49-Ephesians-06-Transcript

[Music] [Music] well greetings brethren good morning on this happy sabbath this last day this last great day and we did have a bible study yesterday evening uh hopefully you were able to join us we had a great turnout uh a great turnout in person and also online so i'm assuming most of you were with us and i did cover quite a bit of ephesians chapter 6 last night so i won't go back over all of that although we will read the whole chapter line by line there was also a question that came it was a very good question that all the questions were great a great interaction if you haven't um if you weren't with us last night i would encourage you to find uh yesterday's bible study in the archive and review it it was just a great interaction great questions and which i appreciate it but there was one question afterward i thought about it i i could have done a better job answering that question from our sister sandy so i do want to kick off just going back over that question and then we'll get into the study for today we'll open with the word of prayer father we bow before your throne wow lord we're so grateful to you thank you for bringing us through the feast of tabernacles and now this this last great day we

thank you father as we rehearse these days year upon year that you deepen our understanding and you deepen our faith we just thank you lord that we have access to your word we pray now that you will bless the eyes of our understanding by the eyes of our enlightenment father as we study this word from the apostle paul we thank you for it we ask your blessing now in jesus holy name amen uh so brother and as i mentioned there was a question um yesterday a great question and i think i answered it satisfactorily but could have done a better job by quoting scripture and the question from our sister sandy was is it possible for somebody in the covenant community indwelt by the holy spirit to also have a demonic spirit at the same time and i said you know absolutely not and then i went on to talk about why not but in saying absolutely not i think i could have done a better job by just quoting an example from scripture of what i mean so let's look at that here we see let me just fix this up we see here in first samuel 16. this is a great example of with saul that the spirit of the lord departed from saul and an evil spirit troubled him so you can see this that the spirit of the lord departed from saul and that's what enabled the evil spirit to then take

possession of paul and saul's servant said unto him be said unto him behold now an evil spirit from god troubles you so so this is where we can see very clearly that the two do not coexist that the holy spirit was with saul and when he grieved it when he quenched it when it left him that's when this other spirit moved in and saul's servants spoke those words in the ears of david sorry just skipping ahead now to chapter 18. i just wanted to show david's intervention now and david said uh okay i didn't want this thing i did one verse i want to verse in 19. the evil spirit from the lord was upon saul as he sat in his house with his javelin in his hand and david played with his hand so this spirit has overtaken saul and you can see now he's with his brother david his servant david this is like a canaan able situation where abel goes out into the field with his brother and has no idea how the evil spirit has orchestrated a plan within kane to kill abel and it's the same thing here david is playing the harp to to ease uh solomon's possession and trouble meanwhile saul is full of envy and anger and he wants to kill david and in verse 10 and saul sought to smite david even to the wall with the javelin javelin so he really threw it like

really he wants to completely kill david but david slipped away out of saul's presence and he smote the javelin into the wall and david fled and escaped that night so i wanted to quote uh those two uh that those two chapters in first samuel just a scriptural reinforcement that the holy spirit and the demonic spirits do not coexist at the same time that one can quench the spirit and having quenched the spirit one can then be possessed of an evil spirit but having the whole the power of the holy spirit indwelling in us we're not going to have a demonic spirit indwelling in us simultaneously so sister sandy thank you for your question i hope that i hope that i answered it well yesterday but i hope this scriptural support uh just reinforces that answer now bringing it back to ephesians where it says here be you angry and and there's nothing wrong with righteous anger but just make sure it's not anger rooted in sin rooted in selfishness rooted in pride and and the test for that is not to let the sun go down upon your wrath if the sun is going down upon your wrath evil has taken hold of you if you're going to bed and waking up still angry the next day the next year the next decade uh you have a real problem and this is where you are under the influence of the devil we can be angry and then re resolve the

