

**Outline of
the Messages for the Full-time Training
in the Spring Term of 2025**

**GENERAL SUBJECT:
THE CRUCIAL POINTS OF THE TRUTH IN PAUL'S EPISTLES—
EPHESIANS**

Message Fifteen
Spiritual Warfare

Scripture Reading: Eph. 6:10-20; Matt. 6:10; 12:22-29; Psa. 110:3a

Eph. 6:10-20—Finally, be empowered in the Lord and in the might of His strength. ¹¹Put on the whole armor of God that you may be able to stand against the stratagems of the devil, ¹²For our wrestling is not against blood and flesh but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the world-rulers of this darkness, against the spiritual *forces* of evil in the heavenlies. ¹³Therefore take up the whole armor of God that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. ¹⁴Stand therefore, having girded your loins with truth and having put on the breastplate of righteousness ¹⁵And having shod your feet with the firm foundation of the gospel of peace; ¹⁶Besides all these, having taken up the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming darts of the evil one. ¹⁷And receive the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which *Spirit* is the word of God, ¹⁸By means of all prayer and petition, praying at every time in spirit and watching unto this in all perseverance and petition concerning all the saints, ¹⁹And for me, that utterance may be given to me in the opening of my mouth, to make known in boldness the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰For which I am an ambassador in a chain, that in it I would speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

Matt. 6:10—Your kingdom come; Your will be done, as in heaven, *so* also on earth.

Matt. 12:22-29—Then there was brought to Him one possessed by a demon, blind and dumb, and He healed him, so that the dumb man spoke and saw. ²³And all the crowds were amazed and said, Is this not the Son of David? ²⁴But the Pharisees, hearing *this*, said, This man does not cast out the demons except by Beelzebul, ruler of the demons. ²⁵But knowing their thoughts, He said to them, Every kingdom divided against itself becomes desolate, and every city or house divided against itself will not stand. ²⁶And if Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then will his kingdom stand? ²⁷And if I, by Beelzebul, cast out the demons, by whom do your sons cast *them* out? Therefore they shall be your judges. ²⁸But if I, by the Spirit of God, cast out the demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you. ²⁹Or how can anyone enter into the house of the strong man and plunder his goods unless he first binds the strong man? And then he will thoroughly plunder his house.

Psa. 110:3—Your people will offer themselves willingly In the day of Your warfare, In the splendor of *their* consecration. Your young men will be to You Like the dew from the womb of the dawn.

I. “Our wrestling is not against blood and flesh but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the world-rulers of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenlies”—Eph. 6:12:

- A. In 6:10-20 we see that the church is a warrior to defeat God’s enemy, the devil, and his spiritual forces of evil in the heavenlies.

Eph. 6:10-20—Finally, be empowered in the Lord and in the might of His strength. ¹¹Put on the whole armor of God that you may be able to stand against the stratagems of the devil, ¹²For our wrestling is not against blood and flesh but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the world-rulers of this darkness, against the spiritual *forces* of evil in the heavenlies. ¹³Therefore take up the whole armor of God that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. ¹⁴Stand therefore, having girded your loins with truth and having put on the breastplate of righteousness ¹⁵And having shod your feet with the firm foundation of the gospel of peace; ¹⁶Besides all these, having taken up the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming darts of the evil one. ¹⁷And receive the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which *Spirit* is the word of God, ¹⁸By means of all prayer and petition, praying at every time in spirit and watching unto this in all perseverance and petition concerning all the saints, ¹⁹And for me, that utterance may be given to me in the opening of my mouth, to make known in boldness the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰For which I am an ambassador in a chain, that in it I would speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

- B. In verse 11 Paul refers to the stratagems of the devil, and then in verse 12 he explains that our wrestling is against Satan's evil forces.

Eph. 6:11—Put on the whole armor of God that you may be able to stand against the stratagems of the devil,

Eph. 6:12—For our wrestling is not against blood and flesh but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the world-rulers of this darkness, against the spiritual *forces* of evil in the heavenlies.

- C. *Blood and flesh* refers to human beings, and behind them are the evil forces of the devil, fighting against God's purpose.
 D. Our wrestling, our fighting, must not be against human beings but against the evil spiritual forces in the heavenlies.
 E. *This darkness* refers to today's world, which is fully under the dark ruling of the devil, who rules through his evil angels—Rom. 13:12; 1 John 2:11.

