

Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God.

You were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light. (5:8)

When God's people live in the light and for his gospel purposes, we are involved in real spiritual conflict.

God's purpose is to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ (Eph 1:9-10)

The fight for Light began in Eden.

Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden?' (Gen 3:1)

"This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil" (John 3:19).

Life without light is dark and dangerous.

Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power (Eph 1:19-21; 3:16-19).

Put on the armor of light. (Rom 13:12)
Put on the full armor of God. (Eph 6:11,13)

Stand against the devil's schemes. against the rulers... authorities...spiritual forces of evil in heavenly realms (6:10-12). 'world powers' - manifesting as political, moral, religious, and economic evil forces.

How to handle the devil? Put on Jesus!

Paradox #1:

We wear the armor to stand.
We don't march into battle.

Armor texts from Isaiah

Is 11:1,5 Righteousness his belt

Is 52:7 Feet of him who brings good news, publishes peace,

Is 59:17 Righteousness a breastplate
Helmet of salvation on head

Paradox #2:

We stand in armor by kneeling.
Pray that words are given *me*.

To speak bravely and fearlessly

Peace to the brothers and sisters, and love with faith from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Grace to all who love our Lord Jesus Christ with an undying love.
6:23-24