

DIGDEEPER

May 15, 2016

The Battle of Our Lives by Daniel Rowe

Ephesians 6:10-13 ([Listen Online](#))

THE BIG IDEA

After explaining how the gospel affects all our relationships, Paul turns to explain what we do when it's time to live our new lives. He encourages us as we try to apply the gospel to our life because he knows it will be a fight. Fighting well in the Christian life requires three things: knowing the strategy, knowing the enemy, and knowing the hope. This very important section of the letter helps equip us for the battle of everyday life.

START A CONVERSATION (Use this to begin a Conversation that Matters with your kids, co-workers, spouse, or someone in line at the grocery store. Then, [tell us about it.](#))

- What is one thing you've tried to do and completely failed at?

SOME THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

- Which part of the strategy (be strong in the Lord, put on the whole armor of God, and stand) do you tend to struggle with the most? How do your life and relationships suffer when you aren't following the strategy?
- With whom do you find yourself fighting most often?
- How is the devil actively scheming against you?
- In what way is your daily life affected by your eternal hope?

GO DEEPER

- From his own life, JI Packer illustrates how [our weakness is good for us](#). We need to know that we are not sufficient for the fight on our own. We need the strength of the Lord.
- With an enemy as fierce as ours, [there is no time for leisure living](#). Paul Tripp helps illustrate why we cannot wait until he attacks to begin fighting back.
- If [God is powerful enough to eliminate the devil](#) right now, why does he not do it? In answering that question, John Piper helps us see clearly how God is using the battle of our lives to glorify himself.
- The devil is very real, and it is to our own harm to ignore him or pretend as though he's a fantasy. Keith Mathison [explains the role of our enemy](#) in history and in everyday life.
- Let Scotty Smith lead you in a prayer to [do battle with your eyes on Jesus](#).

LIVE IN LOVE THIS WEEK

Just as Paul says in Ephesians 6:13, we must do everything we can to stand firm in the evil day. Later in the chapter, he makes clear that we do battle by praying. Pray each day this week for yourself, your family, and your church. Beg God to help you believe in him and do battle with the enemy. Ask him for the grace to carry out the strategy and clearly identify the schemes of the enemy.