

SEMPER PARATUS...Always Ready – Part 1
Ephesians 6:10-20

A. The need for proper **PERSPECTIVE** (v10-12)

1. An **ATTITUDE** of **DEPENDENCE** (v10-11)

a. Depending on God's **POWER** (v10)

- 1) We are to be **strong** in the Lord and the power of His might
- 2) Our strength is never **sufficient** to oppose Satan
- 3) It is not the **amount** of strength that we have that counts but rather the source of that strength
- 4) Jesus has already **defeated** Satan and his power over sin and death (Romans 5:18-21; 1 Corinthians 15:56-57; Hebrews 2:14)

b. Depending on God's **PROTECTION** (v11)

1) **What?**

- a) Believers must put on the whole **armor** of God that He supplies (2 Corinthians 10:3-5)
- b) "Put on" = The idea of **once** and for all

2) **Why?**

- a) Putting on the armor of God **enables** us to stand firm against the schemes of the Devil
 - (1) "Stand firm" = The idea of **holding** a critical position while under attack

(2) Jesus said the same thing to the **church** at Thyatira (Revelation 2:25)

b) We are to stand firm against is the **Devil**

- (1) Satan is a roaring **lion** (1 Peter 5:8)
 - (2) Satan is an angel of **light** (1 Corinthians 11:14)
 - (3) Satan is a **liar** (John 8:44)
- c) "Schemes" = The idea of being **crafty**, cunning and deceiving (Ephesians 4:14)

2. An **AWARENESS** of **DEMONS** (v12)

- a. "Struggle" = Describes **hand** to hand combat
- b. Our struggle as Christians is not with **man**
- c. Our struggle is against **Satan** and his demons
- d. The repetition of the word "**against**" shows a particular category of demonic authority or activity
 - 1) The **Rulers**...A high order of demons
 - 2) The **Powers**...Another rank (1 Peter 3:22)
 - 3) The World Forces of this **Darkness**...perhaps demons who infiltrate various political systems (Daniel 10:13; Colossians 1:13)
 - 4) The Spiritual Forces of **Wickedness** in the Heavenly Places...possibly demons who are involved in the most vile immoralities

B. The need for proper **PREPARATION** (v13-17)