



## Beyond the Sermon

A Sermon Application Guide

### Title: Ancient Strategies for Modern Battles

This guide offers a simple tool for those wanting to take the next step with Sunday's message. You can print this guide to study on your own or use it in a group and experience transformation together.

#### Message Theme

The Holy Spirit gives us every tool for the fight.

#### Prayer Focus

*Heavenly Father, thank You for the gift of Your Holy Spirit and the power You've placed within me. Help me remain in You, trusting Your strength, peace, and provision. When I feel weak, or the enemy comes against me, remind me that Your presence equips and protects me. I praise You and commit to staying rooted in Your Word. In Jesus' name, Amen.*

#### Key Truths

When we receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit, we have Him within us, bringing His full might like an advancing army. He gives Himself entirely, allowing us to rest in the fact that "in Him" is the place from which we operate—full of ability and strength from Him. God's power is not occasional but constant. Receiving the Holy Spirit connects us to all God is and all He can do. This is the foundation on which we live.

Some of us may have read about or practiced imagining ourselves putting on God's might and armor, equipping ourselves in this way to bolster our faith and confidence. In truth, the Holy Spirit places this armor and power on us as we remain in Him. Our responsibility is to stay there and allow His work to flow through us. When we understand that walking in His power comes from our position in Him, we'll move through life as though clothed and outfitted in spiritual weaponry, feeling empowered and secure in His protection.

Saying yes to Jesus clothes us in the full armor of God. Walking in that armor, we appear like Him to the enemy. Ephesians reminds us, "We wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world." The term *wrestle* refers to a battle for survival. We're warned that without walking in God's power, we'll have blind spots, leaving us vulnerable to the enemy's assaults. Therefore, it's crucial to remain aware of the enemy's tactics and to stay in Christ. Life can be distracting, but God's power is always available, ready for us to step into as though we never left.

## **Practical Application**

Whenever the enemy tries to enter your life, you can drive him out with your authority. You can stand against him because God has given us His power. In moments when you feel weak or sense opposition rising against you, your only task is to remain in Him. He is the source of the power, peace, and provision to face any trial. You can rest assured that everything will be alright.

Are you facing something difficult right now? Take some time to be mindful that you are in Him. Sit in His presence and let Him reveal how He clothes you with His strength. Offer Him praise and thanksgiving for who He is. Perhaps you aren't currently facing a trial, and things are going well. Even then, do the same—remain in Him. Whether in times of peace or adversity, the key is always the same: staying rooted in Christ.

## **Reference Verses**

- Ephesians 6:10-13
- Acts 1:8, 19
- Luke 24:49

## **Declarations**

- I'm rooted in the Lord's power and fully equipped with the whole armor of God.
- In every moment, I'll stand strong in Christ, and nothing the enemy brings against me can prevail.
- God's peace, strength, and provision are mine as I remain in Him.

## **What's Next?**

In this week's message we learned that as believers, it's crucial to recognize the reality of the unseen battles we face and to be prepared with the full armor of God. Here are some practical steps that you can use in your daily life to help prepare for spiritual warfare.

### **Recognize the Reality of Spiritual Warfare**

Be aware that you are constantly engaged in a battle against unseen forces of evil. Stay informed by learning about the devil's tactics, such as temptation, doubt, and fear. Pray regularly, seeking God's protection and guidance in every spiritual conflict.

### **Equip Yourself with the Armor of God**

Put on the helmet of salvation, the breastplate of righteousness, the belt of truth, the shield of faith, the shoes of the gospel of peace, and the sword of the Spirit. Stay rooted in the Word by regularly reading and meditating

on Scripture to strengthen your spiritual armor. Seek a fresh anointing of the Holy Spirit to empower you for the battle ahead.

### **Take a Stand Against Evil**

When faced with temptation or spiritual attacks, be bold and stand firm against evil. Use your spiritual weapons—the power of prayer, the Word of God, and the authority of Jesus' name. Support and encourage fellow believers in their spiritual battles, motivating them to stand strong in the Lord.

## **Scripture References Ancient Strategies for Modern Battles**

**Ephesians 6:10 KJV** Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.

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**Acts 1:8 KJV** But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you...

**Luke 24:49 KJV** And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued...

**Ephesians 6:10 KJV** Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.

**Ephesians 6:11 KJV** Put on the whole armour of God...

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**Acts 19:14-18 KJV** And there were seven sons of one Sceva, a Jew, and chief of the priests, which did so. And the evil spirit answered and said, Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are ye? And the man in whom the evil spirit was leaped on them, and overcame them, and prevailed against them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded. And this was known to all the Jews and Greeks also dwelling at Ephesus; and fear fell on them all, and the name of the Lord Jesus was magnified. And many that believed came, and confessed, and shewed their deeds.

**Ephesians 6:11 KJV** Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against...

**Ephesians 6:12 KJV** For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

**Ephesians 6:12 KJV**...principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

**John 10:10 KJV**...steal, and to kill, and to destroy...

**Ephesians 6:13 KJV** Wherefore take unto you the whole armor of God...

**Ephesians 6:13 KJV** ...that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day...