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MINISTRIES®

# WE WRESTLE NOT AGAINST FLESH AND BLOOD

Teaching Notes by Joyce Meyer

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# WE WRESTLE NOT AGAINST FLESH AND BLOOD

## I. Resisting Temptation In The Evil Day

### A. Ephesians 6:12-18

B. The whole armor of God is required to resist temptation during the evil day.

1. Temptation to give up

Galatians 6:9 – *And let us not be not weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, **IF** we faint not.*

2. Temptation to become doubtful and unbelieving

Romans 4:18-20 – No doubt or unbelief made Abraham waver concerning the promise of God.

3. Temptation to blame God and become angry with Him

Numbers 21:4-5 – The Israelites blamed God and Moses for their problems; and as a result, they never got out of the wilderness.

4. Temptation to act “unseemly” and mistreat other people

Matthew 24:12 – In the end times, the love of the great body of people will grow cold because of the multiplied wickedness in the land.

5. Etc., etc.

- C. **Romans 6:13** (KJV) – *Neither **yield** ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but **yield** yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God.*
1. **James 4:7** – *So be subject to God. Resist the devil [stand firm against him], and he will flee from you.*
  2. Yield to God and resist the devil!
- D. Put on the whole armor of God that you may be able to resist; and having done all the crisis demands, **STAND FIRMLY** in your place.

## II. The Whole Armor Of God

- A. The belt of truth
1. First, it must be tightened.
  2. What you believe in good times, you must be more determined to believe in hard times.
  3. You may have no emotional support. (For example: Nothing in your circumstances is supporting you emotionally.)

NOTE: I feel many are misled in this area – they keep looking for emotions to help them “feel” like doing the right thing.

4. Some of the best things to believe when you are in trouble:
  - a. **Jeremiah 29:11** – God is good, and He has a good plan for my life.
  - b. God did not bring me out this far to take me back again.
  - c. He is the Author and Finisher; what He begins, He also finishes.

- d. **Romans 8:28** – All things work together for good to those who love God and are called according to His purpose.

**Genesis 50:20** – Remember what Joseph said: “As for you, you thought evil against me; but God meant it for good, to bring about that many people should be kept alive, as they are this day.”

- e. Nothing is impossible with God.
- f. God is faithful, and He is not a man that He should lie. He has promised to deliver me, and I believe He will deliver me.

B. The breastplate of righteousness

1. Integrity, moral rectitude, and right standing with God
2. Righteousness is twofold:
  - a. Knowing who we are “in Christ” apart from our works
  - b. Doing the right thing.
3. Knowing who we are – Satan very definitely attacks our worth and value during trials. He very much attempts to condemn us and make us feel that we are outside God’s will and protection; otherwise, we would not be in trouble.
  - a. **Romans 8:33-39** – The devil tries to separate us from God’s love by condemnation, but we are to resist it and to know that we are more than conquerors.
  - b. **Psalm 34:19** – *Many evils confront the [consistently] righteous, but the Lord delivers him out of them all.*
  - c. **Proverbs 24:16** – *For a righteous man falls seven times and rises again . . .*

4. Integrity and moral rightness – Doing the right thing while the right thing is not happening in our own lives is what shows spiritual maturity.
  - a. **Proverbs 20:7** – A righteous man **WALKS** in his integrity.
  - b. **Deuteronomy 8:2** – This is the place where the character of Jesus is developed in our lives.
  - c. This is the place between our prayers and the manifestation.
5. We know what is right to do – it is just very difficult during trials because we have no emotional support.
6. **Isaiah 50:10** portrays an obedient believer who is obeying the voice of God, yet who walks in darkness and deep trouble and has no shining splendor in his heart.

Walking in darkness can mean that we cannot feel God’s presence or hear from heaven. We feel abandoned and alone; we fight fear. There is nothing in our emotions that say press on.

7. **Luke 5:1-11** – We must dig deeper; hear deep calling unto deep. Come out in the deep and get ready for a haul. We walk by what we know deep inside, not by what we feel.
8. **Romans 8:4-14** and **Galatians 6:8** – Those led by the Spirit are the sons of God. Those led by emotions or impulse are following the flesh and end up with decay, ruin, and destruction.

C. Feet shod with the Gospel of peace

1. Maintaining an attitude of peace is mandatory for the believer who intends to defeat Satan.
2. **Grace and peace** – In many Epistles, the opening greeting is “grace and peace from God be with you.”

- a. **II Peter 1:2; I Thessalonians 1:1;**  
**II Thessalonians 1:2; Philippians 1:2;**  
**Colossians 1:2** and **Philemon: 3**
- b. We cannot live in peace until we understand grace.
- c. Grace is the power of the Holy Spirit that does in our lives what we could never do for ourselves – free of charge.

GRACE REMOVES FRUSTRATION AND STRUGGLE!

- 3. Peace will evade us unless we are determined to have it.

**John 14:27; Romans 12:16-18; Colossians 3:15;**  
**Hebrews 12:14; I Peter 3:11** and **II Peter 3:14**

- D. Above all, taking the shield of faith with which you can quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one.

- 1. Learn to live from faith to faith – not from faith to doubt and back to faith.

**I Timothy 6:12** – Fight the good fight of faith – faith is often a fight.

- 2. **John 11:40** – Only believe, and you shall see the glory of God.

- 3. No matter what happens, always be ready to say:  
“I BELIEVE GOD.”

- 4. **Colossians 2:6** – *As you have therefore received Christ, [even] Jesus the Lord, [so] walk . . .* (We receive by faith, and we must walk the same way.) **IT IS A WALK OF FAITH!**

Remember: You may not see a lot or have emotional support during the attack.

E. The helmet of salvation

1. Satan fiercely attacks our minds. The helmet of salvation covers our entire salvation package – eternal salvation and daily deliverance.
2. Satan shows us pictures of disaster and tells us the “never lie.”
3. **Psalm 27:13-14** – We are to be filled with “expectancy.”

**Isaiah 30:18** – God is waiting to be good to those who are waiting for Him to be good to them.

F. The sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God!

1. Must be willing to speak the Word of God out of your mouth.
2. **Deuteronomy 30:11-14** – The Word is in your mouth, mind, and heart; and it enables you to do whatever God sets before you.
3. Stop saying, “This is just too hard.”
4. **Romans 4:17** – Call those things that be not as if they are. Stop calling those things that are as if they will always be.

G. Praying always

1. Don’t ever stop praying.
2. All prayer does not have to be petition; remember that praise is also prayer and a very powerful form of prayer.

### III. How Often Will Satan Attack?

- A. **I Peter 5:8** – Be vigilant and cautious **AT ALL TIMES**; for that enemy of yours, the devil, roams around like a lion, seeking someone to devour.

- B. **Luke 4:13** – When Satan ended his complete cycle of temptation against Jesus, he temporarily left Him until another more opportune and favorable time.
- C. **Mark 4:14-15** – When the Word is sown in hearts, Satan comes immediately to steal what was sown.

#### IV. Who Wins In The End?

- A. **Deuteronomy 28:7** (KJV) – *The Lord shall cause thine enemies that rise up against thee to be smitten before thy face: they shall come out against thee one way, and flee before thee seven ways.*
- B. **Joshua 1:5** (KJV) – *There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life: as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.*





