
a *Grace Notes* course

Ephesians

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Grace Notes

Lesson 20

Ephesians 6:10-17

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Instructions for Completing the Lessons

Begin each study session with prayer. It is the Holy Spirit who makes spiritual things discernable to Christians, so it is essential to be in fellowship with the Lord during Bible study.

Read the whole book of Ephesians often. It is a short book, and reading it many times will help you understand the story much better.

Instructions

1. Read the introduction to the study of Ephesians
 2. Study the Ephesians passage for this lesson, by reading the verses and studying the notes. Be sure to read any other Bible passages that are called out in the notes.
 3. **Review** all of the notes in the Ephesians lesson.
 4. Go to the Quiz page and follow the instructions to complete all the questions on the quiz. The quiz is "open book". You may refer to all the notes and to the Bible when you take the test. But you should not get help from another person.
 5. When you have completed the Quiz, be sure to *SAVE* your file. If your quiz file is lost, and that can happen at *Grace Notes* as well, you will want to be able to reproduce your work.
 6. To send the Quiz back to *Grace Notes*, follow the instructions on the Quiz page.
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Ephesians 6:10-13

The apostle Paul had a lifelong contact with the Roman army. He was a Roman citizen and very patriotic; and his admiration of the fighting forces of Rome was great.

The Roman army was at its peak of efficiency during the early Christian era. It served as police and frontier guard over all of Europe, the borders with Asia, and North Africa. Paul had many dealings with Roman legionnaires.

- A Roman soldier delivered Paul from the mob in Ephesus.
- Roman soldiers saved his life when the mob in Jerusalem wanted to kill him in the temple area.
- The Roman soldiers were able to deliver Paul out of Jerusalem from the hands of the religious leaders who wanted him dead, and they brought him safely to Caesarea.
- It was Roman soldiers who escorted Paul on the trip from Caesarea to Rome, the voyage on which Paul suffered shipwreck.
- Roman soldiers delivered Paul to the Roman garrison of the Praetorian Guard for his imprisonment.

The Praetorian Guard represents everything that is famous in Roman history. Their ranks were made up of the best and most experienced combat tested centurions, comparable to the finest from West Point, Sandhurst, St. Cyr. They were comparable to the best combat units of modern times, such as Special Forces, 1st Marines, Patton's 3rd Army, the Coldstream Guard, Big Red One, etc. In Roman history, the man who wanted to be Emperor had first to win the favor of the Praetorian Guard.

Every man in the ranks was a centurion, the most highly trained warrior in history. The commander of the Guard was a chiliarch who maintained the strictest discipline and combat training, even though all ranks were seasoned combat veterans.

The emperor of Rome at the time of Paul's first imprisonment was Nero (Lucius Domitius Ahenobarbus), a member of one of the most

distinguished families of military men and politicians; a family of genius, but Nero himself was insane. As long as Nero listened to the counsel of Seneca, he was more or less an enlightened monarch; and he managed to judge Paul fairly during the first imprisonment.

Paul wrote the epistle to the Ephesians during the period of his house arrest in Rome while he was guarded by a centurion of the Praetorian Guard. Paul witnessed to many guards during his two years under house arrest; and as these men were posted to other countries, they carried the gospel with them. Paul recognized the mission field of the military and understood very well God's plan in having him in Rome under these conditions.

This passage of Ephesians has as its background a large number of Roman military metaphors, as you might suppose. Military terminology is seen in a great deal of Paul writings; for example:

- In Gal. 6:17, Paul talks about bearing in his body the "mark" of the Lord Jesus. In history, this mark was a brand placed on the back of the left hand of a Roman soldier who had finished basic training. It was a high honor and the sign of a "man's man."
- Note the military terms in 2 Tim. 2:3,4. Paul wrote 2 Timothy during his second imprisonment.
- Roman military drill is the background of the terminology in Gal. 5:25; 1 Thess. 5:14; Col. 2:5.
- 1 Cor. 15:20-23 describes the doctrine of the resurrection of believers in terms of a military parade. There are two "battalions" of believers "passing in review", first those who were dead, then those who are "alive and remain".
- In 1 Cor. 14:8, Paul described the military commands given by a trumpet. The idea here is that those who speak in tongues cause confusion in the ranks.
- In Gal. 1:6, Paul speaks of legalists as having gone AWOL from the Gospel.
- In Phil. 4:6,7, Paul refers to the mounting of the guard.

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Eph. 6:10-12 provides, in military terms, an "estimate of the situation". Such an estimate is based on facts gathered and analyzed by reconnaissance and intelligence personnel.

Questions to be answered are:

- Who is the enemy?
- Where is the enemy?
- What are his strength and disposition and his supporting units?
- What is his logistical support and where are his supply lines?
- What are his weaknesses?
- What is the terrain like where the battle will be fought?

Ephesians 6:10

Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of his might.

finally ...literally, "as to the remaining", but in this context, "now to get down to the final planning for attack". Paul wants the Christian to go on the offensive against unseen forces, the forces of Satan.

be strong...from the present passive imperative of ENDUNAMAQ, a reference to inner strength or moral courage.

Success in battle is always based on moral courage. The present tense used here indicates that moral courage must be used continuously. The passive voice shows that this courage is received by the believer from the Lord as a product of Grace. The imperative is the mood of command; "You are ordered to receive great moral courage!"

This courage comes through Christian growth in maturity, the faith/grace process for Biblical perception and application.

Read 2 Cor. 10:3-6. Our weapons are the weapons of the soul; this is how the believer receives strength. The basic emphasis in Christianity is not "doing something" but "thinking something". Divine production follows divine thinking. The soul is "armed" when the believer is edified.

