

**Agape House of Worship**  
**Wednesday Bible Study**

**Study Series: Standing Strong in Spiritual Battles**  
**Part 1: Overview - Standing Firm**

**Wednesday, January 29, 2025**  
**Teacher: Pastor Jide Lawore**

*Ephesians 6:10–13* “Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. 11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. 12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. 13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.” (NKJV)

**Introduction:**

Spiritual warfare is a well-talked about subject in Christendom, yet very few believers truly understand what it means, why are we in a warfare, what is the goal and what are our responsibilities in spiritual warfare? Ephesians 6:10–18 is one of the most popular scriptures on the subject. Here, Paul acknowledges that as believers we are in a spiritual battle against the enemy, the devil and his hosts. He then calls believers not to worry but to stand strong during spiritual battles by putting on the full armor of God. This passage highlights the reality of spiritual warfare and reminds us that our struggle is not against people, but against powerful forces of evil in the heavenly realms. It also emphasizes that everything we need to prevail in spiritual battles has been provided for us (the armor of God). However, it highlights the fact that we have responsibilities in order to prevail in spiritual battles. In this study, we will explore how we can rely on God’s strength, stay grounded in His truth, and arm ourselves with the tools necessary to persevere in the face of life’s spiritual battles.

**I. Our Responsibility in Spiritual Warfare**

**A. “...be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might”**

*Question: What does it mean to “be strong in the Lord”?*

- “Be strong” is command – it places a responsibility on the believer.
- The phrase “in the Lord” is used frequently in the Bible. It signifies a believer’s identity, position, and relationship with Jesus Christ.

The believer’s responsibility in spiritual warfare is not so much to focus on fighting, but to focus on maintaining a close bond between Him/her and the Lord Jesus Christ. John 15:4-5

**B. “Put on the whole armor of God”**

*Question: What does it mean to “put on the whole armor of God”?*

- The phrase “put on” is command – it places responsibility on the believer. "Put on" is literally a dressing term. Used as an idiom, it can also mean to assume the office, manner, character, disposition, or perspective of another.
- The armor of God implies God has an armor – he fights battles. Exodus 14:14

**C. “...that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil”**

*Question: What does it mean “to stand against”?*

*Question: What are the wiles (or schemes) of the devil?*

- "to stand against" means to firmly resist or oppose. It signifies a posture of active defense and unwavering faith in the face of opposition.
- Wiles are tricks or manipulations designed to deceive someone. Wiles of the devil are those clever schemes used by Satan to ensnare us through temptation, threat, or intimidation
- 2 Corinthians 2:11 “in order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes.”
- The key to victory in any battle is understanding the schemes of the enemy

## II. Understanding the Enemy

### A. “For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood,”

- This is a clear signal to believers that our real enemies are not human beings, hence our approach must be different.
- The battle is ongoing, and can occur anywhere, including in the heavenly world.

### B. “...but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places”

- Principalities, powers, rulers of the darkness of this age and spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places are all terms used to describe high-ranking evil spiritual beings, often considered as part of Satan's demonic hierarchy, who exert influence and control over the world and oppose God's people
- This description seems to indicate a pecking order of evil beings who do Satan's bidding to oppose God's will on earth.
- It also signifies that the enemy we fight though unseen is very organized, committed and disciplined.

### C. “Therefore, take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day”

*Question: What is the evil day?*

- The "evil day" refers to a time of spiritual struggle, temptation, or trial when believers face challenges or opposition, especially in the context of spiritual warfare.
- The "evil day" could refer to times when one faces intense spiritual battles, difficult circumstances, or moments of temptation.

### Conclusion

In conclusion, believers must recognize that spiritual warfare is real, and every believer is involved whether they like it or not. Also, believers do not have to be afraid of spiritual warfare, the devil and his hosts because we have the armor of God at our disposal. However, believers have the responsibility to be strong, take on armor and stand so that we can be victorious in time of battle.