

Deciding to Be Strong

Date: June 22-23, 2019

Text: Ephesians 6:10-20

¹⁰ Finally, my brethren, **be strong** in the Lord and in the power of His might. ¹¹Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. (NKJV)

Big Question: Are you strong? How do you know you are strong?

Introduction:

1. What does it mean to be strong? (To have the ability to accomplish a task)
2. What does it mean to be strong in the Lord? (This implies a strong relationship)
3. In your opinion, are most people you know strong? (How would you rate them on a scale of 1-10?)
4. What are the greatest weaknesses you see in the lives of people you personally know?
5. How can they know so much and yet be so weak? (**Galatians 6:1**)
Brethren, if a man is **overtaken in any trespass**, you who *are* spiritual **restore such a one** in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted.”
6. How do you move from weak to strong (Decide you want to be strong)

Seven Things You Must Realize If You Want to Be Strong

1. Realize you are **blessed** in God’s opinion (Ephesians 1:3)

- ³ Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly *places* in Christ,

2. Realize you are **no longer dead** in God’s opinion (Ephesians 2:1)

- “And you *He made alive*, who were dead in trespasses and sins,”

3. Realize **God has a purpose** for your life (Ephesians 3:11,17-18)

- According to the **eternal purpose** which he purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord (v11)
- That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being **rooted** and **grounded in love**. (v17)
- May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the **breath**, and **length** and **depth**, and **height** (v18)

4. Realize **you can’t do everything** alone (Ephesians 4:13)

- “Till we all come into the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ”

5. Realize you must live and **treat others as if you love them like God** (Eph. 5:2)

- Therefore be imitators of God as dear children. ² And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma.



6. Realize that you must be obedient (Ephesians 6:1)

- Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. ²“Honor your father and mother,” which is the first commandment with promise: ³“that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth.”

7. Realize you choose to be strong (Ephesians 6:10)

- ¹⁰ Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. ¹¹ Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

Next Time: Deciding to Have Power

Big Question: How much power do you have?

Read Ahead: Acts 1:8

⁸ But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

Fifth Sunday: Deciding to Have Power Over Your Enemies

Big Question: How much power have you given to people who don't value you?