Bible truth applied to the life will include orientation to Grace, a relaxed mental attitude, a capacity for personal and impersonal love, great inner peace and happiness, and a divine frame of reference. These are all ingredients of moral courage.

in the Lord... the Lord is the source of our strength and training.

in the power... the instrumental case of KRATOS, meaning "inner power" or self-discipline.

of his might... genitive of source of ISCHUS, "endowed power". The source for everything is the Lord Himself. See Acts 1:8. This takes us back to Eph. 5:18 and reminds us of the necessity of the Holy Spirit's control.

Eph. 6:10 "As to the remaining teaching, receive great inner strength from the Lord and in the inner power of His endowed power."

Ephesians 6:11

Put on the whole armor of God, wherewith your shall be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

Put on... refers to the soldier picking up his equipment and weapons. This is an imperative (command) verb in the middle voice, indicating that the believer receives benefit from putting on the armor.

the whole armor... PANOPLIA, "all armor and weapons"; so, "all military equipment". [The English cognate is "panoply".]

There were three types of soldiers in the Roman army that wore armor and carried these types of weapons.

The hastati (from HASTA, "javelin") were less experienced soldiers under training. They were usually not well trained with the more sophisticated weapons such as the spear, machaira sword, or bow. These troops were usually not used in the main battle, but only in the opening skirmish when javelins were thrown at the advancing enemy. The new believer is the hastati in the Christian life. He is not trained with much

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in the way of weapons because he is still ignorant of a lot of God's Word.

The princeps were somewhat more advanced. This was a young, vigorous, strong soldier, equivalent in this analogy to the vigorous advancing Christian who is beginning to operate on a divine frame of reference.

The third line of battle was composed of the triarii, the veterans, soldiers who could move into any area of combat and were well-trained with all weapons.

that ye may be able... DUNAMAI, the ordinary Greek word for "ability". This is the ability which is the result of edification; and it is the main source of strength in the angelic conflict.

to stand... HISTOMI; this is the readiness of the combat soldier, the Christian "centurion", armed, tough, unyielding, with pride and motivation.

"Standing" is the first thing taught in unarmed combat or martial arts. One of the first things taught in Judo, for instance, is how to "break the stance" of the opponent. The Gauls, against whom the Romans fought many campaigns, under Julius Caesar and others, were human "tanks" in the sense that their ability to take a very strong combat stance made them difficult to defeat in individual combat.

Every believer is a member of the combat team and is required to take his own part, to stand on his own. We are armed with spiritual gifts and equipment, provided by Grace, to fight against the forces of Satan.

against the wiles of the devil... METHODEIA, "face to face with the strategies" (methods) of Satan.

Eph. 6:11 "Put on all of your spiritual military equipment so that you may have the ability to stand in the ranks, face to face with the strategies of Satan."

Ephesians 6:12

for we wrestle ... refers to any sort of personal combat. In the military sense, it refers to military contact with the enemy.

not against flesh and blood ...that is, "not face to face with human beings".

but ... "in contrast to the foregoing"

against... "face to face with" the following roster of the Satanic organization.

principalities... ARCHON, a word in Greek for one of the highest rulers.

This word first shows up in the Attic Greek (Athens) in the days of the Athenian democracy. The archon was the president or preeminent decision maker in Athens. The number two man was called bassilius archon, or "king-ruler". The third man was called polymark, a military ruler. The following six leaders in Athens were the thesmoteitai or "legislators". Even though there was democracy, there was no anarchy in Athens because these leaders kept things under control.

The Satanic organization has a number of supreme rulers; how many is not known.

powers ... from EKSOUSIAS, "commissioned officers"; therefore, a secondary group of demon rulers.

rulers of the darkness of this world .. the phrase "ruler of this world" is all one word in Greek: KOSMOKRATOR ["world" + "ruler"]. The word SKOTOS follows; therefore the phrase should read "world rulers of darkness".

These demonic rulers are Satan's supporting organization; analogous to logistics, intelligence, special weapons units, etc.

Satan has a special force of high ranking demons to make attacks against prominent officials and heads of nations.

In Daniel 10:13f, the term "prince of Persia" refers to a fallen angel, a demon, who was busy attacking the ruler of Persia. Gabriel was delayed in bringing a message to Daniel because he was in conflict with this kosmokrator demon. The archangel Michael came to help and released Gabriel to come to Daniel.

In Dan. 10:20, the "prince of Grecia" is mentioned, referring to the demon in charge of mounting attacks against the ruler of Greece who was Alexander the Great at that time.

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The principle is that Satan will vigorously attack any nation which protects the divine institutions, allows personal freedom to its citizens, and protects the nation against immorality. In nations like that there is evangelism and missionary activity, so demon activity will be stepped up with respect to those countries.

In addition, all Christian believers are placed under direct attack in the world system, with particularly heavy attacks against those who are advancing in the Christian way of life.

spiritual wickedness in high places ... literally, "spirits of evil in the heavenlies". This refers to the rank and file of demons which perform numerous functions.

Eph. 6:12 "Because our combat is not face to face with human beings but, by contrast, is in confrontation with demon rulers, military commanders of Satan, world-rulers of the darkness, and spirits of evil in the heavenlies."

Ephesians 6:13

The question arises as to why God allows the Angelic Conflict to continue. One reason is that in every generation, God permits Satan to use his genius to attack the Plan of God and the principle of Grace in the plan. Pressures are brought to bear on believers so that the divine provisions of Grace may be made manifest.

wherefore..."because of". Refers to the previous statements regarding spiritual warfare against demons. Hence, "Because of Satan's organization and activities, take the whole armor of God..."

take... imperative of ANALAMBANO, "to take; to seize" with a prefix which adds the idea of repetition to the verb. We must "seize or take again and again" the armor of God. As an example, one piece of the armor is "truth" (verse 14). This piece of armor must be "put on" every day.

