

**Introduction**

1. Ephesians: Doctrine + Duty
2. But how do we do our duty?
3. Paul tells us this at the end

**1. THE BELIEVER IS CALLED ON TO BE STRONG**

- 1) God’s grace is sufficient to enable the believer to be strong:
  - (i) “my grace is sufficient”
  - (ii) “I can do all things through Christ”
- 2) What does it mean to be “strong”?
  - (i) In any and every situation in life to do what is right in God’s eyes.
  - (ii) To act by principle whatever the cost to ourselves, or the sufferings
  - (iii) To choose to suffer rather than to sin
- 3) To be weak is a serious fault:
  - (i) Peter was afraid to confess Christ
  - (ii) The disciples forsook Him and fled

**ILLUSTRATION:** How do we face problems?

**2. GOD HAS GIVEN THE BELIEVER ARMOUR**

- 1) The illustration is from a Roman soldier
- 2) The pieces of this armour:
  - (i) “loins...truth”  
We must be honest + truthful
  - (ii) “breastplate...”  
We must be clear on Justification
  - (iii) “feet shod...”  
Ready to speak of Christ’s gospel

- (iv) “shield of faith”:  
Faith means believing the Bible
  - (v) “helmet of salvation”  
Assurance that we are saved
  - (vi) “sword of the Spirit”  
The Bible is our weapon
  - (vii) “all-prayer”  
We hold communion with God
- APPLICATION:** With these weapons we face the world

**3. THE BELIEVER NEEDS TO KNOW HIS ENEMY**

- 1) Who is our enemy? Principally, Satan:
  - (i) Satan stirs people up: e.g. Peter
  - (ii) Women: 1 Tim. 5:15 e.g. Eve
  - (iii) People can do Satan’s work for him
- 2) Satan’s art is to seduce us into sin:  
e.g. the temptations of Christ
- 3) Our duty is to put on the whole armour
- 4) Our concern is to glorify God:
  - (i) To live as the Bible requires us
  - (ii) To keep to our vows
  - (iii) To have God’s law as our Rule
  - (iv) To get safe home to glory

**CONCLUSION**

The soldier’s life is one of dedication.  
 We must be “full-time” Christians.

**PSALM****27: 1 – 5****38: 17 – 22****141: 8 – 10**