

## Being Prepared for Spiritual Battle

A 6-week series exploring the Lord's Full Armor of God

Thursday evenings at Magnolia Bible Church at 7 PM (January 12 through February 16)

Men, we're in a battle. We all know it. We're fighting for our survival as followers of Jesus and leaders of His church. Satan hates us, what we stand for, and Who we represent. Unfortunately, the world is following Satan more every day. He was a formidable force in our grandparent's generation, but today he's taking a front row seat in directing the affairs of our nation. Never before has our nation declared "right" what was once deplorable in the sight of man and God.

As in the battlefields of yesterday, there are winners and there are losers; those who survive and those who die. Often, those who won did so because they were better prepared than their enemy. They had the skills, know-how, passion, and tools to be victorious. In the battle for Christianity, we are offered a similar choice – *to be prepared for battle or not*.

In Ephesians 6 Paul does a masterful job laying the elements of what call *The Full Armor of God*. Nowhere in the New Testament does any writer so clearly outline the battle gear required for Christian every warrior, including the belt of truth, the breastplate of righteousness, feet fitted with readiness, the shield of faith, the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit that is the Word of God.

From the 5<sup>th</sup> century B.C. Greek philosopher, Heraclitus, we get the following quote:

Out of every one hundred men, ten shouldn't even be there, eighty are just targets, nine are the real fighters, and we are lucky to have them, for they make the battle. Ah, but the one, one is a warrior, and he will bring the others back.

The question for you is whether or not you're the warrior. It's the choice every Christian man must make...