



**Empowering People to Change the World**

**The Invisible War 3:  
Armor of God  
Steve Holt**

**Wholeheart Challenge...**

**Hold the Line on May 20, one-day seminar...**

**Review:**

**The Invisible War Part 1: Satan, Demons, and the Fourth Dimension**

**The Invisible War Part 2: The Great Reset or Great Kingdom Revolution**

**I promised last week: In light of the “Great Reset,” the invisible war that is happening all around us, how do we prepare practically?**

**We prepare in three ways: Jot these down**

- 1. Prepare Spiritually—the most important. Take care of your heart and mind in Christ Jesus.**
- 2. Prepare Physically—in Matthew 24-25, it is very clear that in the last days, the individual believer needs to be prepared.**
- 3. Prepare Corporately—the Church needs to be prepared. We will be preparing more each week. This is a snowball effect of building momentum.**

**I want to begin with our passage and the MOST important area of preparation: the spiritual...**

**The Invisible War 3 - Take up the whole armor of God and be ready for battle.**

**Read Ephesians 6:10-16**

**“If we would endeavor, like men of courage, to stand in the battle, surely we would feel the favorable assistance of God from heaven. For he who giveth us occasion to fight, to the end we may get the victory, is ready to succor those that fight manfully, and do trust in his grace.”**

**- Thomas à Kempis**

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We are involved in a great adventure and a great battle!

- We have battles to fight and a war to win.

**We are fighting a war that has already been won. We are fighting from victory.**

- Jesus secured victory over Satan, demons, and principalities at the cross.
- This is the point of Ephesians.

### **Paul's prayer, Ephesians 1:15-23**

- Paul is now concluding his letter with HOW to fight. It's not enough to know these truths; we now must engage the enemy.
- Ex. During WWII, when the Allies hit the beaches of Normandy on D-Day, we had essentially broken the back of the Nazis, yet there was still another 336 days before VE Day; and we had our greatest casualties and most destruction of the war during that final year.
- We all need a cause worth dying for. If you're living for a cause that's not worth dying for, then you're living for a cause that's not worth living for.
- Winston Churchill after becoming Prime Minister during WWII, "I felt as if I were walking with destiny, and that all my past life had been but a preparation for this hour and for this trial."

### **Ephesians 3:8-12**

**The Church is God's instrument on Earth.**

- 1. The Church makes known the wisdom of God.**
- 2. The Church must be bold and confident.**
- 3. The Church puts on the whole armor of God.**

### **Ephesians 6:13**

- Like a Roman soldier (whom Paul is chained to), we are commanded to take up the whole armor of God.
- Every part is important to a soldier.
- Ex. No soldier or policeman or SWAT team member goes out without all of his uniform intact: helmet, vest, gun, ammo, boots, etc.

***Withstand* - compare with *antihistamine*, in Greek, *anthistemi*, meaning “to cause to stand against.” The verb suggests vigorously opposing, bravely resisting. Just like an antihistamine blocks histamine, we can stop the enemies’ advances.**

- We are in the “evil day” right now! As I shared last week, the “Great Reset” is happening.
- We as the Church of Jesus Christ must stand!

**I want to speak on standing individually and corporately.**

**Ephesians 6:14**

**1) Stand on truth (the belt).**

- Girded around the waist with truth—the belt holds all the armor on. You can’t wear the armor without the belt. It’s central.
- Jesus said, “*I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but through Me.*”
- Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn, the great Russian dissident, said, “Live not by lies!” Just start always to tell the truth.

**Always be a truth seeker, and not a crowd pleaser.**

- This is our greatest advantage over the strategies of the enemy: we stand on the truth of the Bible, truth of science, truth of biology, and truth of freedom.

- The Church is the “...*pillar and ground of the truth.*” (1 Timothy 3:15)
- The public in America is being lied to. We must stand on what we know to be truth—not even just today, but historically.
- Ex. When we developed our own health protocol, it was based on scientific and medical truth! Same with education. We are basing our education on truth concerning our history, our Constitution, and our freedoms.

