

## A Call to Action

[Eph 6:13 ESV] 13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm.

### I. Intro

- A. We are going to finish the Armor of God after the holidays, but before we take a break, we look at verse 13 in detail
- B. We have a CALL TO ACTION as believers, and as members of North Park
- C. Next week, we will begin a Christmas sermon series called "A Christmas Miracle!"
  1. We have earned a break
  2. And, I don't want to rush through the Armor
- D. A Call to action is designed to bring about an immediate response.
- E. We are called to serve in such a way.

### II. Text

- A. Therefore take up the whole Armor
  1. We have protection from God that is for us
  2. We shall walk in it
- B. Of God
  1. Our source
  2. No other source would work
- C. That you may be able to withstand in the evil day
  1. The days are evil, and getting more so
  2. The only stand we have against evil is standing in the truth of the word of God
- D. And having done all:
  1. all is a tall ask, but it is asked
  2. We shall do "all" by the power of God, or we have done nothing.
- E. To stand firm: this is the call to action

### III. Point: A Call to action:

- A. Quick to Stand
  1. [Jas 1:19 ESV] 19 Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger;
  2. Listen to God quickly, and quickly obey.
  3. Don't hang back when God has called you to stand.
- B. Sober in the Stand
  1. [1Pe 1:13 ESV] 13 Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.
  2. A call to action requires a mind ready for action
  3. This is a full time action, no moments off
- C. Alert as you stand
  1. [1Pe 5:8 ESV] 8 Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.
  2. We can not take our eyes or minds off the mission before us.
  3. Do what is necessary to stay alert.
- D. Prayerful while Standing
  1. [Col 4:2 ESV] 2 Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving.
  2. We can't do this without prayer.
  3. I ended the message last week with this thought, Prayer is the Work
    - a) We have a clear calling to stand
    - b) Our power is in God
    - c) We communicate with God in Prayer
    - d) As we stand, we are in communication with God.
- E. Faithful Standing

1. [Rev 2:10 ESV] 10 Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and for ten days you will have tribulation. Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life.
2. [1Ti 6:12 ESV] 12 Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and about which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.
3. Faith...believing God through it all is the fight.
4. We don't get to choose the fight, but we can be faithful through it all.

F. Ready to Stand

1. [Tit 3:1 ESV] 1 Remind them to be submissive to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good work,
2. This comes again to readiness...we are seldom fully ready, but know that readiness is in Christ.
3. The Question for today...
  - a) Are you READY?
  - b) Are you getting READY?
  - c) Are you remaining READY?

IV. Close

- A. Walk in wisdom because the days are evil.
- B. Walk in Love because that is the only way to fight hate.
- C. Walk in Light, because darkness needs to be overwhelmed
- D. Walk with God, because it is the only way we can stand.