Rom. 13:12—The night is far advanced, and the day has drawn near. Let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the weapons of light.

1 John 2:11—But he who hates his brother is in the darkness and walks in the darkness and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes.

- F. The world-rulers of this darkness are the princes Satan has set up to rule over the various nations; because of the working of Satan, who is the authority of darkness, the earth and its atmosphere have become "this darkness."
 G. In Ephesians 6:12 Paul also speaks of "the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenlies":

Eph. 6:12—For our wrestling is not against blood and flesh but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the world-rulers of this darkness, against the spiritual *forces* of evil in the heavenlies.

1. Here *the heavenlies* refers to the air (2:2); Satan and his spiritual forces of evil are in the air, but we are seated in the third heaven above them (v. 6).

Eph. 2:2—In which you once walked according to the age of this world, according to the ruler of the authority of the air, of the spirit which is now operating in the sons of disobedience;

Eph. 2:6—And raised *us* up together with *Him* and seated *us* together with *Him* in the heavenlies in Christ Jesus,

2. Satan and his evil forces are under us, and their fate is to be defeated by us.
3. We must fight against these spiritual forces.

II. Ephesians 6:10-20 is the clearest portion of the New Testament dealing with spiritual warfare:

Eph. 6:10-20—Finally, be empowered in the Lord and in the might of His strength. ¹¹Put on the whole armor of God that you may be able to stand against the stratagems of the devil, ¹²For our wrestling is not against blood and flesh but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the world-rulers of this darkness, against the spiritual *forces* of evil in the heavenlies. ¹³Therefore take up the whole armor of God that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. ¹⁴Stand therefore, having girded your loins with truth and having put on the breastplate of righteousness ¹⁵And having shod your feet with the firm foundation of the gospel of peace; ¹⁶Besides all these, having taken up the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming darts of the evil one. ¹⁷And receive the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which *Spirit* is the word of God, ¹⁸By means of all prayer and petition, praying at every time in spirit and watching unto this in all perseverance and petition concerning all the saints, ¹⁹And for me, that utterance may be given to me in the opening of my mouth, to make known in boldness the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰For which I am an ambassador in a chain, that in it I would speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

- A. Ephesians 6:10-20 reveals that the church as the new man is a corporate warrior fighting against the enemy for God's kingdom:

Eph. 6:10-20—Finally, be empowered in the Lord and in the might of His strength. ¹¹Put on the whole armor of God that you may be able to stand against the stratagems of the devil, ¹²For our wrestling is not against blood and flesh but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the world-rulers of this darkness, against the spiritual *forces* of evil in the heavenlies. ¹³Therefore take up the whole armor of God that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. ¹⁴Stand therefore, having girded your loins with truth and having put on the breastplate of righteousness ¹⁵And having shod your feet with the firm foundation of the gospel of peace; ¹⁶Besides all these, having taken up the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming darts of the evil one. ¹⁷And receive the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which *Spirit* is the word of God, ¹⁸By means of all prayer and petition, praying at every time in spirit and watching unto this in all perseverance and petition concerning all the saints, ¹⁹And for me, that utterance may be given to me in the opening of my mouth, to make known in boldness the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰For which I am an ambassador in a chain, that in it I would speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

1. The church as the one new man is the corporate man in God's intention, and this new man will fulfill the twofold purpose of expressing God and dealing with God's enemy—Gen. 1:26.

Gen. 1:26—And God said, Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of heaven and over the cattle and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.

2. Not only must God's eternal purpose be fulfilled and the desire of Christ's heart be satisfied, but God's enemy must be defeated; for this, the church must be a warrior.

B. Spiritual warfare is necessary because Satan's will is in conflict with God's will—Eph. 1:5, 9, 11; Matt. 6:10; 7:21; Isa. 14:12-14:

Eph. 1:5—Predestinating us unto sonship through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will,

Eph. 1:9—Making known to us the mystery of His will according to His good pleasure, which He purposed in Himself,

Eph. 1:11—In whom also we were designated as an inheritance, having been predestinated according to the purpose of the One who works all things according to the counsel of His will,

Matt. 6:10—Your kingdom come; Your will be done, as in heaven, *so* also on earth.

Matt. 7:21—Not everyone who says to Me, Lord, Lord, will enter into the kingdom of the heavens, but he who does the will of My Father who is in the heavens.

