

Living Worthy of My Calling, Pt. 29
“Our Struggle Is Not Against Flesh and Blood”
Ephesians 6:10-12

Why the Christian must be “*strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.*”

1. The Magnitude of the Conflict

(1) Very *intense and personal* – “wrestling”

(2) We are subject to *constant attack*

- we must “withstand,” “stand”
- “against...against...against...against”

(3) It is a *violent conflict* – terms of warfare

(4) It centers in the *spiritual realm*

2. The Fierceness of the Enemy

(1) His Person

- an angelic majesty – superhuman, but *not* divine!

(2) His Character – revealed in his names

- “the devil” – the accuser, adversary OT // Satan
- “beelzebul” - “lord of filth” – “lord of the flies”
- “belial” (2 Cor. 6:15 only) “worthless one”
- “the evil one”
- “the wicked one”
- “the strong man armed”

(3) His Power and Realm

- a vast, invisible realm of which he is head – “the prince of the power of the air” Eph. 2

- a world system opposed to God and His glory – “the god of this world/age” 2 Cor. 4:4

- tremendous power and authority – cf: “the strong man armed” Lk. 11:21-22

- fearful and powerful: “like a roaring lion” 1 Pet. 5:8
“the great red dragon” Rev. 12:3-4
“the dragon, that serpent of old” Rev. 20:2

(4) His Host

- invisible, demonic spirits – “*not... flesh and blood*”
- immensely powerful and organized – “*principalities,*” “*powers,*”
“*spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places*”
- superior in intelligence
- relentless in the pursuit of their purpose – “*spiritual hosts of wickedness*”

(5) His Activity

- “wiles,” “schemes” v.11 – extremely intelligent and subtle
- “the accuser of the brethren” Rev. 12:10 – guilt, a very common tactic
- “the tempter” Gen. 3; Matt. 4:3; 1 Thes. 3:5 – constant solicitation to sin
- “the father of lies” Jn. 8 – sowing lies and error
- “fiery darts” v. 16 – penetrating the heart and mind with temptations

Further Application