



Shadow Boxing (Ephesians 6:10-24)

Shadow Boxing (Part 1)

The Armor of God and the Battle We are in!

“Finally, my brethren, **be strong in the Lord** and in the power of His might. Put on the whole **armor of God**, that you may be able to **stand against the wiles of the devil**. For **we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places**. 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. Stand therefore, **having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word**

of God; praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints— and for me, that utterance may be given to me, that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains; that in it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.” Ephesians 6:10-20
NKJV

Peace Out

“But that you also may know my affairs and how I am doing, Tychicus, a beloved brother and faithful minister in the Lord, will make all things known to you; whom I have sent to you for this very purpose, that you may know our affairs, and that he may comfort your hearts. Peace to the brethren, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Grace be with all those who love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity. Amen.” Ephesians 6:21-24
NKJV

Introduction and Outline

- ☑ Recognize ultimately that we are in a spiritual battle and that we must have Yahweh’s power for the fight.
- ☑ **Identifying The Enemy** (part 1)
 - ☑ the wiles of the devil

- ☑ principalities, powers, the rulers of the darkness of this age, spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.
- ☑ **THE ARMOR** (part 2)
 - ☑ First, it is your duty to do everything you can to withstand the attacks as the day is **evil**
 - ☑ Gird your waist with **truth**
 - ☑ Put on the breastplate of **righteousness**
 - ☑ Shod your feet with the preparation of the **gospel of peace**
 - ☑ Take the shield of **faith** with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one (this seems to be the most important one as Paul says “above all”).
 - ☑ Put on the helmet of **salvation**
 - ☑ Carry the **sword of the Spirit**, which is **the word** of God
- ☑ **PRAYER**
 - ☑ Praying always with all **prayer and supplication in the Spirit**
 - ☑ Being watchful with all perseverance with this end in mind (knowing who the true enemy is and how to fight)
 - ☑ Praying with supplication for:
 - ☑ All the saints
 - ☑ Paul himself (so that utterance may be given to him, that he may open his mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the gospel)
- ☑ For which he is an **ambassador** in chains

- ☑ All this deliver by Tychicus, a beloved brother and faithful minister

Details (Part 1)

- ☑ Recognize ultimately that we are in a spiritual battle and that we must have Yahweh's power for the fight.

My brother in the faith asked me a question this morning about churches being closed and the rare pastor who is now resisting the "State's" orders to STAY CLOSED. What do I say about that?

Understand who is in charge and who is the enemy!

"Let every soul be subject to the **governing authorities**. For there is **no authority except from God**, and the authorities that exist are **appointed by God**. Therefore whoever **resists the authority resists** the ordinance of **God**, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves. **For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to evil.**

Do you want to be unafraid of the authority? **Do what is good**, and you will have praise from the same. For he is **God's minister to you for good**. **But if you do evil, be afraid; for he does not bear the sword in vain; for he is God's minister, an avenger to execute wrath on him who practices evil.**" Romans 13:1-4 NKJV

1. OK- so God puts the authority in place
2. So you SHOULD NOT resist that authority
3. BUT... What type of authority are we talking about here?
4. These “rulers are not a terror to good works, but to evil.”
5. Ah... they are rulers who are a terror to evil, not GOOD! Not those propagating evil!
6. Do you want to have favor with these authorities. Then BE ON THE GOOD SIDE!
7. For those authorities are GOD’S MINISTERS for Good!
8. Their Job: avenger to execute wrath on him who practices evil.

So who is the head? Who is supposed to be in charge? That is what the church has missed as they have bowed to Ba’al (the Ba’als of the world system)

Adultery with the World!

- “And **do not be conformed to this world**, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.” Romans 12:2 NKJV
- “**Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an**

enemy of God. Or do you think that the Scripture says in vain, “The Spirit who dwells in us yearns jealously”? But He gives more grace. Therefore He says: **“God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble.”** James 4:4-6 NKJV

☑ “For the **perverse person is an abomination** to the LORD, But His secret counsel is with the upright. **The curse of the LORD is on the house of the wicked,** But He blesses the home of the just. Surely **He scorns the scornful, But gives grace to the humble.**” Proverbs 3:32-34 NKJV

☑ **Do Not Love the World**

☑ “**Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.** For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world. And **the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God** abides forever.” I John 2:15-17 NKJV

☑ **Contrast: “For God so loved the world** that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.” John 3:16 NKJV

☑ **Spiritual Status! (Who was he addressing? Go back 3 verses)**

☑ **STAGES OF MATURITY:** “I write to you, **little children,** Because your sins are forgiven you for His name’s sake. I

write to you, **fathers**, Because you have known Him who is from the beginning. I write to you, **young men**, Because you have overcome the wicked one. I write to you, **little children**, Because you have known the Father. I have written to you, **fathers**, Because you have known Him who is from the beginning. I have written to you, **young men**, Because you are strong, and the word of God abides in you, And you have overcome the wicked one." I John 2:12-14 NKJV