Isa. 14:12-14—How you have fallen from heaven, O Daystar, son of the dawn! How you have been hewn down to earth, You who made nations fall prostrate! ¹³But you, you said in your heart: I will ascend to heaven; Above the stars of God I will exalt my throne. And I will sit upon the mount of assembly In the uttermost parts of the north. ¹⁴I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High.

1. If we would know how the church as the new man can be God's warrior to engage in spiritual warfare, we need to realize that in the universe there are three wills—the divine will, the satanic will, and the human will—Rev. 4:11.
Rev. 4:11—You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive the glory and the honor and the power, for You have created all things, and because of Your will they were, and were created.

2. Spiritual warfare has its source in the conflict between the divine will and the satanic will—Matt. 6:10; Ezek. 28:12-19; Isa. 14:12-14.

Matt. 6:10—Your kingdom come; Your will be done, as in heaven, *so* also on earth.

Ezek. 28:12-19—Son of man, take up a lamentation for the king of Tyre, and say to him, Thus says the Lord Jehovah, O you who sealed up perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty, ¹³You were in Eden, the garden of God. Every precious stone was your covering, sardius, topaz, diamond, chrysolite, onyx, jasper, sapphire, carbuncle, and emerald, with gold. The workmanship of your tambourines and your pipes was prepared with you on the day that you were created. ¹⁴You were the anointed cherub who covered *the Ark*; indeed I set you, *so that* you were upon the holy mountain of God; you walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire. ¹⁵You were perfect in your ways from the day that you were created, until unrighteousness was found in you. ¹⁶By the abundance of your trading they filled

your midst with violence, and you sinned. So I cast you out as profane from the mountain of God, and I destroyed you, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire. ¹⁷Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty; you corrupted your wisdom by reason of your brightness. I cast you to the ground; I presented you before kings that they may look at you. ¹⁸By the multitude of your iniquities in the unrighteousness of your trading you have profaned your sanctuaries. Therefore I sent forth fire from your midst; it consumed you, and I reduced you to ashes upon the earth in the sight of all those who look at you. ¹⁹All who know you among the peoples are astonished at you. You have become a *source of terror*, and you will be no more forever.

Isa. 14:12-14—How you have fallen from heaven, O Daystar, son of the dawn! How you have been hewn down to earth, You who made nations fall prostrate! ¹³But you, you said in your heart: I will ascend to heaven; Above the stars of God I will exalt my throne. And I will sit upon the mount of assembly In the uttermost parts of the north. ¹⁴I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High.

3. As the church, our fighting is to subdue the satanic will and defeat God's enemy—Eph. 6:13.

Eph. 6:13—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.

- C. The warfare between the church and Satan is a battle between us who love the Lord and who are in His church and the evil powers in the heavenlies—v. 12.

Eph. 6:12—For our wrestling is not against blood and flesh but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the world-rulers of this darkness, against the spiritual *forces of evil in the heavenlies*.

- D. The principalities, the authorities, and the world-rulers of darkness are the rebellious angels who followed Satan in his rebellion against God and who now rule in the heavenlies over the nations of the world—Col. 1:13; Dan. 10:20.

Col. 1:13—Who delivered us out of the authority of darkness and transferred *us* into the kingdom of the Son of His love,

Dan. 10:20—Then he said, Do you know why I have come to you? And now I will return to fight with the prince of Persia; so I go forth, and the prince of Javan is now about to come.

- E. Spiritual warfare is not an individual matter; it is a matter of the Body, the new man—Eph. 1:22-23; 4:24; 6:13:

Eph. 1:22-23—And He subjected all things under His feet and gave Him *to be* Head over all things to the church, ²³Which is His Body, the fullness of the One who fills all in all.

Eph. 4:24—And put on the new man, which was created according to God in righteousness and holiness of the reality.

Eph. 6:13—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.

1. The church is a corporate warrior, and the believers together make up this corporate warrior; after we have been formed corporately into an army, we will be able to fight against God's enemy.
 2. The whole armor of God is for the Body, not for individuals; only the corporate warrior can wear the whole armor of God.
- F. By putting on the whole armor of God, we are able to stand against the stratagems, the evil plans, of the devil—vv. 11, 13-14:

Eph. 6:11—Put on the whole armor of God that you may be able to stand against the stratagems of the devil,

Eph. 6:13-14—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. ¹⁴Stand therefore, having girded your loins with truth and having put on the breastplate of righteousness

1. To sit with Christ is to participate in all His accomplishments, to walk in His Body is to fulfill God's eternal purpose, and to stand in His power is to fight against God's enemy—2:6; 4:1; 5:2, 8; 6:13-14.

