



Sunday, July 1, 2018

Pastor Don Denyes

Intro to Ephesians 6:10-15

It seems that peace is always elusive in our world. Watching the news consistently can lead to a sense of exasperation, like nothing is ever going to change. We might want to exclaim with John Lennon, “just give peace a chance!” But whether it’s in the world around us or even in the battles that are waged in our own hearts and minds, peace is not a plentiful commodity.

Thankfully, God has already given us the peace that we most need through the gospel. For all the danger and conflict that exists in the world, the greatest threat that we faced was the prospect of spending eternity under the wrath of God. But for those who have committed themselves to Jesus as Lord of their lives, He gladly and freely saves and thereby establishes peace between them and God. As a result, this peace becomes firm footing on which we are able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil, as Paul has been talking about in Ephesians 6 thus far. May we be a people who is so confident in the peace we have in Christ that we not only withstand Satan’s attacks, but that we even go on the offensive and proclaim the gospel of peace to those who badly need it (Is. 52.7).

Context

As Pastor Don has noted several times, the description of the armor of God is basically an elaborate illustration of what it means to “put on Christ.” Christ is our peace (Eph. 2.14), who has broken down the dividing wall, not only with God, but with other people as well. The Church is where the manifold wisdom of God is manifested to the spiritual powers and authorities that God is uniting people in Christ. This is a profound and lasting peace. The local church, therefore, is a place where that peace is lived out practically where people from all different backgrounds can still gather together and fellowship in the unity of the Spirit (Eph. 4.3).

Read and Reflect (Use this section to write down any thoughts you had on the sermon. Make sure to note any questions you had about something in the passage or in the sermon.)

“Armor – Gospel Boots”

Read Ephesians 6:10-15

Ephesians 6.15

Feet fitted

- Make it clear Physical illustration

- Make it dynamic Spiritual correlation
 - Mobility (Is. 52.7)
 - Stability (Context: “stand firm”)
 - Gospel is peace *for* us... with God
 - Romans 5.1
 - “We have *peace* with God”
 - Gospel is peace *in* us... of God
 - Philippians 4.7
 - “the *peace* of God... will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus”
 - Gospel is peace *through* us... to others
 - Ephesians 2.14
 - “He is our *peace*”
 - Ephesians 2.15
 - “One new man so making *peace*”
 - Ephesians 4.3
 - “Unity of the Spirit in the bond of *peace*”
 - Ephesians 2.17
 - Preached *peace* to you who are far away”

- Make it mine Personal application

Discuss

- 1) What is the greatest threat to your peace of mind right now?
- 2) How would you describe “the gospel”?
- 3) When you think of “going deeper” in the Christian life, what do you think of?
- 4) How does the “gospel of peace” impact your view of yourself?
- 5) How does the “gospel of peace” affect the way you view those people in your life you typically find difficult to deal with?