

# SEEING SPIRITUAL BATTLE

Ephesians 6:10-20

Dan Deaton

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- I. The “struggle” is the totality of human existence.
  - A. If battle is a spiritual matter, then everything is.
  - B. Human existence is the subject of a conflict between God and the “principalities and powers.”
- II. The first spiritual attack is to delude us into thinking that the origin of a struggle is flesh and blood and not spiritual.
  - Samson and the Philistines (Judges 15)
- III. What we learn from Paul’s prayer.
  - A. We all suffer from spiritual battle.
  - B. Spiritual battle is an attack of the mind.
- IV. What should we do about all of this?
  - A. Beware of our secular leanings.
  - B. Beware of tendencies that assume that all we are confronting is flesh and blood.
  - C. Realize that life is about God’s power working in and through us.

### **EPHESIANS 6:10-20**

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore, take up the full armor of God, so that you will be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand firm therefore, having girded your loins with truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; in addition to all, taking up the shield of faith with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints, and pray on my behalf, that utterance may be given to me in the opening of my mouth, to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains; that in proclaiming it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

### **EPHESIANS 3:8-12**

To me, the very least of all saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unfathomable riches of Christ, and to bring to light what is the administration of the mystery which for ages has been hidden in God who created all things; so that the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known through the church to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose which He carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have boldness and confident access through faith in Him.