anger

we can be angry for the lord and then we're not you know we're not in this constant state of anger but we're angry for the lord this is all good and then he really couples that now with neither give place to the devil so this um not having self-control not having the ability to control our anger is where we can give opportunity for the devil to to to come back into our lives and and and take hold of us and this is going back to torah leviticus 18 19. also you shall not approach uh this is the wrong verse sorry hang on a second let me just uh i think maybe it's 1918. let me just look at that leviticus 19 just rushing this morning to put these scriptures together let me make sure i've got the right one here leviticus 19 18. yes you shall not avenge so this is not within the the covenant community for us to take vengeance you shall not avenge nor bear any grudge against the children of your people but you shall love your neighbor as yourself i am the lord so again if we're harboring uh grudges if we're harboring anger this is not the way of god and so this is clearly in the torah do not bear a grudge against anybody in the covenant community and don't seek your own vengeance love your neighbor as yourself now in addition to that i wanted to just cover here in second timothy 1

and verse 6 again just still with sister sandy's question therefore i put you in remembrance that you stir up the gift of god which is in you by the putting on of my hands for god has not given us the spirit of fear but of power and of love and of a sound mind so you can't have a sound mind if you have an evil spirit taking possession of your mind so here we have god has not given us the spirit of fear instead he's given us the spirit of power of love and of a sound mind so i think when we put all of these passages together it should become crystal clear that god's people who have the holy spirit indwelling in them cannot be possessed by an evil spirit simultaneously we can certainly quench the spirit and then what does a christ say that the man who you know he was relieved of this uh demon possession um if he does not stay true to the right path then the demon comes back and when it sees that the house is empty and has been swept clean it brings seven other demons with him to take possession of the man so we who are in this way need to be very very careful not to quench the spirit okay we're into ephesians chapter six and it's a kind of unfortunate chapter break between five and six i think that it would have been better for them not to

break the chapter at verse 33 so let's just go back and pick up the last couple of verses from chapter five to to feed into chapter six where the apostle is now talking to husbands and wives so first he was talking to the whole congregation telling them to submit one another to love one another to avoid the works of the flesh and then he zeroed in on the family unit and he spoke to wives first and then to husbands and he ended that passage by saying this is a great mystery what everything all the instruction that he's been giving them about marriage is a great mystery but he lets them know that the mystery concerns christ and the church nevertheless although you're not going to fully comprehend the great mystery make sure that every one of you in particular so love his wife as himself and the wife see that she referenced her husband and i just have here the a b uh pattern and of complementarity in god's way yesterday with the bible study i spoke about the the um demonic ideologies are all rooted in conflict and karl marx itself just clearly conflict theory the root of marxism is conflict theory and so it's about these human minds clashing with each other in conflict and the demonic world loves that especially if there's a bloodshed or what we could call human sacrifice so create this conflict to ultimately lead to human sacrifice this is what the demonic the demonic

world loves and this is a form of demonic worship but god's way is the opposite a true christian does not get seduced into conflict into conflict theory now when we're defending the word of god then you know we have to contend for the faith once delivered that's very different than this conflict theory that that's based on covetousness that somebody has what you don't have and therefore you covet what they have and therefore you engage in conflict to destroy and to remove what they have and so all of this rioting we see where people are happy to destroy other people's businesses simply because they don't have it this is the the way human minds work when they're under demonic influence they they are they are deep into conflict the way the christian mind works the way this this sound mind works when we have the power of the holy spirit is rather than engaging conflict we engage in complementarity in harmony so i have the a and the b that god gives instructions to one's brain one mind but then he gives instruction to the other mind that is interacting with that mind so that the two minds can work in a complementary fashion so the husband has to love the wife and the wife has to reverence the husband and when both do their part we have harmony now continuing in that vein that's why i say there shouldn't be a chapter break we're dealing with the family unit here

