

The Christian View of War

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Introduction: Being conflicted while watching March Madness...relationships seen and unseen...

Text: Ephesians 6:10-18

Main Idea: Paul concludes his letter by pointing our attention to a war that no one can see, at least with physical eyes, but which exists all the same. And to fight this battle we need special resources, weapons, and tactics.

- I. The Nature of the Conflict – seeing beyond the physical realities
 - A. Not against “flesh & blood” – Don’t fight the wrong opponents!
 - B. But against evil all around – Don’t fight in the wrong places

- II. The Names of our protective covering – suiting up for the battle
 - A. Belt of truth – “truth first”
 - B. Breastplate of righteousness – “righteousness from Jesus”
 - C. Shoes of gospel readiness – “great commission footing”
 - D. Shield of faith – what we believe and how we believe it
 - E. Helmet of salvation – what Jesus has done as “thought protection”
 - F. Sword of the Spirit – the Word of God – rhema & logos

- III. The Necessity of the LORD’s Commands – stability in the middle of war
 - A. Be Strong in the LORD
-strengthen yourself in the Lord & let Him make you strong
 - B. Be Suited in the full armor of God
- protect yourself with the protection of God
 - C. Be Prayer-full...be alert
- keep the conversation lines open

Conclusion