

The Devil Made Me Do It

This morning, we will look at Ephesians 6 picking up with vv. 11-12. So, if you will go ahead and make your way there in your copy of God's Word.

As we explore God's Word in Ephesians 6 vv. 11-12, I want you to home in, to the command in v. 11 which is to "Put On" the whole Armor of God.

Everyone here today and those listening via Facebook live, the Devil does not make you do anything. For you and the thoughts you process before acting are the reasons why you commit the actions you do.

The Apostle Paul is telling us thus far in our passage from last week "To Be Strong" and this week he continues by commanding us to "Put On" the Full Armor of God so you can resist the devil and his schemes and when you do, he and his demons will flee.

Our passage today continues the theme Paul presents for the whole book of Ephesians which is the theme of Encouragement for the Church and how Christians are victorious in Jesus Christ as her Lord and Savior, But!

But – with our victory comes the ever importance of Guarding – we do not have to win any battles, because Jesus has won it for us. Again we must guard the Truths surrounding the Fact that God is our creator, Jesus Christ was fully God and fully man, Jesus Christ is the logos – the Word of God, the Fact that God offers a way for the salvation for fallen mankind to be in communion with Him and it comes only through Jesus of Nazareth and those who repent of their transgressions to Him in humility will be Saved – Hallelujah, Glory to God, but the enemy – Satan, his demons, and his human cronies hate God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, and lastly, but probably most important this morning is the Church. He hates that anyone attends a Christ centered Church.

As we look at Ephesians ch. 6 vv. 11-12 please open your hearts, minds, and ears this morning to what the Word of God is telling us. Because the Word of God gives us the keys to Guard the Truths found in it, the truths to

help us cross the finish line one day when Jesus tells you “Enter in my Good and Faithful Servant” and lastly the Word of God tells us that when Christ is your Lord, Satan has no power or influence of you and it is not the devil who can make you do anything. You, however, must Be Strong and Put ON the Full Armor of God to not be deceived.

MIT

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MIS

The Apostle Paul’s command remains true, that each member of the Church presently, is to wear the Full Armor of God.

So, please

Let’s read Ephesians 6:11-12. (Have Bible Open to Read)

The Full Armor of God must be worn by us – the saints – the Church – so we can defend the Truth and the Truths successfully which are the truths that describe the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob and the blessed Lord Jesus of Nazareth and how He is the way, truth, and the life.

Our passage this morning demands that we – the Church **Put on the Full Armor of God** for two reasons. The two are:

Put on the Full Armor of God

- 1. Because the devil is scheming against us – the Church**
- 2. Because our battle is spiritual (not flesh and blood)**

K) Let us Pray

Let’s look at the First Reason

1. Because the devil is scheming against us – the Church

What's the definition of 'Scheming' – given to or involved in making secret and underhanded plans. Or the Activity or practice of making secret or underhanded plans.

How many of you are aware of all the secret societies that are formed in the world that are very old societies that have been around a very long time and many coy to have branched off from the Bible and in fact, many of their members are regular attendees to church.

But I can assure you these people in these societies (many are very good people) are deceived and have not taken or put on the Full Armor of God. For many believe that these societies, since they coy as good, by appearing to care for people by fund raising for medical care, which is a great thing, they need to get out of these societies, the groups, and cults so that they do not first lose their souls, but also so they do not bring their anti-biblical ideologies to the Church.

For if there is a Truth that will benefit humanity why would anyone dare hold that information from other people.

Thank God the True Church is not like that. There are no secrets to the Word of God and the Church of Jesus Christ.

The Armor of God is not battle armor to start war with Satan because Jesus has already defeated him on the cross and rising from the grave, but it is Armor that God has provided through Jesus and His Holy Spirit to give us the tools to Defend the Truth and it is the territory of Christ and His body – the Church we are defending from the schemes of the schemer, the liar, and the serpent of old. Who has unfortunately blinded many church attendants to believe that What is Good and Godly is now Bad and wicked. Many of their beliefs put God and His Word making Him to be the liar instead of the Schemer himself.