it says children obey your parents in the lord so the same way that the wife must submit to her husband but that doesn't give the husband the right to abuse her and to oppress her because she's doing that knowing that the husband must love his wife the way christ loved the church and gave himself for it so now we have the same vulnerability in six one where children can be very vulnerable they're powerless they're very vulnerable people and this is sort of the beauty of christianity you look around the world all the different systems and ideologies and religious systems and political systems and it's only those countries that have been influenced by the teachings of jesus christ where the vulnerable are protected you go into any other type of uh nation any other ideology and you take advantage of the vulnerable you have grown men 60 70 years old marrying six-year-old children and basically raping them to death you have women being constantly stoned to death and accused of who knows what and they can't defend themselves in all of these societies that do not have the influence of jesus christ the vulnerable suffer because of the demonic influence so here children are very vulnerable and they're just told very clearly obey your parents but it's not just obey

your parents where your parents become an idol same thing with with women if women just obey their husbands no matter what their husbands say then the husband does become an idol the husband is actually replacing christ but no you're obeying christ and then you're serving your husband and supporting your husband as if you're supporting christ not in lieu of christ and same with the children obey your parents in the lord so if parents are instructing children to do something that goes against god then for the children to obey that would be idolatry so the parents have authority within the lord so children obey your parents in the lord for this is right this is righteousness honor then he quotes exodus 20. honor your father i think it's verse 12 honor your father and mother which is the first commandment with promise so all of the other commandments up to this one there's no promise associated with them this is the first not the only this is the first commandment with promise you know go beyond the ten commandments there are many more commandments that god will give and there's a promise associated with them go to deuteronomy 28 and see all the promises associated with the commandments but this is the first time there's a commandment and there's a promise associated with it that's how important

this commandment is and this is again you look at these marxist movements where karl marx hated the family hated god loved satan and now these these satanic movements want to destroy they want to blow up the western prescribed nuclear family that is utter nonsense and purely satanic it is in the nuclear family the god ordained family from creation that human minds are shaped that you shape a human mind in this family in this godly structure between zero to seven years old and that mind is then set it has been the the synapses the neural pathways have been formed a certain way and that child is set for life or destroyed that they they would be so warped and messed up that only by the miracle healing miraculous healing of god's holy spirit can that person have any hope at all so we have to defend the family and we cannot support movements that are out to blaspheme and destroy the family and he says so the and he actually quotes the promise in exodus that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth ultimately when god fulfills all of his plans and we come into this millennial age if you're not uh following the commandment of honoring your parents you cannot function you will not be a healthy human being to function in the millennium and you'll end up in the lake of fire

so so this is really really critical but again what i said is that's part a of the complementary pattern if god only commands one side that side is vulnerable if the wife just has to do everything the husband says no matter what which is the case and you look at something like islam then the wife will be abused human nature being what it is but god safeguards the vulnerable by giving a command to the other side as well so the children are vulnerable now but the other side is and you fathers provoke not your children to wrath you you can make your children very angry you you can make them disillusioned you can make them very frustrated don't parent like that you know be be easy not not easy in terms of permissive but understanding they're human beings with their own minds i mean as a parent who has raised children in the lord and they are now successful adults it is amazing to me it's quite miraculous when we're sitting at the dinner table and talking and these are adults in my home and maybe they're advising me or giving me their perspective on a matter that is completely different from my own and it's fascinating but there's this bond of peace and this bond of love that comes because of how they were trained and how their minds have been wired and there's this respectfulness that they have that we can just count on it's just there because of how they've been

trained

but i have had to learn to balance and that they're they're their own people they think differently than i do they have different passions and desires than i have they have their own lives and so we have to encourage that and empower that and not provoke them that you have to be just like me you know your dad is this way you need to be just like that no this is going to provoke them to wrath so so there's a balancing act here and then but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the lord and the proverbs say that when a child is raised this way ultimately they will not depart from it servants so that's now we had we had the husband and wife as the original foundational unit children come out of that so now we have children and parents as the next level and then these children grow up and they work for employers and so this is the next level of authoritarian relationship that we're going to encounter and god has instructions for this christians should be the best employees if you know where like myself i don't work if i work for myself my clients should rave about the christian experience without me beating them over the head with the bible they should just experience something different if you do have a a manager you work for somebody your manager should be like wow this person is really unique this person is amazing you father so so sorry verse 5 servants or today we would

