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Don't Adopt The Enemies Plan

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The Super Bowl is being played today and many people have been looking forward to this day. Sometimes the game of football can be looked at as a parallel to life, average church people watch from the sidelines and many never get into the game of life. It is time that we get into the game of life. As we were growing up we could hardly wait to get out of school thinking continued education is a waste of time and we are tired of learning, we thought that there would be no more learning, but we were in for a surprise. Life is a continual learning experience, it is a continual growing experience, and we find ourselves wanting to continue to learn by different means.

We see the body of Christ arrayed against the forces of darkness on the playing field of life and are reminded of David how he stood against Goliath, the Israelites cheering, wanting to see David kill him and the Philistines cheering for Goliath wanting to see David killed, but God never failed, he allowed David to come forward and win.

The book of Ephesians is known as the "Alps" of the New Testament, the first three chapters take us into the heavenlies, sitting us there with Jesus, all things being put under our feet, that the principalities and powers would know the manifold wisdom of God through the church because of the dominion and power given to them. The last few chapters of the book of Ephesians deals with the practical side of life, it deals with all kinds of relationships, with walking in love and forgiveness, renewing our minds, getting involved in church and every member doing their part and then the church is edified and built up.

Eph 6:10-13 "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. 11 Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to *stand against the **wiles of the devil. 12 For we

wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in ***high places. 13 Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand." KJV

* stand not being run over

**wiles means the devil has a plan to cause us to fall, it means deceit, trickery or craftiness

*** high places means that it is somewhere from us

Eph 6:10-13 "Now my beloved ones, I have saved these most important truths for last: Be supernaturally infused with strength through your life-union with the Lord Jesus. Stand victorious with the force of his explosive power flowing in and through you. 11 Put on God's complete set of armor provided for us, so that you will be protected as you fight against the evil strategies of the accuser! 12 Your hand-to-hand combat is not with human beings, but with the highest principalities and authorities operating in rebellion under the heavenly realms. For they are a powerful class of demon-gods and evil spirits that hold this dark world in bondage. 13 Because of this, you must wear all the armor that God provides so you're protected as you confront the slanderer, for you are destined for all things and will rise victorious." TPT

The choices that we make in our lives will never change until we take responsibility, we are in charge of our lives, we cannot be blaming everyone else for the life we have chosen, when we get so disgusted with our life, we will make a change. We are all living with the choices that we have made. We must have a relationship with Jesus in order to have power. We move over into the power and might of Jesus and are then ready for anything that comes our way. We are infused with supernatural strength and it causes us to be unstoppable. We are on the playing field of life and those principalities and powers can do us no harm. We are engaged in fighting the good fight of faith but must be equipped with the whole armor that has been provided to us from God and we will be able to stand against the devil and all his plans, deceit and trickery. Our fight is not with humans but with demonic forces in high places.

The demonic forces that are referenced in these verses are here in the earth, are real and in the atmosphere that we live in. We sometimes think that God is failing us, that the demon is getting the best of us, but this is not true. We are on the playing field of life and the enemy plays for keeps on that field, we must learn to stand and not be defeated.

v. 10 the importance of knowing and walking in the power

v. 12 our fight is in close contact and is so fierce and so real that it is like we are in a wrestling match. it is not with humans but demonic forces

v. 13 take on the whole armor of God for your protection

The following verse shows us that God has prearranged for us to have the good life, has prepared the way for us that we should walk in it, we have been recreated in Jesus and made ready to live. We can stand before the most powerful force of darkness and come out victorious. The plan of God is that we win, it can be a struggle but if we continue to stand we can be a conqueror.

Eph 2:10 "For we are God's [own] handiwork (His workmanship), recreated in Christ Jesus, [born anew] that we may do those good works which God predestined (planned beforehand) for us [taking paths which He prepared ahead of time], that we should walk in them [living the good life which He prearranged and made ready for us to live]." AMP

James tells us that if we submit to God, we can resist the devil and he will flee from us. Don't get into pride, throw yourself over onto God because he wants to do great things for you. God is famous for doing the unexpected and there is no end to what He will do. Submitting is bringing ourselves under authority, under the canopy of God where He is at, it is not a bad thing to do if we are wanting God to move in our lives, we come under His protection and provision. Resisting the devil because of the explosive power that we have in our lives, given to us by Jesus, will cause the devil to flee from us. It is at this place that we become unstoppable and invincible.

James 4:6-7 "But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble. 7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you." KJV

v.7 pride must be displaced

Job 5:8-9 "I would seek unto God, and unto God would I commit my cause: 9 Which doeth great things and unsearchable; marvellous things without number:" KJV

Peter tells us basically the same thing that we read in James chapter 4, the devil is our enemy, an adversary walking about because he has a purpose in mind, looking for someone to run over and to bring down and defeat. We may have fallen short in the past, but God is a God of second chances, giving us the ability to rise up and repent and come unto Jesus Christ, He infuses us with supernatural power and His plan is

for us to lord it over the adversary at every turn of life and stand. That is the winner in us, ready to conquer again. If you stick with God's plan, you will resist the devil and you will be successful and you will come out on the other side.

1 Pet 5:8-9 "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: 9 Whom *resist steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world. ' KJV

*resist means having a plan, to stand against something, push against, strive against

*Resist also means "to resist adopting a plan". We look at the word adopt as meaning to adopt a child, that we become committed to provide for, feed it, make it a part of our family having all the benefits that a natural child would have.

The devil has a plan too, he is trying to get us to adopt his plan, making it a part of us, we talk about it, claiming it by the things we say, making it personal, calling it our "sickness" or whatever it might be. But he is only a roaring lion making a lot of noise.

Read about the plan that God had made for David found in first Samuel starting in chapter 17, all the obstacles that had been raised against him in all areas of his life. King Saul, Goliath and the fight that the Israelites had been involved in. David knew who his God was, he told of all the things that God had done for him, all of his battles and that he had been the winner over them. David on the playing field of life ran toward Goliath, he was able to overcome and kill the giant.

Heb 12:1-3 "Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, 2 Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. 3 For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds." KJV

We are on the playing field of life and are being cheered on by those who have gone on before us, they are looking down on us, wanting to see us be conquerors because of what Jesus has done for us. Continue to stand to be a conqueror, because we are more than conquerors.