According to an article written in the Texas Monthly in 1998, Marjorie Nugent was befriended by a mortician at her husband's funeral by the

name of Bernie (Teide) in 1990. By 1994 Bernie quit his mortician job and became the personal assistant to Marjorie for she had inherited an incredible amount of money from her late husband who was into oil business and was a banker.

But Bernie, was described as a chubby- cheeked, softspoken man was raised in a home whose father was a Music leader at church and even taught music as a professor of music at Southern Methodist University. So, Bernie was not alien by any means of the church. However, this young 38-year-old at the time was able to make a great impression on Marjorie earning her trust to the point she made him the sole heir of her multimillion-dollar estate, even over her own children and grandchildren. Shortly, after a few years he had schemed to murder her. And he finally, 1996, just a few short years after meeting her, he murdered her by shooting her four times in the back with a .22 caliber and hiding her body in a freezer for over nine months before the neighbors demanded the police to get involved.

Bernie was given to or involved in making secret and underhanded plans - a schemer. Marjorie put her trust in a man who appeared as a sheep but was a wolf.

I have hard time believing that the Christian – the True Christian – will not be deceived like this because the True Christian puts on the Full Armor of God and utilizing the Strength of Christ to see as they truly are.

We as the Church must be very careful in our dealings with the schemer of all schemers – the devil - who aims to derail every single person away from gaining eternal salvation with Christ forever.

That is why brothers and sisters we must be Strong in Christ and Put on the Full Armor of God so that we can resist the Devil and his schemes to take away the Truths of God, His Word, His Son, His Spirit, and His Promises.

Remember You can do all things through Christ who strengthens you (Phil. 4:13). Submit yourselves to the only True God. There is only One. And we know Him to be Yahweh, and through His Son Yeshua, And His

Holy Spirit. The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob – (not anything else in this world including secret societies or secret programs) Submit to Him and Resist the devil and he will flee from you (James 4:7)

Let's look at the second reason:

2. Because our battle is spiritual (not flesh and blood)

Allow me if you will, to read, the Geneva 1599 Bible version of the book of Ephesians 6:12 at this moment – Paul says, “¹² For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, *and* against the worldly governors, *the princes* of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness, *which are* in the high places.

Paul says in our passage that we wrestle the princes of the darkness of this world, which are in the high places.

Why does the Christian and furthermore, why does the name of Jesus Christ stick in the craw of the mainstream media or in the public square when Jesus Christ is proclaimed to the world?

Paul tells us that we as followers of Christ are not actually wrestling with the flesh and blood of what seems to be people who hate Christ and followers of Christ. The reason is these people do not have Christ in their heart, they have not made Him Lord and Savior and they are taking up or putting on the Full Armor of God and are therefore they are under the influence of demons who are under the control of Satan.

It is as simple as that beloved.

The Christian, the Church is in conflict against the spiritual “Mafia” And the ranking of demons cannot be fully categorized, but the first three according to Paul in the Geneva 1599 Bible are the Rulers, Authorities, and worldly Governors. Then he adds the powers of this dark world and the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

But again why, do we as the Church need the Full Armor of God?

The Bible is clear that (2:2) Satan is in the heavens until he will be cast out in the middle of the Tribulation (Rev. 14:9-10), is **trying to rob** believers of the spiritual blessings God has given us (Eph. 1:3) Satan is not alone in the robbing through lies, deception, and scheming. He has his demons and human cronies working on his behalf to take the Church's Spiritual blessing of God from them.

The chief adversary of Satan on earth is the Church – the body of Christ. The devil is scheming, for he never opening allows his cards to be seen. He doesn't mention idolatry, sexual perversion, greed, hate, and violence out loud. What the devil does is look for footholds where he can find them. Though he was defeated at the cross the battles still rage until God's final victory. Only the armor God provides will enable the Church to stand against this formidable onslaught. That the Church too often falls prey to divisions and sins results from its failure to heed Paul's call to Be Strong in Christ and Take/Put on the Full Armor of God to defend the Church's mission to which to lead people to Christ. So, Satan is working in ways people would never believe.

