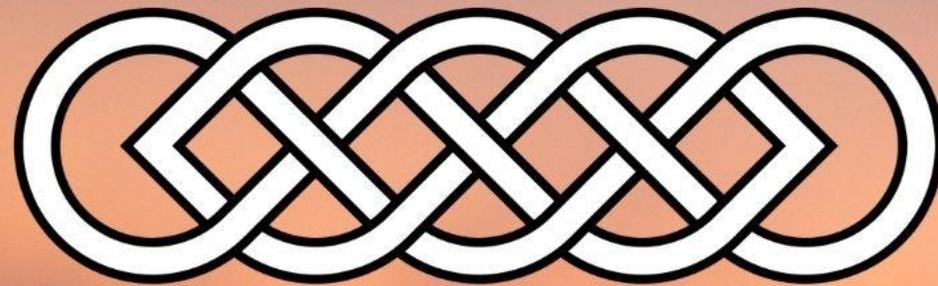


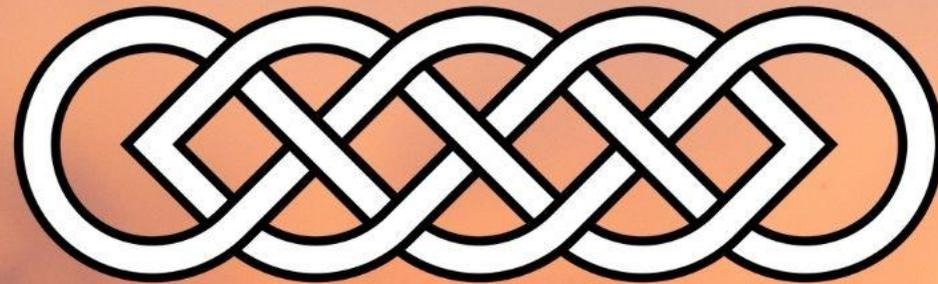
EPHESIANS

Living by Grace through Faith in Christ Jesus



Summer Sermon Series

**THE CHRISTIAN'S
CONFIDENCE
IN
CHAOTIC TIMES**



Ephesians 6:10-18

*In **Ephesians 6:10-18**
we find at least **three reasons**
why Christians can have
confidence in chaotic times...*

I. Christians can have confidence in chaotic times because of God's **power.**

- *vs. 10—literally, “be strengthened...”*
- *Ephesians 1:19 – a prayer request*
- *Ephesians 6:10 – a command!*

*“Soldiers of Christ, arise,
And put your armor on,
Strong in the **strength which God supplies**
Through His eternal Son;
Strong in the Lord of hosts
And in **His mighty power,**
Who in the **strength of Jesus** trusts
Is more than conqueror.”*

“Soldiers of Christ, Arise” by Charles Wesley (1749)

Observation

The *“evil day” (6:13)*

is already here

and Christians are called
to, *“Stand (firm) against the
schemes of the Devil.” (6:10)*

Application

Whenever *chaos* appears to be ruling the day, remember that your God is **all-powerful** and that He is always in **perfect, sovereign control** of His creation's affairs.

II. Christians can have confidence in chaotic times because of God's panoply.

- ***“Panoply”***
 - *A complete set of arms or suit of armor*
 - *16th century: complete protection for spiritual battle.”*

*“Stand then His great might,
With all His strength endued;
And take to arm you for the fight,
The panoply of God;
That having all things done
And all your conflicts past,
Ye may overcome through Christ alone,
And stand entire at last.”*

“Soldiers of Christ, Arise” by Charles Wesley (1749)

II. Christians can have confidence in chaotic times because of God's **panoply.**

God has given every Christian the gift of..

- Truth like a **belt**
- Righteousness like a **breastplate**
- The Gospel of Peace like **battle shoes**
- Faith like a **shield**
- Salvation like a **helmet**
- The Word of God like a **sword**
- Spirit-empowered prayer like a **vigilant sentry or guard**

Observation

**God sovereignly and graciously
bestows His gifts
to the Church so they will
responsibly and faithfully
use them for His glory.**

Application

Whenever *chaos* appears
to be ruling the day,
remember that your God has
given you everything you need
in Christ to stand firm
against the Devil's oppression.

III. Christians can have confidence in chaotic times because of God's **promises.**

- *God promises that when this armor (which He has gifted to His Church) is responsibly and faithfully used, the Church will stand firm **together** every scheme and attack of the Devil.*

III. Christians can have confidence in chaotic times because of God's **promises.**

- *vs. 13 – “withstand” (or “resist”)*
- *God promises that every Christian who faithfully resists the Devil according to His Word will always be victorious.*

James 4:7

**Submit yourselves
therefore to God.**

**Resist the devil,
and he will flee from you.**

1 Peter 5:6-7

**Humble yourselves, therefore,
under the mighty hand of God
so that at the proper time
He may exalt you,
casting all your anxieties on Him,
because He cares for you.**

1 Peter 5:8

Be sober-minded; be watchful.

**Your adversary the devil
prowls around like a roaring lion,
seeking someone to devour.**

1 Peter 5:9

Resist him, firm in your faith,
knowing that the same kinds
of suffering are being experienced
by your brotherhood
throughout the world.

1 Peter 5:10

**And after you have suffered
a little while, the God of all grace,
who has called you
to His eternal glory in Christ,
will Himself restore, confirm,
strengthen, and establish you.**

1 Peter 5:11

**To Him be the dominion
forever and ever.**

Amen.

Romans 8:31-32

What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare His own Son but gave Him up for us all, how will He not also with Him graciously give us all things?

Romans 8:33-34

Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies.

Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died- more than that, who was raised- who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.

Romans 8:35

**Who shall separate us
from the love of Christ?**

**Shall tribulation, or distress,
or persecution, or famine,
or nakedness, or danger,
or sword?**

Romans 8:36

As it is written,

**"For Your sake we are
being killed all the day long;
we are regarded as
sheep to be slaughtered."**

Romans 8:37

**No, in all these things
we are more than conquerors
through Him who loved us.**

Romans 8:38-39

**For I am sure that neither death nor life,
nor angels nor rulers,
nor things present nor things to come,
nor powers, nor height nor depth,
nor anything else in all creation,
will be able to separate us
from the love of God
in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

Observation

While the Church at times
will be *severely oppressed*
by the Devil's evil schemes,
Jesus Christ's Church
will never be **defeated!**

Application

Whenever *chaos* appears
to be ruling the day,
remember that **God's Word**
will never fail you—
God always keeps His promises.

BIG IDEA

**Christians have a
confidence that no
chaos can destroy.**

*“Leave no unguarded place,
No weakness of the soul.
Take every virtue, every grace,
And fortify the whole.
From **strength to strength** go on;
Wrestle and fight and **pray**.
Tread all the powers of darkness down,
And win the well-fought day.”*

“Soldiers of Christ, Arise” by Charles Wesley (1749)

BIG IDEA

**Christians have a
confidence that no
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