armor/>

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**The armor that is needed for the spiritual battles**

**Where do you put your hope? Do you place your hope in this world or in eternity?**

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# The armor that is needed for the spiritual battles

- **The sixth piece of the armor of God:  
the sword of God-the word of God**
- **The Roman sword was short enough to be effective in close hand-to-hand combat. This sword was very sharp.**
- **The word of God is the "sword of the Spirit." This sword is the "proclaimed word" of God. It does not refer to the bible book that you have on the shelf but the proclaimed word of God.**



source: <http://www.spwickstrom.com/armor/>

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# The armor that is needed for the spiritual battles

**How much time do you spend on the word of God daily? Do you meditate on the word of God?**

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# The armor that is needed for the spiritual battles

## The last piece of the armor of God: Prayer

- The soldier must maintain contact with his commanding officer.
- Prayer helps keep one in tune with the Lord and his purposes.
- As we take the sword of the Spirit, God's Word, we must also pray in the Spirit on all occasions.



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# The armor that is needed for the spiritual battles

**When you pray by being led by the Spirit, you pray according to the will, priorities, and desires of God.**

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# Paul's final greetings

- Paul's final greetings / 6:21–24

**Ephe 6:23-24**

**Peace to the brothers and sisters, and love with faith from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. 24 Grace to all who love our Lord Jesus Christ with an undying love**

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# Application

- **You are on a battlefield! We often forget that we are under spiritual battle. So be “alert and always keep on praying.”**
- **Live a life of holiness and don’t give the Devil a foothold in your life. Submit to God. Meditate on the word of God and study the word of God daily.**

## Question for break out room

- **Which of these armors are you not putting daily? Which of these armors do you usually lack?**

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