say employees be obedient to them that are your masters and again your masters according to the flesh they're not your masters but according to the flesh they are and in this in this time these they really were masters but in our case we would say you're employers but the instruction for christians is to be obedient not to engage in riot and demonstrations and trying to overthrow and and and loot and smash windows this is just not the christian way this is the satanic way this is the way of following the demons christians don't behave this way employees be obedient to your managers according to the flesh your people who are over you according to the flesh with fear and trembling in singleness of heart like just be totally focused on your work and serve your your manager the way you would serve christ the wife submits to her husband the way she would submit to christ the children obey their parents the way they would submit to christ and employees submit to their employers the way that they would submit to christ i know it's difficult language but this is the language of the bible and don't do it with eye service as men pleasers what does that mean it means that you know when i was a young man i was a security guard and uh my first day on the job i was trained by i was trained by the security guard i was replacing and he just basically told me how not to

do my job how only to do it when people are looking and i did the exact opposite i was i was a christian then i was new in the faith but i did the exact opposite i did my job but this is this is what i service means you only work when somebody's looking and to be a men pleaser means you only do it just to get their approval no don't do it like that be authentically committed to doing your best work no matter who it is it doesn't matter that the employer is not a nice person they're your master according to the flesh and you serve them and you your ministry so to speak your preaching of the gospel so to speak is how you work for your employer they might be a terrible person but in the end they say you know what that's the best employee i ever had not with eye service as men pleasers but as the servants of christ doing the will of god from the heart it's the will of god that you work well you don't complain and say well he's got more than i do why should i work for him he's the man you know he's he that he can afford for me to skip off work i'll take a sick day today he's got money he can afford it this is not the christian way the christian way is to truly serve the way joseph did the way daniel did not with eyes services men pleasers but as servants of christ doing the will of god from the heart with good will doing service as to the lord and not to men so yeah they're your

masters in

the flesh but you serve them in the spirit

as if you were serving christ this is the christian way this is the christian mind

knowing that whatsoever good thing any man does

the same shall he receive of the lord whether he be bond or free so we're not focused that the marxists want us to be focused on this life and somebody has money in their bank account and we don't how do we get the money out of their account and into ours somebody has a house and we don't have it how do we burn down that house if we can't have it

or how do we take it over and run them out of the house this is

bizarre absolutely bizarre

and and just satanic and has nothing to do with christ

if they have material things good for them hope it works out for them but we do know that most people that have material things they go a bit loopy in the head

you know you go you look at the people who are just blessed with all kinds of wealth

their children commit suicide or they commit suicide or they're

addicted to drugs or material things this is not the measure

of a man's success so they have these things you don't have it

so what you have the promises

you have the promises and and we are focused on

receiving the reward from the lord and so knowing that whatsoever good thing any man does so do your thing and knowing this that the same you you will receive of the lord whether he be bond or free it doesn't matter what state you're in this doesn't matter this is according to the flesh but the lord is going to reward you according to the spirit now that's the a in the a b pattern but it's not that if you have a christian master now he can just knowing this he can just take advantage of you and ask you to do all kinds of things no there's a flip side as well

and you masters or you managers you employers

do the same things unto them forbearing threatening the same way with the parent don't be threatening all the time forbear that leave that alone knowing that your master also is in heaven so you're you're a master over them

but you have a master as well it's like the the um

i think it was the centurion who his daughter needed to be healed and and christ was going to go with him and he said no no i have people under me i know when i tell them what to do they do it

so you don't need to come to my house just just command and i know she'll be healed

