

**Silence, the LORD be with you [and also with you], Prayer**

**I. PPs basically misunderstood in society, but extremely helpful for Church**

Eph. 6:10-20 <sup>10</sup>"Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. <sup>11</sup>Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. <sup>12</sup>For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. <sup>13</sup>Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. <sup>14</sup>Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. <sup>15</sup>As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. <sup>16</sup>With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. <sup>17</sup>Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God." <sup>18</sup>Pray with all prayers, for all saints, at all times, with all kinds...

**II. What does the Bible mean by PPs? How are they manifested in our times /culture? How are they connected? How does the Church expose them, disarm them, triumph?**

- 1. Biblical vocabulary by semantic fields: Satan, angels, PPs, human beings*
- 2. PPs -- Created for good (Col. 1)*
- 3. Share in world's fallenness (Rom. 8); Not totally negative, but not neutral*
- 4. Tend to fall unless watched closely -- as likely to fall as human beings*
- 5. Oversteps proper role -- is not God or only way to think (1 Cor. 8)*
- 6. Stand against them; disarm, make a public example (expose), triumph*
- 7. Continually interact with one another and amplify each other's ill effects.*
- 8. Each of these factors, furthermore, can be subdivided into various aspects*
- 9. Consequently, overwhelming; we suffer from lack of discrimination*
- 10. Christ has decisively conquered PPs and thereby hope for cosmos*

**III. What PPs are most affecting your congregation?**

**IV. What sorts of effects are they having on the community? yourself?**

**V. How have they become gods or lords? How is God revealed in contrast?**

**VI. How might they be exposed to keep focus on their work, not individuals?**

**VII. How can we make sure we use enough grace to disarm them?**