

GREG'S NOTES

A NEW BEGINNING TEACHING OUTLINES

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WHAT YOU DON'T KNOW WILL HURT YOU

Ephesians 6:10–18

Temptation is everywhere. In fact, temptation and spiritual attack and conflict are going to follow you, as a Christian, to the last day of your life. It doesn't stop until you get to heaven. You are going to be tempted. You are going to be harassed. You are going to be hassled. You are going to be attacked. Why? Because Satan does not want you to follow Jesus. The good news is that God knows our breaking point and He won't give us more than we can handle.

PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES

1. **We need to stand in God's strength and not our own.** “Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might” (NKJV). You are no match for the devil. You would never want to take Him on in your own strength. You are not fighting for God. You are not being strong for God. You are not fighting for victory. You are fighting from victory. You are resting in the finished work of Jesus Christ for you on the cross
2. **We need to put on the whole armor of God.** Paul uses the various pieces of armor that a Roman soldier would wear to make His point. Each piece is interconnected. It is the helmet of salvation. It is the breastplate of righteousness. It is the shield of faith. It is the sword of the Spirit. Each one has its place. We don't pick and choose what pieces of the armor we want to wear or don't want to wear. We wear them all because every part is important.

RELEVANT REMINDERS

- To wear the belt of truth is to live a sincere, honest, candid life before God and others. It is to live a life devoid of secrets of ongoing sin and duplicity. Duplicity is hypocrisy. Trying to live a double life is living a lie.
- The breastplate of righteousness is the imputed righteousness of Christ. Jesus Christ at the cross purchased my salvation and He not only forgave me of my sin but He put His righteousness into my spiritual bank account.
- Satan will always try to keep you from the cross and the Holy Spirit will always draw you to the cross. When you have sinned, that is when you run, not walk to church to get help from the Word of God and from God's people.

APPLICABLE ACTIONS

God has given you your freedom. God has given you a way out. The door is open. You want to stay in your little prison of addiction? You want to stay in your little prison of sin? You want to stay in your misery? You can stay there. Stay in your cell if you want. Or, you can walk out, taking hold of what God has given to you. It is your choice. He opens the door but you have to walk through it. Do you want to walk through it? Or, do you want to stay in the place where you are at?