

1. The Church as a Unified Army

- a) Ephesians 6:10-20 Is this admonition from the Apostle Paul addressed to individual Christians or the church community as a whole?
- b) Where have you noticed Satan and the kingdom of darkness intensifying their attacks against followers of Jesus, both individually and as a church body?
- c) Many non-Christians and even some Christians do not believe that Satan and his host of evil angels exist. Why is this such a dangerous deception?
- d) How can we help people to see the reality of the great controversy between good and evil?

2. Protective armor

- a) Ephesians 6:11,13 What key action verbs are found in these verses?
- b) Ephesians 6:14a Why is it vitally important to put on the belt of truth? (See also 1 Peter 1:13)
- c) Compare Ephesians 6:14b and 1Thessalonians 5:8. How does righteousness, faith, and love protect us?
- d) Ephesians 6:13,15 Why is protection for our feet part of the armor of God? (See also Isaiah 52:7)
- e) Why is a word of peace so needed in this great battle against the kingdom of darkness? John 14:27

- f) Ephesians 6:16 What important insights are found in Paul's description of the shield of faith?
- g) Ephesians 6:17a How does our acceptance of the gift of salvation through Jesus Christ our Lord protect our minds when engaged in fierce conflict with the enemy?

3. Offensive weapons

- a) Ephesians 6:17b What is one of the two important offensive weapons in our battle against the powers of darkness?
- b) Where do you see Jesus using the sword of the Spirit during His earthly ministry? Matthew 4:1-10, etc.
- c) What specific promises in the Word of God have helped you in your battle against the kingdom of darkness?
- d) Ephesians 6:18 Why is prayer also an important offensive weapon in our battle against the kingdom of darkness?
- e) Share a Bible story where prayer became an important weapon against the enemy. 2 Chronicles 20:12, Luke 23:46, etc.
- f) Ephesians 6:19-20 Why is it important to pray for our spiritual leaders as we engage together in the great battle against the kingdom of darkness?
- g) What encouragement do you find in Paul's words to Christians recorded in Romans 8:37-39?