and christ was impressed with that but he could come to that understanding

because he was a good manager

and he had good employees so in the same way

we can be employers

but we can be good employers because we know we have a master

and so the way we want christ to treat

us that's the way we're going to treat

our employees you masters do the same

things unto them forbearing threatening knowing that your master also is in heaven neither is their respective persons with him again somebody can have all the wealth in the world and another person has nothing when we stand before god it's not because somebody has wealth that they'll get favor from god or the other way around there's actually a verse in the torah that says do not favor the poor man when the rich and the poor come to you for judgment with today's marxist ideology automatically you give the benefit of the doubt to the poor the torah says don't dare do that rich and poor come before you and if the poor is wrong you judge the poor and you make sure that the poor recompenses the rich not because you know they're poor and they're you can take advantage of them which is the way most societies work or the way our society works now if somebody's rich or white or male or christian that automatically they're wrong no we judge according to torah and judge righteously so there's no respect of persons the way we have a society now that's gone insane and is respecting persons not for their character but for nonsense things they have no control over so christ will not respect just because we have a position that doesn't do anything in our time of judgment with god and so that a b pattern was really introduced

in ephesians 5 21 where we're to submit ourselves one to another this is how the christian mind

works this is the self-control the power that the holy spirit gives us

over ourselves so that we can engage in this a b

pattern and so all of these instructions that we see

are just helping us understand how human minds

successfully engage with one another and then last night we spent most of our time here in ephesians 6 beginning in verse 10.

finally my brethren so after all of this instruction that we've come through beginning when we began at the feast uh last

sunday uh going through all these chapters of the letter he now comes to his conclusion so we have to have the force

of all of his writing and this is what i covered

yesterday all of this we have to keep in mind as he comes to his conclusion finally my brothers be strong in the lord this is the struggle obeying our parents in the lord submitting to our husband in the lord loving our wife in the lord all of this you know being a good employer in the lord being a great employee in the lord all of this is part of the struggle and requires a christian mind to pull this off so again when we're seduced into demonstrating and rioting we want our what do we want justice when do we want it now when we're we're in this um vein popping eye bulging you know

throat tearing rage over justice this has nothing to do with the holy spirit so having the holy spirit having this great power within us gives us this self-control to engage in this a b pattern of how human minds complement each other and even if the other doesn't engage in their part we engage in our part as unto the lord so finally my brother be strong in the lord all of these instructions that i gave you as to how to be in the lord be strong in that and in the power of his might it's an epic struggle and the principalities and powers are trying to seduce us away from our role in this a b complementarity pattern finally my brethren be strong in the lord and in the power of his might put on the whole armor of god that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil when we read verse 11 here we should get the sense of the incredible you know gale force wind of the power and the cleverness of the devil that to stand as a christian against this is miraculous that we shouldn't take it for granted that oh i'm a spiritual person i can stand let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall we have to understand just how powerful this is this is a mastermind who understands not just you he hasn't just been studying you and his demons haven't been

just studying you since you've been born he's been studying humanity since adam as god was creating adam he was studying what is this and then he created eve and he's studying and he's studying the relationship between them and the instructions god has given them and he's using his mastermind to figure out how to upend them and then when god chose israel he studies these people and he figured out how to upend them and throughout their history even now to the church even with the holy spirit this mastermind is constantly studying and coming up with new methods and effective methods to upend god's people so please let's not take this for granted this is serious we we have been enrolled into an epic struggle so do everything you can to put on the whole armor of god so that you can be strong in the lord because we're up against the wiles of the devil and we're wrestling not with flesh and blood for we wrestle not against flesh and blood but against principalities against powers against the rulers of the darkness of this world and i think christians everything that we're involved in and anytime we are involved in conflict because there's times that we have to be involved in conflict there are times when conflict comes to us there are times that we have to go on the offensive with the sword in hand but whenever we're involved in any kind of conflict

we have to ask ourselves okay what is the power

behind this conflict and do i understand that my conflict is not with the human being

it's not with flesh and blood it's what the principalities and powers behind it and am i walking circumspectly am i walking according to this vocation am i am i using the armor of god to defend and to go on the offense with the sword

so we wrestle not against flesh and blood and again so you know

sometimes you see people they're just so emotional

why because they're caught up in themselves

which is flesh and blood they're caught up in themselves

and they're caught up in the human realm and we need to help each other get out of that

