



WORD OF FAITH INT'L CHRISTIAN CENTER

TEACHING THE WORD. DOING THE WORK. TOUCHING THE WORLD.

Be Strong in the Lord

by Bishop Keith Butler | Bible Study Notes | Sunday, May 1, 2022

Text: Eph. 6:10

Opening Summary

The strength of God belongs to you. In this lesson you will learn two ways to strengthen yourself in the Lord. You will see that you can strengthen your faith and you can empower yourself by using the mighty spiritual weapons with which you can overcome the world.

- I. Eph. 6:10: Be *strong* (Gk.: endunamoo) means *to empower, enable, increase in strength, make strong*.
 - A. Empower yourself in the Lord. Enable yourself in the Lord. It indicates that if you don't do what follows you will become weak.
 - B. This is something that you do, not what God does for you.
- II. Notice the phrase "in the Lord."
 - A. *Lord* (Gk.: kurios) means *supreme in authority, master, controller*.
 - B. Authority means prominence, superiority, the right and privilege to declare.
 - C. The Word of God should be final authority in your life.
- III. First, strengthen yourself by strengthening your faith.
 - A. Rom. 4:20-21: Abraham is the father of faith.
 - B. 1 John 5:4: Being strong in the Lord means you are strong in faith.
 - C. You must have faith in what the Scripture says.
 - D. Phil. 2:8-11: Have faith in Jesus' authority.
 - E. Rom. 10:17: Faith comes when you hear about Jesus' authority.
 - F. Eph. 1:19-23: This includes governments.
 - G. Joshua 1:8: God told Joshua to meditate in the Word to become stronger.
 - H. Mark 16:17-20: *Signs* (Gk.: semeion) mean *miracle, sign, wonder, indication*.
 - I. Signs follow every believer (John 12:49-50).
 - J. Mark 16:17: The first sign of every believer is that they would throw the devil out.
- IV. Why is this important?
 - A. Jude 1:18-21: Spirit and Ghost are from the Greek word, pneuma.
 - B. Jude 1:20: Praying in the Holy Ghost is holy. It requires faith.
 - C. Praying in the Holy Ghost, faith and walking in love are all connected (Gal. 5:6; Mat. 5:24; 1 Cor. 13).
 - D. "Keep yourself" means you should not let love go.
 - E. Look for His mercy. That means you should be merciful to others.

- V. Paul had strong faith.
- A. 2 Cor. 11:29: How did Paul become so strong?
 - B. 1 Cor. 14:18: Paul was strong because he spoke in tongues.
 - C. 1 Cor. 14:4: When you speak in tongues you edify yourself.
 - D. 1 Cor. 14:2: When you speak in tongues you speak directly to God.
 - E. When you speak in tongues you speak mysteries or secrets. Those are things satan is trying to steal, kill and destroy. He helps you ambush the devil's ambush.
 - F. When you speak in tongues, you pray for your brother/sister who needs help.
 - G. 1 Cor. 14:15: We pray with our mind as far as we know. We also pray with the Spirit.
 - H. Jude 1:3: Contend or fight for the faith by praying in the Holy Ghost.
 - I. Gal. 5:6: Faith gets its energy from love. Stay out of strife.
 - J. 2 Ths. 1:3-6: Your faith can grow above normal. Patience is vital (Heb. 6:12).
- VI. Secondly, strengthen yourself by empowering yourself.
- A. Eph. 6:10b: You empower yourself.
 - 1. *Power* (Gk.: kratos) means *vigor, dominion, strength, of his might*.
 - 2. *Might* (Gk.: ischus) means *forcefulness, ability*.
 - B. Eph. 6:11: *Able* (Gk.: dunamai) means *be possible, be of power*.
 - 1. *Stand* (Gk.: histemi) means *continue, hold up*.
 - 2. *Against* (Gk.: pros) means *facing*.
 - 3. *Wiles* (Gk.: methodeia) means *methods of the enemy*.
 - C. Mark 4:13-19: Jesus told us how satan attacks believers (Mat. 18:21-22; Luke 17:5).
 - D. Eph. 6:12-13: *Principalities* (Gk.: arche) means *chief*.
 - 1. *Powers* (Gk.: exousia) means *authorities*.
 - 2. *Evil* (Gk.: poneros) means *hurtful*.
 - 3. Rulers of the darkness refers to satan, himself.
 - E. Eph. 6:13: *Withstand* (Gk.: anthistemi) means *resist*
 - F. Eph. 6:13b: "...having done all" means "overcome all."
 - G. Eph. 6:14: Paul uses the analogy of a Roman soldier.
 - H. Breastplate of righteousness: when you pray, you have a direct line to God.
 - I. Eph. 6:15: Always be ready to walk in peace.
 - J. Eph. 6:16: *Above all* means *out in front of all*; *Quench* means *to extinguish*.
 - K. The helmet of salvation helps you think in line with the Word of God.
 - L. The sword of the Spirit is what the Spirit uses; the Word is the rhema Word of God.
 - M. *Praying* refers to *praying in the Holy Ghost*; pray for Christians and your preacher.
 - N. Pray in the Spirit (Mark 16:17).

Closing Summary

Know what you have in your arsenal. You can strengthen yourself by strengthening your faith in God and in the Lord Jesus Christ. Become stronger by empowering yourself with the spiritual weapons God has given you. As you use your spiritual weapons, you become stronger in the Lord. And when you are strong in the Lord, you are sure to overcome the world.