## **2) Stand on righteousness (the breastplate).**

- The breastplate guards your heart, your vitals. Jesus said, “*Seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness...*”
- *Righteousness* means “right relationships” with your spouse, family, parents, neighbors, etc.
- This is why pastors are falling; this is why so many believers backslide.
- They are not putting on the breastplate of righteousness, but are compromising with unrighteousness.

## **We fight the battle on three fronts:**

### **Your flesh, “the Benedict Arnold” within**

We are traitors within.

We always want the easiest way out of everything.

- You have been given a new heart and a new spirit. The real you inside, the “born again” you, is now working against the flesh. You are no longer friends.
- You have left one battle and have entered another...
- You are a “new creation” in Christ. You can do valiantly. You can fight the battle and win.

- Your flesh is your old self, your old life. You can walk in victory.
- Every person has a battle, but not every person chooses to fight.

### **The world, “Satan’s command post”**

- Two weeks ago, we talked about the fact that Satan had once been a high-ranking angel who rebelled and was kicked out of heaven.
- This earth is now Satan’s command post.
- The carnival of counterfeits - built on false images and false views of life.
- Satan is manipulating the media, education, “the ways of this world,” for his purposes.
- We are constantly tempted by the world to go after counterfeit battles and counterfeit beauty and pleasure.
- As a believer, God will call you to stand in the cultural stream and row in the opposite direction from the culture.
- The third front...

### **Satan and demons, “the accuser of the brethren”**

Revelation 12:7-10, the accusations of Satan are always at the core of your being, your self-image, and your identity.

You hear: loser, failure, dummy, you will never amount to anything.

This is what Satan did with Jesus, too...

**“As part of Christ’s army, you march in the ranks of gallant spirits. Every one of your fellow soldiers is the child of a King. Some, like you, are in the midst of battle, besieged on every side by affliction and**

**temptation. Others, after many assaults, repulses, and rallyings of their faith, are already standing upon the wall of heaven as conquerors. From there they look down and urge you, their comrades on earth, to march up the hill after them. This is their cry: ‘Fight to the death and the city is your own, as now it is ours!’”**

**- William Gurnall**

**Stand on truth.  
Stand on righteousness.**

**Ephesians 6:15**

**3) Stand on the Gospel of peace (the boots).**

**“The kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit...Therefore let us pursue the things which make for peace and the things by which one may edify another.” (Romans 14:17~19)**

- We are called to be peacemakers, not peacekeepers. We can’t manage everyone. If people want to fight among themselves, so be it.
- But we are supposed to bring peace wherever we go—shod our feet with it.
- How do we find peace? By living the Kingdom of God through living for truth and building healthy, right relationships!

**Ephesians 6:16**

**4) Stand on faith (the shield).**

- You are regularly going to be shot at, if you are in the battle. Actually, it’s a good sign you’re in the battle if you’re being shot at.
- When you enter into enemy territory, you have a big “bullseye” on your chest.
- Faith is our shield! Faith extinguishes the arrows of the enemy!

- You must constantly be strengthening your faith.

Pastors Advance: we studied through Matthew 24-25, as Jesus speaks of the Last Days Church. Jesus tells us to be prepared.

**“Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming...Be ready...Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his master made ruler over his household, to give them food in due season? Blessed is that servant whom his master, when he comes, will find so doing.” (Matthew 24:42~46)**

### **Prepare and be ready!**

We must get excited about learning new stuff. Guys, your great grandparents had little or no electricity or refrigeration.

Liz’s mom had no electricity and running water until 1946.

We are going to do this as a community! No Fear! Do something fun with someone this week!

### **1. Water is the most important. Start storing water: 5-7 days of water storage; a gallon per person a day.**

How to store water? You can use iodine or UV light to clean it if it gets old. It is good for one year with no treatment.

### **2. Food is next: 5-7 days of emergency food storage. FEMA and Red Cross recommendations with some fun treats.**

Go online and look it up on our App. Pick foods you really like that you can store. And if you need it, use it.

### **3. Food prep capabilities: camp stove, etc.**

People who camp know what to do. But for the rest of the people, have a basic cook stove with propane.