and see things from a much bigger picture an eternal picture

and a holistic picture we wrestle not

against flesh and blood but against

principalities against powers

against the rulers of the darkness of

this world it's amazing

this is what we're up against against spiritual wickedness

in the heavenly in the epirenius in the heavenly places

wherefore take unto you the whole armor of god

don't allow any point of weak spiritual weakness

don't have a spiritual achilles heel

because these

demonic beings are serious they are

looking to take us out

and they're patient you may think you're

doing well but they know you know one

week from now two weeks from now three years from now they know how humanity is unfolding and they have a plan for all of humanity and they're controlling the governments of this world and so they're just saying yeah the weakness is there wait because in two years time in five years time we will pass this global legislation and that weakness will be able to take them all out so this is why we need to be taking the time now to making sure we do not have these spiritual achilles heels wherefore take unto you the whole armor of god that you may be able to stand sorry that you may be able to withstand in the evil day and having done all to stand so it's not just about standing today let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall you may be standing today i may be standing today but the point is to be preparing for the evil day so that we can stand in the evil day because when the evil day comes the majority will fail when the evil day comes the majority will betray when the evil day comes the love of the majority will wax cold so just being standing today congratulations that's great that's wonderful we rejoice that we're standing today the point is can we stand and withstand in the evil day which is coming and having done everything to stand it's

not having done a little bit to stand having done kind of a casual approach to stand it's taking this serious this is why the majority fail because the majority don't take this seriously we have to take this really really seriously redeeming the time preparing ourselves getting ready so that when the evil day comes we will do everything we can to stand here in revelation 13 speaking of the evil day and being able to stand in revelation 13 10 it says he that leads into captivity that is the beast power shall go into captivity why because christ led captivity captive christ is now far above all principalities and powers human spiritual otherwise he's over everything so this tremendous human power which is controlled by and empowered by this tremendous spiritual power behind it taking the people of god captive christ says he will lead him into captivity he that kills with the sword must be killed with the sword you want justice this is justice this is god's justice and in understanding god's justice here is the patience and faith of the saints if we don't understand god's justice if we want social justice now we'll be taken out we will be seduced and taken out what we want is god's justice in god's time god says vengeance is mine we'll wait

blessed are those that wait upon the lord we'll wait we'll wait for this and it is in this understanding embedded in this understanding is the patience and the faith of the saints so if you see anybody that's impatient wants justice now want social justice now they will be taken out i'm sorry we have to pray we have to do all we can to help them to see this that yes there will be injustice terrible injustice it's all being orchestrated right now as we speak against the people of god and god says be patient vengeance is mine you got my my justice is coming on my time we want god's justice on his time and it is in this understanding of the bigger picture that we have our patience in our patients will possess our souls and is it's in this understanding this is where the faith is again in revelation 14 12 as he outlines the incredible power and influence of the beast he says here is the patience of the saints as we understand that god is far above all of these powers this is where the patience of the saints is here are they that keep the commandments of god and the faith of jesus so to get through this we have to have on the whole armor of god in order to have the patience of the saints and to wait

for the justice of god in daniel 11 and verse 32 he says and such as do wickedly against the covenant shall he corrupt by flatteries brother shall betray brother but the people that do know their god shall be strong and do exploit so the majority will fail but those who have done all to put on the whole armor of god and having done all to stand god willing we will do exploits in a time of complete horror and complete terror god has not given us a spirit of fear but a spirit of power and of love and of a sound mind so we will be able to operate in all of this nightmarish horror and do exploits for god if we do all we can to stand in matthew 24 verse 11 christ says and many false prophets shall rise that is critical yesterday i spoke about the importance of teaching the human mind you know the brain is empowered by glucose but the mind is empowered by knowledge that's why over and over and over paul says grow in grace and the knowledge of our lord jesus christ that's why we need teachers and that's why satan needs false teachers and false prophets because we see the world we interpret the world by the knowledge by the stories by the narratives that were fed and so the whole world now is being fed a narrative around social justice which is setting the whole world up

