

The Church is the Army of God

2 Tim 2:3; Eph 6:10-18

Introduction

The Christian life is not a playground but a battleground.

We face enemies, seen and unseen. (1 John 2:15-16)

“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 desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride in possessions—is not from the Father but is from the world.”

Ephesians 6:11-12

¹¹ Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.

¹² For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

1. We are in a real spiritual battle (Eph 6:10-18)

Example – Korean DMZ

The two armies are on the alert 24/7

There is a deeper battle – spiritual forces resisting God's work.

To be aware is half the battle won.

2. We must put on God's armor (Eph 6:11)

“put on the full armor of God...”

Picture of the Roman soldier



SALVATION

RIGHTEOUSNESS

FAITH

TRUTH

THE SPIRIT
(THE WORD OF GOD)

GOSPEL OF
PEACE

- belt of truth
- breastplate of righteousness
- shield of faith
- helmet of salvation
- sword of the spirit
- shoes of the gospel of peace

➤ PRAYER

Persian Gulf war in 1990

The Enemy's tactic:

Distraction

Division

Discouragement

3. The Unity of the Army

No soldier fights alone. The early church prayed together, fasted together and faced persecution together

The army of God must unite to fulfil its God-given mission

4. The mission of the Army (Matt 18:16-20; Acts 1:8)

- ❖ **proclaim the gospel**
- ❖ **Rescue the lost**
- ❖ **advance the kingdom of God**



by our past generations
of commandos.









SANCTUARY



厦大水车牛

CHINATOWN COMPLEX



5. The victory is assured

Through Jesus

- **sin is defeated**
- **death is defeated**
- **the enemy is defeated**

We fight not for victory; we fight from victory

Conclusion

- Are you a soldier or just a spectator?
- Are you armed or spiritually unprepared?
- Are you advancing or retreating?

Application

- ❖ Repent of spiritual passivity
- ❖ Commit to prayer, Word, and holiness
- ❖ Take your place in God's army

Discussion Questions

- 1. Which of the 5 truths is most relevant to you? Share the reasons for your answer?**
- 2. Which part of the armor which God has provided do you need to put on the most?**
- 3. God is still calling his people to be enlisted in his army. What is your response to God. Yes, not yet ready to commit fully, or No.**