In any group of Christians there are two types, those who are "ready" and those who are "not ready". A uniform of armor must be taken up and put on whenever combat is anticipated. For the Christian, combat is continuous. The emphasis of

this verb is "Don't get caught without your armor on!"

the whole armor of God...PANOPLIA. The hastati, the princeps, and the triarii all wore the same basic armor. In the following verses, the individual parts of the armor are described.

that ye may be able to stand...

The following passages of scripture provide excellent illustration of the concept of the Christian's "stand".

1 Cor. 15:57,58

Psa. 16:8; 21:7; 55:22; 125:1

Gal. 5:1

Phil. 1:27

1 Pet. 5:5-11

Psa. 46:5; 66:9; 112:6; 121:3

Prov. 10:30

1 Cor. 10:12

Job 11:14,15

Acts 11:23

Phil. 4:1

1 Thess. 5:21

2 Thess. 2:15

Heb. 3:6; 4:14; 10:23

against the wiles of the devil...

See Topic: Satan, particularly concerning his strategies. Also, refer to notes on demon activity in the previous discussion on v. 12.

and having done all, to stand.

Eph. 6:13 "Because of this, continually take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to take your position in combat, and when all is finished that you may remain standing."

Ephesians 6:14

With this verse begins the categorization of the Christian's armor, using by way of illustration the armor of the Roman soldier.

stand therefore... aorist active imperative of HISTOMI, the ordinary verb for standing, but in this context "to stand in military rank".

Grammar Note: In verses 14 to 17 there is a string of verbs, all of which are aorist participles in the middle voice. These are the verbs such as "take" or "put on" associated with putting on the pieces of armor. The Greek aorist participles have the same standing in a context as the English past participle in that the action of the participles precedes the action of the main verb in the sentence. The idea is that before a soldier can take his place in the ranks, he must be outfitted and trained.

having your loins girt about ...aorist middle participle of PERIZUNUMI, "to put around".

The Roman soldier put around his waist a very wide belt which was the holder for a lot of equipment. There was a loop, for example, for the scabbard for the machaira sword. Other loops held ropes and a rations sack. When the legions conquered a city, the soldiers would empty out the ration sack to make room for gold, jewelry, and other loot they picked up.

There were loops on the belt for darts. The belt was tied in several places to stay in place, so that no matter how the soldier moved about, fell down, climbed hills, etc., the belt was always in place with weapons at the ready. There were designs stitched into the belt which designated various campaigns in which the veteran had fought. Instead of campaign medals or ribbons, the soldier would weave into the belt something he had taken during the battle.

with truth... ALEITHEIA, refers to truth taught accurately. This is the belt of the Christian soldier.

and having on.. "having put on" the breastplate of righteousness.

the breastplate... THORAKA, [Engl. cognate "thorax"]. This was attached to the belt and provided protection for the upper torso, front and back.

In the ancient world, breastplates were of layers of cloth, sometimes with metal greaves attached. The Greeks introduced a bronze breastplate, with bronze plates covering vital areas or the torso, held together with leather or cloth connections.

Some Samaritans noticed that horses' hooves, cattle horns, etc., were made of very hard material, so they began to use horn sewed to cloth to protect from blows.

The Romans had the ideas for armor design which provided light weight combined with ease of movement and protection from blows. The best type was called the thorax stadias, or "breastplate which stands by itself". This breastplate was attached to the belt by leather thongs passed through rings on the bottom to keep it solidly attached. It was anchored to the belt, and it was above the belt. Note: the belt had to be put on first, then the breastplate.

of righteousness... The righteousness of God is basic protection for the believer. The belt of truth combined with the breastplate of righteousness is the basis for the edification of the Christian.

Eph. 4:12,16,29

Eph. 6:14 "Stand, therefore, having about your waist the equipment belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of divine righteousness;"

Ephesians 6:15

And your feet shod ..."to bind with sandals". The sandal was the GI boondocker for the Roman army. This is a reference to the foot soldier slogging it out. The infantryman fights with the least glamor and the highest casualties.

While the Greek soldier wore greaves to protect his ankles, the Roman soldier wore a heavy soled sandal which had metal studs on the bottom for good footing on uneven or slippery ground. This shoe was known in Latin as the caligula, so the foot soldier was called caligatus. Officers wore different footgear.

with the preparation of ETOIMASIA, refers to full preparedness, being able to march great distances in order, with others, and over a long period of time, to use weapons effectively.

the gospel of peace...we are to be ready at any time to minister the gospel. Note that all believers are included in this command. Every Christian is in full time Christian service, always on the front line.

Even a Christian who doesn't want to fight is in the conflict. A soldier may be untrained or in poor condition and drop beside the road before the enemy is reached. Or he may be killed in the first skirmish.

The primary thrust of evangelism is through the individual. There is a place for those with the spiritual gift of evangelism; but these men can reach only a specialized segment of the population. Individual believers circulate throughout the community in various functions. They have jobs; they belong to clubs; they have certain friends. The principle of witnessing for Christ is that you do it in your own environment.

Preparation implies the ability to fight. Preparation means flexibility and the ability to use God's Word in witnessing. Knowledge of the basic doctrines of salvation is necessary for witnessing (not salesmanship techniques). You need to know about Reconciliation, Propitiation, Redemption, Imputation, Regeneration, and The Barrier, as a starter. You don't have your shoes on your feet without this preparation.

