



# OUR REAL BATTLE – PART 2

## EPHESIANS 6:14-24

(This is the 13<sup>th</sup> in a series of messages entitled *The Worthy Life*)

There was once a boxer who was being pummeled in the ring by his opponent. Blow after blow by his adversary left him with a bloody nose, swollen eyes, and an enormous amount of pain. The battered boxer's trainer, trying to encourage his man between rounds, kept telling him, "You're doing great, Fred. That bum is barely touching you." To which the boxer responded, "Then you better keep your eye on that referee, because somebody is killing me!" (Sermon Central)

No amount of smooth talk could camouflage the reality of the bloody battle in which this fighter was engaged. Psychologically correct talk and personal encouragement could not mask the pain he was suffering.

In the same way, you and I are engaged in a real battle, one of cosmic proportions. A lot of Christians don't even know they are at war. But others can see the results of the battle in their lives, because they have become casualties of spiritual warfare. They are discouraged, depressed, downtrodden and defeated. Whatever is the case, we are surrounded by our spiritual enemy. Behind and beneath the daily earthly struggles with people and institutions and ideologies is an unseen spiritual battle.

So it is vastly important that we remember to **aggressively apply** the keys to victory in spiritual warfare. Passivity won't work!

**Idea:** The key to victory in spiritual warfare is in knowing both what God has done to Satan and what God has done to you.

### Introductory Concepts:

#### A. Satan's work includes...

- \_\_\_\_\_, he entices to sin (Matt. 4:3; 1 Thess. 3:5)
- \_\_\_\_\_, he inflicts disease (and death) cf. Acts 10:38
- \_\_\_\_\_, he seduces into error (Gen. 3; 2 Cor. 11:14-15)
- \_\_\_\_\_, he provokes hatred and chaos (John 8:44)
- \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, he produces injustice and oppression (1 Peter 5:8-9; Rev. 2:10)
- \_\_\_\_\_, he blinds the minds of unbelievers lest they believe the gospel (2 Cor. 4:4; Matt 13:4, 18-19)

#### B. God's work includes...

- The \_\_\_\_\_ of Satan
- The \_\_\_\_\_ of Believers

#### C. Our work includes...

- \_\_\_\_\_ firm (6:11, 13, 14)
- \_\_\_\_\_ on the **whole** armor (6:11, 13)

### The Defensive Armor (vv 14-17a):

- A. \_\_\_\_\_ is the \_\_\_\_\_ holding everything together (v 11a)