In the last few years things have been so crazy but also revealing wouldn't you agree? For we see the manifestation of Satan and Satanist everywhere. They are not hiding it any longer. The secret societies and elites of the New World Order are not hiding where their allegiances are any longer.

Recently, I heard the story of an Ex-Satanist woman who revealed how the Prayers of Christians to Jesus Christ and relying on his strength protects them from Spiritual/demonic attacks.

The host asked her "You were actually involved in this cult attacking Christians, weren't you?"

The lady said, "I was a Chandler, I talked to the demons, and they relayed messages to the rest of the cult through me and we started attacking just Christians. We had names, addresses, workplaces, and that is what we did. We just harassed Christians."

She goes on saying, “In the Spirit, we would see like a dome, like a blue dome over groups of Christians that were Praying and just through all those experiences I connected that we could not attack Christians as they were actively praying for Protection from God, like there was a “No Go” Zone. We had absolutely no power.” She says, “I love it now, like I, like Yes! Thank You God! But back then I was very angry, and I made the demons very angry. And so, at that point, it made me curious of how this was possible, how can Christians have this power to just nullify the demonic completely. It is perfect Protection – nothing can get through.”

We – as Christians, as the body of Christ, and as the Church we must “Put” on the Full Armor of God and utilize the Strength to use His Armor efficiently by relying on the Strength of Christ and by Praying and Fasting to Almighty God in the name Jesus Christ who fills us with His Spirit when we repent and ask Him to be our Lord and Savior. Also, read the Living Word of God for it is Christ Jesus in writing.

But Church, hear me this morning, when we as the Church obey these Commands and exercise these commands and recommendations, Jesus Church, the one He is building, will endure and not be defeated by the forces of evil. (Matthew 16:18)

IF you need a church, we invite you here to be with us. The Word of God tells us to not forsake the gathering of the body of Christ in your community.

We have read Ephesians 6:11-12 and have learned a great deal this morning here at The Fellowship Church. I hope you appreciate the sermon God laid upon my heart here today because I want you to know that if you are in Jesus Christ, you have absolutely everything you need. No powers of darkness will be formed against you, nor the Church which you are part.

If you Put on the Full Armor of God, not a piece here and a piece there, but the Full Armor of God, you will be able to withstand the devil, his deceptive schemes, and tactics to rob you of your rightful place in the heavens in glory.

Everyone here today and those listening to this service via Facebook live, the Devil does not make you do anything. For you and the thoughts you process before acting are the reasons why you commit the actions you do.

The Apostle Paul commands us to “Put On” the Full Armor of God so you can resist the devil and his schemes and when you do, he and his demons are powerless over you.

I am so thankful knowing that God provides us with everything we need to complete our race upon this earth successfully without letting Satan destroy our inherited, uncorruptible, and eternal promises in our heavenly homes.

Thank you, Father, you are a tower of refuge, you are our strength.

And thank you my dear Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and your Spirit for giving us the strength to resist the enemy.

I understand that the devil has no authority over me as a Christian who wears the Full Armor of God, for the devil can make me do nothing or influence me to act. With God’s Full Armor and Christ’s strength I will overcome the fiery darts of Satan.

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F) Call to Action/ Global Application – How can these people leave here today applying what we have studied

You heard in the illustration about the young lady who was an ex-satanist who plotted evil against Christians and how she, nor the demons commanding her had no power to inflict anything upon Christians who were in the act of Praying. Please keep Praying and Fasting.

The Word of God tells us in Revelation 12(11) that believers overcome Satan through the sacrificial blood of Jesus and their faithful witness.

Have you repented of your transgression to Jesus Christ? Have you made Him Lord of your life today? Please consider it today.

The decisions you make are yours, the devil doesn't make you do anything unless YOU allow him.

Although He has all power to do anything, Jesus Christ will not make you repent or accept Him as Messiah, Savior, and Lord. But if you feel the over bearing urgency to Repent this morning and make Him Lord just raise your hand so I will know you would like to make that confession this morning, so you can Resist the devil and cause him to flee.