Notes on personal witnessing

- Witnessing for Christ is the responsibility of every believer. Acts 1:8; 1 Pet. 3:15; Mk. 5:18,19.
- The effectiveness and clarity of the believer's witnessing depends, in large measure, on his understanding of the Last Judgment. Sins will not be the issue! The only reason that a person will stand at the Last Judgment is that he rejected Christ during his lifetime. John 3:18; 3:36. All sins have been judged at the Cross, and there is no double jeopardy.
- The basis for the indictment of unbelievers is human good, not sins. The witnessing Christian must make the issue clear.
- Witnessing is impossible apart from the filling of the Holy Spirit. John 16:8-11. And the Holy Spirit must minister to the unbeliever to apply the doctrine of salvation.
- The context for witnessing is that part of the Word of God called the Gospel. 1 Cor. 1:18; Eph. 6:17; Heb. 4:12.

- The dynamics of witnessing depends on the believer's mental attitude. One cannot be an effective witness if he is ashamed of the Gospel, if he does not have the capacity to be occupied with Christ, or if he is not oriented to Grace.
- In Rom. 1:14-16, the apostle Paul says "I am debtor", "I am ready", and "I am not ashamed". A fisherman has a desire to fish. One is not a "fisher of men" without a desire to win souls.
- There are two sources for a Christian's witness: (1) the testimony of his life, 2 Cor. 3:3, and (2) the testimony of his lips, 2 Cor. 5:14-21.
- There is a reward for witnessing. 1 Cor. 3:11-16; 2 Cor. 5:10. Rewards in heaven are an extension of edification; the only things that are rewarded in heaven is what is done on the basis of Grace. Thus, every reward in heaven is an eternal memorial to the grace of God. Grace means that rewards do not reflect any personal glory or merit. It is the Lord who enables us to labor for Him and who provides the divine production in the life (gold, silver, and precious stones).

Eph. 6:15 "Having shod your feet by means of full preparedness in the good news of God's peace."

Ephesians 6:16

above all ...or, "in addition to all". This phrase does not mean that the following item of equipment is greater, but that it is simply to be added to the above.

taking ... aorist active participle of ANALAMBANO, "to pick up something, as from the ground, repeatedly". The main verb is "stand" in v. 14, so this action precedes the action of the main verb.

the shield of faith ...THUREOS.

The Romans had a long, rectangular, knees-to-chin shield which protected from arrows and spears and could be knelt behind during an arrow barrage. It was quite a bit heavier and clumsier than the smaller Greek circular shield; but there was a series of exercises, a manual of arms,

designed to give the soldier flexibility and strength in the use of the shield. Groups of soldier who were besieging a town could form close together and hold their shields over their heads to make a huge testudo, or "turtle", to protect the group from missiles.

The Romans were known by some of their enemies as the soldiers who carried a "door" (thureos) into battle. The Franks of Cisalpine and Transalpine Gaul ridiculed these smaller men because of the great cumbersome shields they carried. But the barbarians were surprised in battle when the little Romans, with their great discipline, their consummate fighting skills, and their mental attitude of victory, wiped up the ground with the disorganized, vacillating Gauls.

In this verse, the Roman shield stands for the faith of the believer in the promises of God. The value of faith lies not in the person exercising it, but in the object. Faith is something that all people possess and use every day. It is a non-meritorious system of thinking and decision making. Most of what we learn, we learn by faith.

Topics: FAITH; FAITH-REST

wherewith ... "by means of which"

ye shall be able ...future active indicative of dunamai, a verb of ability or power. Implied in the future tense is that there will be a training period in the use of the shield before battle comes. In the Christian life, the training period is the time during which promises and doctrines are learned and practiced.

to quench ... aorist active infinitive of SBEINUMI , "to extinguish, to break off, to chop off".

the fiery darts ... "missiles which have been set on fire", a reference to fire arrows.

Persians used fire arrows against the Greeks in the days of Xerxes. Herodotus makes reference to these in his description of the attack against the citadel at Athens, referring to arrows dipped in tar and set afire before shooting them.

Thucydides, in his book on the Peloponnesian wars describes the Spartans in the siege of Plataea, "The Plateans constructed a wooden frame which they set upon the top of their own wall opposite the mound (built by Spartans). [They were trying

to outbuild each other to get the high angle of fire for their arrows.] They also constructed curtains of skins and hides to protect the front of the wooden platform. These were designed to protect the woodwork and the workers against the blazing arrows of the Spartans."

The Roman historian Livy, in his "History", described the siege of Saguntum in which the Saguntians had designed giant darts to be fired by a catapult. "There was used by the Saguntines a missile called follerica, with the shaft of a fir tree, and round in all its parts, except at the point from which the iron projected. This part, which was square, they bound with tow and smeared with pitch.

"But what caused the greatest fear with this weapon, even though it should stick in the shield and did not penetrated into the body, was that when it was discharged with the middle part on fire, it bore along a much greater flame produced by the mere motion, and obliged the soldier to drop his shield and expose himself."

of the wicked ... literally, "of the wicked one", the source of the fiery darts.

Eph. 6:16 "In addition to all this, having taken up the shield of the believer's faith, wherewith ye shall be able to extinguish or cut off the fire arrows of the wicked one."

Ephesians 6:17

and take ... "receive, (imperative), as an item of equipment"

the helmet of salvation ... the PERIKEPHALAIA, literally "something placed around the head", so, in the military, "helmet".

It is the soul which is said to be saved; and the soul is in the head (with its mentality, volition, self-consciousness, emotion, sin nature). So it appropriate that the helmet is used to represent salvation.

The Romans had the best helmet of the ancient world. Many other nations used helmets of cloth wrappings, animal hides or bones, or hooves, etc. The Roman helmet had chinstrap, visor, and came down to cover the back and sides of the neck. Officers' helmets had a ridge on top on which was

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mounted plumage or some sort of brush, depending on the rank.