☑ **Deceptions in the Last Hour**

- ☑ "Little children, it is the last hour; and as you have heard that **the Antichrist is coming [THIS IS THE ENEMY WE ARE FIGHTING]**, even now many antichrists have come, by which we know that it is the last hour. **They went out from us, but they were not of us [they may even look like the church but they ARE NOT]** ; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us; but they went out **that they might be made manifest [How can we tell they are not of the church?]**, that none of them were of us. But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and **you know all things**. I have not written to you **because you do not know the truth, but because you know it**, and that no lie is of the truth. Who is a liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? He

is antichrist who denies the Father and the Son. Whoever denies the Son does not have the Father either; he who acknowledges the Son has the Father also." I John 2:18-23
NKJV

☑ **Let Truth Abide in You!**

- ☑ "Therefore let that abide in you **which you heard from the beginning**. If what you heard from the beginning abides in you, you also will abide in the Son and in the Father. And this is the promise that He has promised us—eternal life. **These things I have written to you concerning those who try to deceive you.** But the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you, and you do not need that anyone teach you; but as the same anointing teaches you concerning all things, and is true, and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you will abide in Him." I John 2:24-27
NKJV

☑ **Why all the weakness and confusion?** (LOOKING BACK IN THE SAME CHAPTER OF 1 JOHN!)

- ☑ "Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. **He who says, "I know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.** But whoever **keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him.** By this we know that we are in Him. He

who says he abides in Him **ought himself also to walk just as He walked**. Brethren, **I write no new commandment** to you, but an **old commandment which you have had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word which you heard from the beginning.** Again, a **new commandment I write to you**, which thing is true in Him and in you, because the darkness is passing away, and the true light is already shining." I John 2:3-8 NKJV

- ☑ **The “new” commandment is not NEW, but an emphasis on how obedience is accomplished! LOVE:** “He who says he is in the light, and hates his brother, is in darkness until now. **He who loves his brother abides in the light,** and there is no cause for stumbling in him.” I John 2:9-10 NKJV
- ☑ ““If you love Me, keep My commandments.” John 14:15 NKJV
- ☑ “Jesus answered and said to him, **“If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word;** and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him. **He who does not love Me does not keep My words;** and the word which you hear is not Mine but the Father’s who sent Me.” John 14:23-24 NKJV

And the outcome for those committing adultery with the world will be this! (friendship with the world = He who says, "I know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.)

JUDGMENT!

“For the time has come for judgment to begin at the house of God; **and if it begins with us first**, what will be the end of those who do not obey the gospel of God?” I Peter 4:17

NKJV

““Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of My pasture!” says the LORD. Therefore thus says the LORD God of Israel against the shepherds who feed My people: **“You have scattered My flock, driven them away, and not attended to them. Behold, I will attend to you for the evil of your doings,”** says the LORD.” Jeremiah 23:1-2

NKJV

Identifying The Enemy (Part 1)

the wiles (schemes) of the devil

Temptation in the wilderness

“Then Jesus was led up **by the Spirit into the wilderness** to be **tempted by the devil**. And when He had fasted forty days and forty nights, afterward He was hungry. Now when

the **tempter came to Him, he said**, “If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread.”” Matthew 4:1-3 NKJV

☑ THE SWORD! (SEE PART 2: “And take the helmet of salvation, and the **sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God;**” Ephesians 6:17 NKJV

☑ “But He answered and said, “**It is written**, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.’ ”” Matthew 4:4 NKJV

☑ “Jesus said to him, “**It is written** again, ‘**You shall not tempt the LORD your God.**’ ”” Matthew 4:7 NKJV

☑ “Then Jesus said to him, “Away with you, Satan! For **it is written**, ‘You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.’ ”” Matthew 4:10 NKJV

☑ **God’s word will not return void — IT IS NOT JUST A SWORD BUT A DOBLE EDGED SWORD!**

☑ “Seek the LORD while He may be found, Call upon Him while He is near. Let the wicked forsake his way, And the unrighteous man his thoughts; Let him return to the LORD, And He will have mercy on him; And to our God, For He will abundantly pardon. “For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways,” says the LORD. “For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My

ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts. “For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, And do not return there, But water the earth, And make it bring forth and bud, That it may give seed to the sower And bread to the eater, **So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me void, But it shall accomplish what I please, And it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.**”Isaiah 55:6-11 NKJV

- ☑ “For the word of God is living and powerful, and **sharper than any two-edged sword**, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and **is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart**. And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.”
Hebrews 4:12-13 NKJV

- ☑ James evil desires

- ☑ “Blessed is the man who **endures temptation**; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him. **Let no one say when he is tempted, “I am tempted by God”**; for **God cannot be tempted by evil**, nor does He Himself tempt anyone. **But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed**. Then, when desire has

conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death.” James 1:12-15 NKJV



Summary:

1. Remember, what temptation is used for!
2. Yahweh humbles you, allows you to “hunger”!
3. The bigger picture is that it is not with bread that you are truly fed, but by knowing and trusting Yahweh’s Word and Promises.
4. **Word vs. World:** Y’shua, at His “hungriest” drew on faith in His Father’s provision and protection, faith in what the word says. He did not count on what the world could provide!
5. The Word says Y’shua was **led by the Spirit into the wilderness** and that He **tempted by the devil.**
6. Then James teaches us that it is not “God who tempts us.” What is happening is that God knows what needs to be sifted out of you and He allows your wilderness experiences to do the work.
7. Y’shua faced His wilderness to show us how it is done!
 - a) “For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted, **He is able to aid those who are tempted.**” Hebrews 2:18 NKJV

b) “For we do not have a High Priest **who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace,** that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.” Hebrews 4:15-16 NKJV

8. When you are tempted, what’s is “your devil”?

9. Don’t be drawn away by your own desires and enticed to go your own way.

☑ Principalities, powers, the rulers of the darkness of this age, spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.

☑ **Reminder:** “And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, in which you once walked according to the course of this world, **according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience,**” Ephesians 2:1-2 NKJV

☑ **Reminder:** “Little children, it is the last hour; and as you have heard that the **Antichrist** is coming, even now **many antichrists** have come, by which we know that it is the last hour.” I John 2:18 NKJV

☑ **Accuser of the Brethren (DARK LYING SPIRIT)**

☑ “So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the **Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world;** he was

cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him. Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, “Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, **for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down.**” Revelation 12:9-10 NKJV

☑ Father of Lies

- ☑ “Jesus said to them, “If God were your Father, you would love Me, for I proceeded forth and came from God; nor have I come of Myself, but He sent Me. Why do you not understand My speech? Because you are not able to listen to My word. You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. **He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it.** But because I tell the truth, you do not believe Me. Which of you convicts Me of sin? And if I tell the truth, why do you not believe Me? He who is of God hears God’s words; therefore you do not hear, because you are not of God.””
John 8:42-47 NKJV

- ☑ Cast out Demons with a Word! (Do a bible search on dozens of references to spiritual warfare)

☑ “When evening had come, they brought to Him many who were demon-possessed. **And He cast out the spirits with a word**, and healed all who were sick, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying: “He Himself took our infirmities And bore our sicknesses. [See Isaiah 53]”” Matthew 8:16-17 NKJV

☑ **A public Spectacle**

☑ “In Him you were also circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the sins of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead. And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses, **having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us**, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. **Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it.**” Colossians 2:11-15 NKJV

☑ **Your Turn to Battle! (SEE NEXT WEEK): I do not box in the air**

☑ “Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? **Run in such a way that you may obtain it.** And everyone who competes for the prize is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a perishable crown, but we for an imperishable crown. Therefore I run thus: not with uncertainty. **Thus I fight: not as one who beats the air.** But I discipline my body and bring it into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified.” I Corinthians 9:24-27 NKJV

☑ **Deceiving Spirits**

☑ “Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to **deceiving spirits** and **doctrines of demons**, speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron, forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from foods which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those **who believe and know the truth.** For every creature of God is good, and nothing is to be refused if it is received with thanksgiving; for it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer.” I Timothy 4:1-5 NKJV

☑ **Nourished in the Word and good doctrine—this is your spiritual exercise to be prepped to fight the true battles!**

(We will finish instruction for this preparation next week with the Armor of God and Prayer)

- ☑ “If you instruct the brethren in these things, you will be a good minister of Jesus Christ, **nourished in the words of faith and of the good doctrine which you have carefully followed**. But reject profane and old wives’ fables, and exercise yourself toward godliness. For bodily exercise profits a little, **but godliness is profitable for all things**, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come.” I Timothy 4:6-8 NKJV
- ☑ **Back to the Beginning: “Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.” (Ephesians 6:10) Because on your own you will get whipped!**
- ☑ Seven sons of Sceva: “Now God worked unusual miracles by the hands of Paul, so that even **handkerchiefs or aprons** were brought from his body to the sick, and the diseases left them **and the evil spirits went out of them**. Then some of the itinerant Jewish exorcists took it upon themselves to call the name of the Lord Jesus over those who had evil spirits, saying, “We exorcise you by the Jesus whom Paul preaches.” Also there were seven sons of Sceva, a Jewish chief priest, who did so. **And the evil spirit answered and said, “Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are you?”**

Then the man in whom the evil spirit was leaped on them, overpowered them, and prevailed against them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded. This became known both to all Jews and Greeks dwelling in Ephesus; and fear fell on them all, and the name of the Lord Jesus was magnified. And many who had believed came confessing and telling their deeds. Also, many of those who had practiced magic brought their books together and burned them in the sight of all. And they counted up the value of them, and it totaled fifty thousand pieces of silver. **So the word of the Lord grew mightily and prevailed." Acts 19:11-20 NKJV**



So the Word of the Lord grew mightily and prevailed!