to rally against jerusalem it's a setup that there's a pattern of that's emerging that ultimately will result in the whole world being united against jerusalem and christ returning and destroying all the tribes of the earth and brethren even are getting caught up in this because there are false teachers and false prophets and so this is a necessary um development in the path to the to the destruction of god's people that there will be false teachings and false prophets and they shall deceive many not a few many will deceive many most will be taken out and so this is the evil day that we have to be preparing to stand in and because iniquity shall abound the agape the spiritually uh empowered love of most christians will wax cold this is the evil day but he that puts on the whole armor of god and does all he can or she can to stand and endures to the end that's the one that shall be saved it's it's a very few it's not everybody the majority will fail because the majority are not taking this seriously they're not putting on the whole armor of god realizing it's not that i'm standing now it's that i need to stand in the evil day now speaking of the evil day and we covered a little bit of this vesterday when we looked at second thessalonians uh or i think it was second thessalonians one

where the apostasy the great apostasy the great falling away is foretold but paul repeats it here to his protege timothy when he says look timothy the spirit is clear there's no if ends or buts about this the spirit speaks expressly that in the latter times coming into this evil day in the latter times some a a percentage will depart from the faith they will not stand they were not putting on the armor of god and they did not understand that we are battling against principalities and powers they got seduced it's very clear the spirit the spirit is not ambiguous about this it is a very clear instruction by christ himself that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith how tragic giving heed that they they have ear itching ears whatever they're hearing it's smooth to them and they will give heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils again that's why yesterday's study we spoke about the necessity and the centrality of godly teaching we need the teachers we need the teaching god christ said if you love me feed my sheep this is why so let us not be complacent let us not be overconfident thinking that you know because i'm standing now no problem

one saved always saved no no no let's do all we can to get ready to withstand the onslaught that is coming before christ returns the devil knows that he has a short time he's going to be pulling out all the stops and our world is changing it's changing rapidly and demonic forces are really flexing their muscles in seducing ways in ways that make us feel good about ourselves but engage in conflict and human sacrifice and witchcraft we have to see things from a spiritual lens back to ephesians 6 stand therefore having your loins gert about with truth we care about truth we go to battle with truth we don't fall victim to falsehoods having to learn loins gert about with truth and in ephesians one to three let's immerse ourselves in those truths that are in the first half of ephesians and having on the breastplate of righteousness ephesians 4 to 6 gives us the instructions of how to be righteous and it isn't in that righteous living that the breastplate protects our vital organs particularly the heart you know there's a part in ephesians 4 where he talks about the things that are done by christians in secret it would blow your mind what christians are up to in secret because they're allowing themselves to be seduced and then he says we must expose them don't hide it you know i think sometimes we go too far in trying to keep everything confidential paul says expose them expose these works

so that people know don't do these things so if we're engaging in this these things secretly our hearts are being darkened and we have we don't have the breastplate to protect our vital organs the righteousness all these righteous instructions of how to be strong in the lord he gives us in ephesians 4 to 6. and notice this now in verse 15 and i touched on this yesterday and your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace that word preparation i think we read over it that the purpose of the teachers is to prepare and to empower the disciples so that they in turn can prepare and empower other disciples that that i i should have looked up the scripture in acts i believe is acts 8 when persecution came upon the church and the apostles said we will stay in jerusalem and face this persecution you guys run run for your life when they ran for their lives they took the gospel with them because the apostles were preparing them with the gospel of peace and so that's even though the apostles stayed in jerusalem the gospel spread and so in the same way we cannot have a passive church we cannot have a church that's ineffective the purpose of the ministry is to empower the brethren to preach the gospel and also to edify the body preach the gospel edify the body and so while we're in these times of relative