The parts of the Roman helmet were: a lining of leather, softened for comfort and good fit; the helmet itself which was a bronze casque for the soldier, or iron alloy for officers; a metal crest for the plume; and a chinstrap. The highest ranking officers had gold and silver alloy helmets for parade dress.

The helmet represents many principles of doctrine associated with salvation.

Topic: Salvation Doctrines

and the sword of the Spirit ... the MACHAIRA mentioned before. The word machaira was chosen here, and in Heb. 4:12, by the Holy Spirit during inspiration.

There were many types of swords used in the ancient world:

The romphaia was a broadsword used mostly by the Gauls of Julius Caesar's time. It was used with both hands, was six to eight feet long, sometimes with one edge, sometimes two, and used to hack off limbs and heads. The "barbarian" soldiers made great slicing sweeps with the broadsword, leaving himself open for thrusts of the machaira.

The Persians used the zephus, a thrusting weapon with a point, rounded like a pencil, but with no cutting edge.

In the akinakes sword, the emphasis was on the handle and the ornate decoration. It was actually a dress sword and was not considered a serious combat weapon. The dolon was a sword hidden in a cane or riding crop and used mostly by assassins.

The machaira is described by Vegetius in his Military Instructions to the Romans. "They likewise taught not to cut, but to thrust, with the sword. For the Romans not only made jest of those who fought with the edge of a weapon, but always found them an easy conquest. A stroke with the edge, though made with ever so much force, seldom kills, as the vital parts of the body are defended both by bones and armor. On the contrary, a stab, although it penetrates only a few inches, is usually fatal. Besides, in the attitude of striking [with the broadsword], it is impossible to

avoid exposing the right arm and side. On the other hand, the body is covered when a thrust is given, and the enemy receives the point before he sees the sword."

The user of the machaira is always covered, always protected, always on balance, and always ready for defense or attack.

of the Spirit, the Word of God..."the sword from the source of the Holy Spirit, namely, the Word of God.

Maturity and the ability to do God's work comes through years of study of God's Word and practice in using doctrinal principles. Following is a review of the doctrinal ideas found in:

2 Timothy 2:15.

Study ... from the Greek word spoudzo meaning "to be industrious, eager, to be diligent, to exert oneself". It has a stronger meaning than "study". It is actually a way of life which includes the proper mental attitude and motivation to learn Bible doctrine daily. This word could be translated "make every effort". And it is a command.

to show yourself or, "to make every effort to represent yourself...". It means to make every effort to concentrate, to be objective to doctrine. to give priority to the Word of God. The reason that you are entering the Lord's work is to live the life of Christ.

approved ... "to pass an exam". The emphasis is on success, not failure. To be a successful Christian worker, you must study (Test #1), and you must use what you study (Test #2). Can you teach to the glory of God? The test is on the accuracy of what you teach. Can you work to the Glory of God? The test comes when you apply, whether you use Grace or legalism, whether you depend upon man or God. Can you fix a car, iron a shirt, type a letter to the glory of God? The test is on whether you know how to do this.

workman ... ergateis, an agricultural worker, a laborer, a routine worker. This word indicates one who is involved in the mundane, routine, ordinary, distasteful, or dull things in life. In the ancient world it meant feeding the cattle, working in the fields, cleaning out the barn, etc.

Any task can be done as unto the Lord; the Christian life is fantastic. The emphasis here is on doing small, routine things as unto the Lord. Stay in fellowship and wait for God's promotion.

needeth not to be ashamed ... literally, with the previous word, "a not-ashamed workman". You don't have to be ashamed of your station in life if you have an honest vocation. Every believer is in full time service. A Christian worker must keep grace oriented and not despise the ordinary things, or those who live an "ordinary" life. And he must have these qualities before moving out.

rightly dividing with the word of truth ... "to cut straight, to line out a straight path." Use Bible doctrine to keep from straying into the cults, into the movements, to stay with accurate interpretation and application of the Word of God. This enables a life with no detours, no hangups, no blind alleys. Therefore, the verse says, "Making every effort to represent yourself approved to God, an irreproachable worker cutting a straight path with the Word of Truth."

Eph. 6:17 "And receive the helmet of salvation, and the sword provided by the Holy Spirit, which is the Word of God."

[There are no study notes for the remaining verses of chapter 6. wd]

Satan

Satan is an angelic personality (would you believe...). He is one of the most beautiful of creatures. He has no red skin or horns, no trident (pitchfork), and he does not breathe fire and brimstone. In fact, fire and brimstone make him shudder, because he is condemned to the Lake of Fire mentioned in Matt. 25:41. Satan is more intelligent than any human. His name, Lucifer, means "great shining light", or "Son of the Morning".

A portrait of Satan and his personality are given by Eze. 28:11-19 and Isa. 14:12-17.

The Five "I Will's" of Satan - from Isa. 14:12-17

"I will ascend into heaven", a reference to the throne room of God. Satan wanted to take over God's place.

"I will exalt my throne above the stars of God." Satan wanted to rule angels.

Job 38:7

Jude 13

Rev. 12:3,4

"I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation in the sides of the north." Satan wanted to rule over the Earth.

Psa. 48:2

"I will ascend above the heights of the clouds." Or, "I will be supreme." He desired to displace God as the Sovereign of the Universe.

"I will be like the most High." Satan's power lust; "I will be God."

Satan is called the "father of lies", John 8:44. He is called a murderer, 1 John 3:8. He is the highest authority in the cosmos, Eph. 2:2. Even Michael the archangel is no match for Satan.

Satan's Three Falls

Satan fell first at the point of negative volition toward the sovereignty of God, during the five "I Will's"; Isa. 14; Eze. 28:15.

