

Final Words
Lesson 9
Ephesians 6:10-24

The city of Ephesus was an occult center during the first century. One of the seven wonders of the ancient world was the Temple of Artemis located on a hill in Ephesus. In Acts 19, Paul ran into trouble with the idol makers, particularly a silversmith named Demetrius who claimed Paul was teaching against the great goddess Artemis. He led the whole city of Ephesus into an uproar.

The Armor of God - Ephesians 6:10-20

1. Knowing the culture of Ephesus centered around the occult, Paul encouraged the believers to "*be strong in the Lord.*" Where would they find the strength they needed? (Ephesians 6:10)

2. Why did Paul instruct them to "*put on the full armor of God?*" (Ephesians 6:11)

3. What did Paul say about the battles that required this armor? (Ephesians 6:12)

4. For a second time, what did Paul command? (Ephesians 6:13a)

5. Why did he say this was so important? (Ephesians 6:13b)

6. Paul said to "*stand firm*" and then explained each piece of the armor of God. Using Ephesians 6:14-17 fill in the chart below.

Piece of Armor	Description
Belt	
Breastplate	
Feet fitted with	
Shield	
Helmet	
Sword	

7. Paul depicts the believers as an army engaged in spiritual battle. Each individual was instructed to put on the whole armor of God. Look at the list of equipment in the chart on page one. What do you think would happen if one part of the armor was omitted?
8. What were Paul's orders to these spiritual soldiers?
- Ephesians 6:10
 - Ephesians 6:11a
 - Ephesians 6:14a
9. Equally important to being a successful army of God is prayer. What did Paul say about prayer? (Ephesians 6:18a)
10. What warning did he add? (Ephesians 6:18b)
11. Paul ended the body of this letter with a request for prayer. What did he ask prayer for? Ephesians 6:19

Ephesians 6:20

Final Greetings - Ephesians 6:21-22

Paul usually followed the ancient letter writing practice of concluding his letter with personal greetings, except in Ephesians. The lack of personal greetings is a strong indication that this letter was not meant just for one church but to be circulated among all the churches in Asia.

12. Who would be carrying this letter to the churches? (Ephesians 6:21)

- How did Paul describe him?
- What would he also do?

13. What did Paul say was his purpose? (Ephesians 6:22)

Reflect:

14. In light of everything Paul has written about spiritual warfare and the importance of praying continually, how important do you think this letter and encouragement would be for the Ephesians? (Refer also to Acts 20:13-38)

15. Paul ended this letter with a benediction. What were the four blessings he prayed for these believers? (Ephesians 6:23, 24)

The New Testament has four letters that Paul wrote from prison in Rome. In the Word Bible study will now study the last letter written from Rome. It was written to the church at Philippi and is often referred to as Paul's "Joy Letter."