Eph. 2:6—And raised *us* up together with *Him* and seated *us* together with *Him* in the heavenlies in Christ Jesus,

Eph. 4:1—I beseech you therefore, I, the prisoner in the Lord, to walk worthily of the calling with which you were called,

Eph. 5:2—And walk in love, even as Christ also loved us and gave Himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling savor.

Eph. 5:8—For you were once darkness but are now light in the Lord; walk as children of light

Eph. 6:13-14—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. ¹⁴Stand therefore, having girded your loins with truth and having put on the breastplate of righteousness

2. In fighting against the enemy, the most important thing is to stand; having done all, we need to stand to the end.

III. The purpose of spiritual warfare is to bring in the kingdom of God—Rev. 11:15; 12:10:

Rev. 11:15—And the seventh angel trumpeted; and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, The kingdom of the world has become the *kingdom* of our Lord and of His Christ, and He will reign forever and ever.

Rev. 12:10—And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, Now has come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ, for the accuser of our brothers has been cast down, who accuses them before our God day and night.

- A. Spiritual warfare is the warfare between the kingdom of God and the kingdom of Satan—Matt. 12:26, 28; Rev. 12:11.

Matt. 12:26—And if Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then will his kingdom stand?

Matt. 12:28—But if I, by the Spirit of God, cast out the demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.

Rev. 12:11—And they overcame him because of the blood of the Lamb and because of the word of their testimony, and they loved not their soul-life even unto death.

- B. The kingdom of God will not come automatically; in order for the kingdom to come, there is the need of spiritual fighting—Matt. 12:22-29.

Matt. 12:22-29—Then there was brought to Him one possessed by a demon, blind and dumb, and He healed him, so that the dumb man spoke and saw. ²³And all the crowds were amazed and said, Is this not the Son of David? ²⁴But the Pharisees, hearing *this*, said, This man does not cast out the demons except by Beelzebul, ruler of the demons. ²⁵But knowing their thoughts, He said to them, Every kingdom divided against itself becomes desolate, and every city or house divided against itself will not stand. ²⁶And if Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then will his kingdom stand? ²⁷And if I, by Beelzebul, cast out the demons, by whom do your sons cast *them* out? Therefore they shall be your judges. ²⁸But if I, by the Spirit of God, cast out the demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you. ²⁹Or how can anyone enter into the house of the strong man and plunder his goods unless he first binds the strong man? And then he will thoroughly plunder his house.

- C. Wherever the devil has been cast out and wherever the work of the enemy has been displaced by God's power, the kingdom of God is there—v. 28.

Matt. 12:28—But if I, by the Spirit of God, cast out the demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.

- D. In the Lord's recovery today we are on the battlefield, and we should be fighting against Satan's aerial forces so that we can gain more of Christ for the building up of the Body of Christ, setting up and spreading the kingdom of God so that Christ can come back to inherit the earth—6:10.

Matt. 6:10—Your kingdom come; Your will be done, as in heaven, so also on earth.

IV. "Jehovah declares to my Lord, / Sit at My right hand / Until I make Your enemies / Your footstool. / Jehovah will send forth / The scepter of Your strength from Zion: / Rule in the midst of Your enemies. / Your people will offer themselves willingly / In the day of Your warfare, / In the splendor of their consecration"—Psa. 110:1-3a:

- A. In a spiritual sense, we are now in the day of Christ's warfare, and for this we need to be a voluntary offering, a freewill offering—Lev. 22:18; Deut. 12:6.

Lev. 22:18—Speak to Aaron and to his sons and to all the children of Israel, and say to them, When anyone of the house of Israel or of the sojourners in Israel presents his offering, whether it is any of their vows or any of their freewill offerings which they present to Jehovah for a burnt offering;

Deut. 12:6—And there you shall bring your burnt offerings and your sacrifices and your tithes and the heave offering of your hand and your vows and your freewill offerings and the firstborn of your herd and of your flock;

- B. In order to engage in spiritual warfare to defeat God's enemy and bring in the kingdom of God, we need an absolute and thorough consecration to the Lord; in the eyes of God, such a consecration is a matter of splendor—Psa. 110:3a.

Psa. 110:3—Your people will offer themselves willingly In the day of Your warfare, In the splendor of *their* consecration. Your young men will be to You Like the dew from the womb of the dawn.