Satan's second fall will occur at the middle of the Tribulation when he is denied access to Heaven. Rev. 12:9; Eze. 28:15.

At the end of the millennial reign of Christ, Satan will be cast into the lake of fire. This will be his final fall. Matt. 25:41; Rev. 20:10; Eze. 28:18.

Satan - the ruler of this world

Luke 4:5-7

John 12:31; 14:30; 16:11

2 Cor. 4:4

Eph. 2:2

As the ruler of this world, Satan has a strategy regarding the nations. In basic terms, Satan's

desire is to neutralize the Divine Institutions by means of the destruction of nations. Therefore, Satan is anti-nationalistic and pro-United Nations, pro-World Council of Churches, pro-Communist.

REV. 12:9; 20:3,8

Bible truth is Satan's greatest enemy and is the source of the most powerful attack on his kosmos. Therefore, Satan has designed revolution to neutralize nationalism which is protective of the Word of God.

Satan's Strategy with Unbelievers

Every human being is born spiritually dead, hence is born as a member of the kingdom of Satan. Satan has a strategy regarding every person to keep that person from accepting Jesus Christ as Saviour. He tries to blind unbelievers to the Gospel.

2 Cor. 4:3,4

Luke 8:12

2 Thess. 2:9,10

The unbeliever is made blind to gospel information by being distracted by Satan and by exercising negative volition toward the Word of God. While Satan does not force anyone to be lost, he uses every means to steer the unbeliever away from the truth. His ultimate weapons in this are religion and humanism. He tries to promote the glorification and deification of mankind while downgrading God Himself. Gen. 3:5; Col. 2:8

Satan's Strategy with Believers

Satan doesn't give up when a person accepts Christ as Saviour. He has a strategy regarding believers which is very subtle and far-reaching.

Satan accuses believers before God. The sins of the Christian are observed by the fallen angels and reported. In effect, a dossier is being kept on each believer. He does this to try to hinder the work of God on earth. However, 1 John 2:1ff points out that Jesus Christ is our Advocate with the Father; and the Lord reminds the Father of what happened at the Cross and makes note of the believer's faith and position in Christ.

Rev. 12:9,10

Zech. 3:1,2

Job 1:6-11

2 Cor. 2:11

Satan tries to keep the believer from the Word of God. He encourages Christians to ignore the Word and accept false teaching so that they will revert to their former manner of life.

1 Tim. 4:1

1 Cor. 10:19-21

2 Cor. 11:3, 13-15

2 Chron. 21:1

Satan distracts by trying to keep believers from public assembly worship, Heb. 10:25. He tempts the believer with an improper emphasis on details of life such as money, success, social life, pleasure, loved ones, health, sex, materialistic things, or status symbols. The mature believer knows that his happiness is not derived from these things, so he is not a slave to them. The novice Christian, however, may try to gain happiness from such things, and this will distract him from the Word of God.

False teaching is a part of Satan's strategy. The following are some of the characteristics of false teachers:

- They have a false facade. Matt. 7:15; Rom. 16:18.
- They court believers. Gal. 4:17,18; 2 Tim. 3:5,7.
- They appeal to human pride. 2 Cor. 10:12
- They promote idolatry because it is a quick way to demon influence. Hab. 2:18,1
- They promote legalism. 1 Tim. 1:7,8
- The false teachers will continue to operate throughout Satan's rule on earth. 1 John 4:1

Satan seeks to frustrate the will of God for the believer. There are three categories of the will of God which Satan tries to interdict.

- The operational will of God (what God wants us to do); James 4:7,8; Gal. 5:7.
- The mental, or intellectual, will of God (what God wants us to think): 1 Tim. 4:1.

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- The geographical will of God (where God wants us to be); 1 Thess. 2:18.

Satan encourages believers to worry. Worry neutralizes the soul of the believer. He tries to frighten Christians with regard to physical death

1 Peter 5:7-9

Heb. 2:14,15

Satan attempts to change the focus of the believer. Instead of Occupation with Christ, Satan wants the Christian to be occupied with

SELF, (Col. 3:1; 1 Cor. 1:10,11; Gen. 3:4,5; Mt. 26:31-35)

THINGS, (Heb. 13:5,6; 1 Cor. 1:10,11),

PEOPLE, (Jer. 17:5; 1 Kings 19:10; Jer. 17:4).

One of the functions of the Faith-Rest principle is to protect the Christian in the area of having a proper focus on life.

Emotionalism can lead to great distractions for Christians; so Satan puts on a big campaign to control people's emotions. While the emotion is a bona fide function of the soul, whenever emotion takes precedence over Bible truth, it leads to distraction. Those who dabble in ecstatic experiences, public or private, are allowing their feelings and emotions to outweigh doctrine. Under circumstances of edification and spiritual growth, emotion is a tremendous generator of happiness. But emotion has no spiritual meaning or connotation; and emotion cannot be used as a criterion of spiritual condition.

Satan also promotes heavily in the area of mental attitude sins such as fear, worry, bitterness, desires for revenge, pride, guilt feelings, lack of love, failure to forgive, hatred, mental adultery, and so forth. A believer is neutralized by sin; and mental attitude sins are behind all sin. And they are the worst category because they are so devastating. As long as mental attitude sin is taking place, the Word of God is being ignored.

One of Satan's main weapons is religion. The basic aim of religion is to counterfeit what God is doing. There are several religious counterfeits mentioned in the Bible.

