

EPHESIANS CHAPTER 6

Read chapter 6 5-24

Q1. What are bondservants [5-8]? How are they directed to serve their masters? Q. What did Paul mean when he described himself as a bondservant of Jesus (v6) – see also Romans 1.1, Philippians 1.1

Q2. How should masters behave [v9]? What reason is given for this?

Q3. In v10 we are told to be, “Strong in the Lord and in the power of His might”. What might this mean?

Q4. What is the purpose of, “The whole armour of God [v11]?”

Q5. What are the wiles of the devil [v11]?

Read Genesis 3.1-6

Q6. Why did the devil choose to speak with the woman first? See 1Tim 2.14

Q7. What was the first thing the devil said?

Q8. What did the devil say after Eve’s answer?

Q9. In v12 we are told, “We wrestle against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Who are these? How do we wrestle against them? See 2Corinthians 10.3-5

Q10. Clearly the battle ground is our mind. We are told to, “Pull down strongholds and cast down argument and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought captive to the obedience of Christ. How do we do this?

Some examples of **major strongholds** are:

1. Evolution.
2. Acceptability of homosexuality.
3. Abortion is “a woman’s right”
4. Critical race theory – institutional racism. How do we fight this?
5. Smacking a child is abuse
6. Gender is your choice.
7. God will not judge me/ cast me into hell/ I’m a good person
8. No absolutes. Its all relative
9. Its only a small misdemeanour. Its not important.
10. Its not stealing; it’s a perk of the job.

Q11. How does the church deal with these in.....

1. The body of Christ?
2. Individuals we meet?
3. Groups we meet?

Personal strongholds

1. Anger/ hatred due to lack of forgiveness
2. Bitterness due to being a victim in past or major hurt eg loss of a loved one.
3. Strong sexual attraction/fantasies – often fuelled by what is seen on media/read about in books or magazines Eg sadomasochism, pornography.
4. Hooked on drugs – behaviour feeding the habit
5. Involvement with the occult
6. Gang culture/ woke culture eg black lives matter, antifer
7. Involvement with cults

Q12. How do we rescue individuals from these? What is the role of prayer? Read Galatians 2.20 and 2Corinthians 5.17 How vital is the cross in combatting strongholds?

In prison, Paul was guarded by Roman soldiers. He chose their clothing/ equipment to illustrate the armour of God.

Q13. What was the purpose of the belt in a soldier's equipment? Why is truth likened to a belt (v14)?

Q14. What does the breastplate protect? Whose righteousness is it (v14)?

Q15. What is meant by the gospel of peace and why is likened to a soldier's shoes?

Q16. The shield of faith is used to quench the wicked one's fiery darts. What are they? See Genesis 3.1-5

If we look at the problems found in the early church, how many stem from the Devil's basic strategy found in Genesis? See 1Corinthians 1.11. 3.3, 6.6-7, 11.21, 2Corinthians 10.8-12, 11.4,12-15, Galatians 1.6, 3.1-5, 2Thessalonians 2.1-2, 3.6

Q17 Read Romans 10.17. How do we get the faith to use as a shield? How does this protect us against the devil's strategy?

Q18. Salvation is described as a helmet (v17). What was its purpose to a soldier? What might it protect in us? Q. What does the word of God do (v17)? See Hebrews 4.12.

Q19. Read Matthew 4.1-11. What were the temptations of Jesus? How did his answers counter them?

Q20. Which parts of the armour do we need to put on daily and which pieces should be permanently on?

Q21. How are we to pray (v18) and for whom (v18-20)?

Q22. How was Tychicus described and what were his main tasks with the Ephesians?