peace what our brother bernard called soft persecution this is the time to be preparing to be ready to give an answer for the hope that lies within you and if you study that passage it's in the context of persecution but not only it's not just the knowledge that we have of how to preach the gospel it's also how we put the wisdom that we gain depending on who we're talking to how to preach the gospel so very very important that we're taking this time putting on the armor of god and preparing for the gospel of peace and above all taking the shield of faith wherewith you shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked and there's many sermons we've had that have gone through these these um passages so these are fiery darts but we need the shield of faith and take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the spirit which is the word of the lord so the sword now is going on the offense with the word of the lord praying always with all prayer and supplication in the spirit and watching there unto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints so prayer is a big part of of this this armor and what we do and praying for all saints and for me that is for the apostle that utterance may be given to me that i may open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the gospel so he was in the role of an evangelist and he was teaching the unchurched he was going to the gentiles and sharing the gospel with them and also to the jew

the jew first but also the gentiles and and so not everybody does the same thing and his part in the body was exactly this so he he says to pray for him as well so everybody's doing their part and he has a part and we're supporting him in his part and today there are certain men that have to do this part and have to do it boldly and we should be praying for those men that they can do their part for which i am an ambassador ambassador in bond so he was in prison then he's the prisoner of the lord and for doing his reward for preaching the truth was being imprisoned so for which i am an ambassador in bonds and that therein i may speak boldly as i ought to speak so he sees himself he doesn't see himself as a prisoner he sees himself as an ambassador for the lord

and he's speaking boldly so that the roman guard themselves end up converting to to the way

but that you also may know my affairs and how i do tychicus a beloved brother and faithful minister so he calls him out as a faithful minister because he was very worried about the ephesians ministers

but this is a faithful minister in the lord shall make known unto you all things so you'll get to learn of my my state

whom i have sent unto you for the same purpose

that you might know our affairs and that he might comfort your hearts and as the brethren come to know their affairs they could pray more effectively for him peace be to the brethren

and love with faith from god the father and the lord jesus christ so again very very clear the good will that the father and the lord jesus christ have toward us grace be with all them that love our lord jesus christ in sincerity amen so what an amazing amazing a little book that's just so jam-packed and you i think i would just encourage everybody to sit down and just read this book and then go through the the teachings that we've had here as a starter as a way to initiate your study of the book so take it further and for example i yesterday i really focused on kind of giving a survey of the book of this epic struggle between the christian and the prince of the power of the air and the principalities and powers but that that's we engage in that struggle with a power that is far above the principalities and powers and so that clearly is a theme through the book but if you look here in uh i did a search on the word peace if you look at the word peace there's a theme of shalom of peace in the book it's mentioned seven times from start to finish throughout the book i focused on power uh eight times there's this theme from start to finish on power in the book if you look at grace there's a theme of grace 12 times as mentioned from start to finish in the book and finally most importantly

love 38 times this theme of love is mentioned in the book so there's a lot of study that can be done around what the apostle paul remember the apostle paul met with the risen christ and studied under the risen christ as a sa highly uh educated scholar in in the word and he came to understand so much and so enlightened and so we cannot read if oh yeah i read ephesians oh yeah oh yeah i know the bible we have to be very respectful of this man's knowledge in the lord and there's so much that can be done so i hope that through this feast i've been helped i've been able to help you scratch the surface of this book and that you'll be encouraged and motivated to go back through it and study it more deeply and share your insights with the brethren and do your part in this epic struggle that we've been grafted into and drafted into it's an amazing book and again as i opened up this whole study if the ancient israelites were commanded to rejoice because of the increase the physical increase the blessings of physical increase at the work of their hands how much more should we rejoice because of all the spiritual blessings god holding nothing back that we enjoy at the work of god's hands at the work of christ's hands this is just an amazing mystery that we are now a part of let's stay focused brethren and let's

remember to put on the whole armor of god jesus christ is lord and he's coming very very soon we just have to be patient brethren and get through the evil day knowing that christ is far above all these principalities and powers god bless have a great last great last great day and we're looking forward to resuming our study on psalms god willing on october 14th god bless you