- A counterfeit gospel. 2 Cor. 11:3,4

- Counterfeit ministers (unsaved, humanists, misled, etc.) 2 Cor. 11:13-15
- Counterfeit doctrine 2 Tim. 4:1
- Counterfeit communion table 1 Cor. 10:19-21
- Counterfeit righteousness Matt. 19:16-18
- Counterfeit manner of life ("living the beautiful life") Matt. 23
- Counterfeit power 2 Thess. 2:8-10
- Counterfeit gods 2 Thess. 2:3,4

The Bible talks about the Armor of God as enabling the believer to "stand against the wiles of the devil". This armor is protection for us while we live in *kosmos diabolikos*, and the weapons of our warfare are stronger than Satan as we take our stand in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Demons

Demons are fallen angels under the command of Satan, those who are still free after the Gen. 6 affair. Satan is called the Prince, or Ruler, of all demons in Matthew 9:34; 12:24; Mark 3:22; Luke 11:15. Demons are also called the ministers, or ambassadors of Satan, Luke 4:35; 9:1,42; John 10:21. Satan is brilliant, an administrative genius. He has an excellent organization, mentioned in Eph. 6:10-12 (READ) The Bible also makes a distinction between demon possession and demon influence.

Demon possession occurs when an actual fallen angel, a demon, enters and occupies the body of an unbeliever. Demons cannot enter the bodies of Christian believers because the Christian's body is the temple of the Holy Spirit. Inviting demons can be accomplished in a number of ways.

- Through idolatry (Satan's communion table), 1 Cor. 10:19-21*.
- Through drug addiction, called in Greek, φαρμακεια (**farmakeia**), "the use of drugs, potions, or spells; poisoning, witchcraft, sorcery" GAL. 5:20 ("witch-craft, sorcery"), cf. also REV. 9:21; 18:23.
- Through religious backsliding, religious sensitivity activities such as dabbling in the occult, consulting mediums, necromancy. cf. ISA. 8:19.

Demon Influence is the residence of evil in the soul; can be unbeliever (ROM. 1:23) or believer. This is the method that Satan uses to trap and neutralize the believer, by introducing, if allowed, the Doctrine of Evil inside the soul of the born-again believer. Demon influence in the believer comes about in the later stages of negativity, or backsliding.

The first stage of backsliding is some kind of reaction to life -- whether discouragement, disillusion, disenchantment, boredom, self-pity, loneliness, frustration, instability, pride complex and various sins of arrogance, revenge tactics, reaction to contemporary events or social pressures, etc. Whatever causes it, the reaction stage makes one very vulnerable to the attacks of Satan. This is not the entrance into demon influence, at this point, but merely vulnerability to it.

The second stage of backsliding is the frantic search for happiness following the trends of the Sin Nature (towards asceticism or lasciviousness). This also increases vulnerability, especially as one moves away from the protection of doctrine and Grace provision.

The third stage intensifies the reaction stage, but still has only the potentiality, not the actuality, of demon influence. It is at the fourth stage of backsliding, in which the soul is in revolt emotionally, where the possibility of demon influence comes in. Doctrinal content is located in the mentality of the soul (including standards, conscience, frame of reference, memory center, vocabulary, doctrinal storage under edification, and the area of applied doctrine resulting in production of divine good). It is the lack of doctrinal content which is the primary factor in vulnerability to demon influence.

The soul also has its area of response to outside influences, centered in the emotions of the soul. Emotion has no doctrinal content, no character of its own, no spiritual content, no ability to think or rationalize, or even to use common sense. It is designed to respond; it is not designed to lead or initiate anything. The tongues movement is an illustration of the soul's emotions being led about by falsehood. Sometimes believers in the tongues

movement are under demon influence. Sometimes unbelievers are actually demon possessed.

The thing that opens the door for demon influence in the life of the believer is negative volition toward the Word of God. The believer says "Negative" to doctrine and opens up a vacuum in his soul. Whatever evil is in the neighborhood will be picked up -- false teaching, TV, newspaper...

Regardless of what causes the negative attitude, the effect is the same. It may be antagonism or a negative attitude or personality conflict with the pastor, or with other members of the congregation. It may be apathy or indifference to teaching. It may be failure to use Grace provision, Faith Rest, or inability to handle prosperity, slavery to the details of life. Whatever it is, negative volition opens up the emptiness of the soul.

As a result of evil in the soul, there is demon influence, the "darkness in the soul" of Eph. 4. There is the infiltration of the doctrines of Satan into the soul of the reversionistic person (believer or unbeliever). Here, the believer is "worshipping and serving the creature rather than the Creator".

There are two systems for demon possession of the unbeliever. The first is the unlawful isolation of dormant facilities. The body is brought under the control of the soul, and the soul has been given to Satan. It is like a conversion in reverse. Seances, or the ceremony called the Satanic mass, are means by which this is accomplished. This person becomes a disembodied spirit or an "adept". All of the activities of supernaturalism may be attributed to this; mental telepathy, spiritism, out of body experiences.

The second system is passive submission to demons. This can be accomplished through idolatry, through drugs, or other means. In the ancient world, the various oracles used this means in attempting to predict the outcome of events. (The "mephitic vapors" of the oracle of Delphi, which was some form of narcotic gas.) Another example is the Hindu "soma" mysteries, and the various sutras of Indian religions. There are also various systems of mesmerism or hypnotism,

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whether induced by one's self or another person, such as Whirling Dervishes, or unbelievers involved in the tongues movement.

Demonism is directly related to idolatry and thus to human sacrifice Ps. 136:37,39. Sacrifices to demons were prohibited by law in Lev. 17:7, "And they shall no longer sacrifice to the goat demon (or satyr) with which they shall play the harlot. This will be a permanent law in every generation." Or in Deut. 32:17, "They sacrifice to demons, not gods, new things which came lately which your ancestors did not fear." Heathen nations worship demons, acc. to Ps. 96:5, "For all the gods of the peoples are idols (**daimonia** in LXX)." It was thoroughly understood that idolatry meant demons. Capital punishment by stoning was the penalty for witchcraft, demonism, etc.

