

# “Strong in the Lord” – Part 2

Eph. 6:10

## Introduction:

- A. People are content with weakness in religion, more than in any other field.
  - 1. Want to be best parent, professional or hobbyist - not best Christian.
  - 2. Want to know as much as needed to succeed in secular pursuits - not as Christian.
  - 3. Want to spend all can afford to become strong in other fields - not as Christian.
- B. We must learn to be strong in face of other forces working against our salvation.
  - 1. Takes whole armor to withstand. (v. 11).
  - 2. Takes doing all to stand and then standing. (vv. 13-14)
- C. We noticed in part 1 of this lesson that we must learn to be strong in the face of:
  - 1. Personal weaknesses
  - 2. Common Temptations
  - 3. Religious deception.
  - 4. Active opposition.

## Discussion:

- I. We Must Learn To Be Strong In The Face Of *Conventional Wisdom*.**
  - A. Lord's way not according conventional wisdom of world. (1 Cor. 1:21,27-29; 2:6-8; 4:10-13).
  - B. Lord's standards of morals, ethics, home life, child-rearing, etc. differs from world's wisdom.
- II. We Must Learn To Be Strong In The Face Of *Popular Opinion*.**
  - A. Often have to stand against popular views in community.
  - B. Often have to stand without popular support. (John 6:16; 2 Tim. 4:16).
    - 1. From neighbors.
    - 2. From brethren.
  - C. Often peer pressure is so strong.
    - 1. Chief rulers (John 12:42)
    - 2. Peter (Gal. 2:11-13).
- III. We Must Learn To Be Strong In The Face Of *Brethren's Mistakes*.**
  - A. Should be very close to our brethren
    - 1. Love them (1 Pet. 1:22)
    - 2. Respect them (1 Thess. 5:13).
    - 3. Associate with them (Acts 2:46)
  - B. Must not tie faith to them. (1 Cor. 2:5)
- IV. We Must Learn To Be Strong In The Face Of *Immediate Rewards*.**
  - A. We prefer instant results and solutions to promises. (cf. 2 Pet. 1:4).
  - B. We want instant conversions, peace and rewards.
    - 1. Untaught religion brings instant conversions. (cf. Mt. 28:18-20).
    - 2. Compromise bring instant peace and relief. (cf. Jas. 3:17).
    - 3. Pleasing men brings instant reward. (Mt. 6:1-4).

## Conclusion:

- A. It takes preparation (“having done all”) and determination (“stand therefore..”) to withstand such.
- B. It takes a strong faith to forego present advantages for future eternal reward.