The judgment against Egypt concerning the death of the first-born was also a judgment against the demons in Egypt. Ex. 12:12, "For I will pass through the land of Egypt this night, and will smite all the first-born in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the demons of Egypt I will execute judgment; I am Jehovah." Num. 33:4, "While the Egyptians were burying all their firstborn whom the Lord had struck down among them, the Lord had also executed judgment against their demons."

Demons are powerless to change the course of history. Isa. 19:3, "Then the spirits of the Egyptians will become demoralized within them; also, I will frustrate their strategy, so that they will resort to idle demons and to the ghosts of the dead and to mediums and to spiritists." Demonism is always subject to the justice of God and is always judged in its various forms.

The reason why the Canaanites were removed from the land is that they practiced demonism. Deut. 18:9-12 (READ). In the reign of King Manasseh, evil is associated with demonism, 2 Kings 21:2-16. Demonism brings the discipline of total destruction to a nation, Isa. 47; Jer. 27:6-10; Isa. 29:4.

Satan and demons are often used by God in the administration of the sin unto death to reversionistic believers. Ex. Hymenaeus and Alexander, I Tim. 1:19,20. The believer

committing incest in 1 Cor. 5:5 was turned over to Satan, but it was so painful that he repented.

Satan's power of death is mentioned in four categories. He has the power of death, Heb. 2:14,15; 1 John 3:8. He killed Job's children, Job 1:12,18,19. He motivated Cain to murder Abel, John 8:44; 1 John 3:12.

Satan is a source of disease. Satan produced the illness in Job, Job 2:6,8. Satan uses demons to produce disease in human beings. There is therefore the principle of demon-induced illness, Matt. 12:22; Luke 13:16; Acts 10:38. Certain mental diseases, and illness which are related to abnormal behavior, may be demon induced. Dumbness and deafness, Mark 9:17; Luke 11:14; Matt. 11:22. Certain forms of epilepsy, Mark 1:26; 9:20; Luke 4:35. Satan is the source of at least ten different types of abnormal behavior which are mentioned in the Bible.

Convulsions, Mark 1:26.

Violence, Matt. 8:28.

Abnormal strength, Mark 5:4.

Raving, Mark 5:5

Self-mutilation, Mark 5:5

Foaming at the mouth, Mark 9:20

Public nakedness, Luke 8:27

Living among corpses, Mark 5:3

A type of grinding of the teeth, Mark 9:18

Falling into fires and throwing oneself into dangerous things, Matt. 17:15

Satan also heals. He heals by the withdrawal of demons and establishes the credentials for some of his evangelists. In Acts 19:11,12 legitimate healing by God was used to establish apostolic authority. On the other hand, healing was used by Satan in a similar way, II Thess. 2:9; Rev. 16:14; Matt. 24:24.

Satan wanted to punish Peter by using demons. Luke 22:31,32 (READ). Peter had denied Christ, and Satan had the audacity to suggest how the justice of God should function toward Peter. Of course the Lord refused this.

I Tim. 3:6,7 (READ)-- Satan is used as a warning for discipline.

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The power of Satan is summarized in Psalm 109:6-13 (READ). He can blind true religion, shorten life (where God permits), remove people from authority, can kill, can persecute children, remove wealth, turn everyone against you, he can cut off

posterity to the second generation. So certain powers are permitted Satan as the "ruler of this world", but they are always under the sovereignty of God.

Ephesians Lesson 20 Quiz

Instructions

The following questions relate to your study of this lesson.

To answer a question, type your response in the space provided after the word "Answer:". A question may be True/False, multiple choice, fill in the blank, or short answer type.

The last question requires you to write one or two paragraphs in "essay" form. Use the space provided; it will expand to accommodate your response.

You have choices about sending the quiz back to Grace Notes.

- If you received an email file containing the quiz, you can use the REPLY feature of your e-mail application to open the quiz. Enter your answers in the reply message. Then SEND the message to Grace Notes.
- You can enter your answers on these pages, then send the whole file back to Grace Notes as a file attachment. This is handy, but these lessons will average 100K to 200K in size. As an alternative,
- After you answer the questions here, copy and paste the whole list of questions into a new MS Word document; then, send the new file to Grace Notes as an attachment. The new file will, of course, be much smaller than this main file.
- Finally, you can print the Quiz pages on your printer and send your response back to Grace Notes in the regular mail. If you do this, send the mail to:

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% Warren Doud

1705 Aggie Lane

Austin, Texas 78757 USA

Whichever transmission method you use, when Grace Notes receives your completed Quiz, the next lesson will be sent to you, by the same means you received this one. EXCEPT: when you have sent in the FINAL QUIZ, we will send your certificate to you, by regular mail.

Questions on Ephesians Lesson 20

Congratulations on reaching the end of the Ephesians course. This is a long course, with a lot of reading and study; but it is a great blessing to study God's Word and to grow spiritual under the Spirit's ministry.

1. **Essay Question:** Please write two or three paragraphs giving your evaluation of this course. You can write whatever ideas that occur to you, and if you like, you can include a testimony of blessings you have received while doing this study.

Answer:

2. If you would like to do so, send an e-mail message to the author of this course, Warren doud, to let him know that you have finished the course, and to tell him what you think of it. His e-mail address is <wdoud@bga.com>. I think it would be a great blessing to him to hear from you.

3. Write your name here, as you would like to have it on your certificate. Also, please give me your mailing address again, in case I don't have the correct address in my database.

Name:

Address:

City, State, Zip (Postal Code)

Country (if not USA)

The Lord bless you as you continue to do His will.

Grace Notes

End of Quiz