## **Ephesians (Quality: Good)**

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Preacher: Broome, John Robert (1931-2013)

[0:00] Seeking the Lord's help, I direct your attention this evening to the epistle of Paul to the Ephesians chapter 6 and reading verse 14.

Paul's epistle to the Ephesians chapter 6 and reading verse 14. Stand therefore having your loins girt about with truth and having on the breastplate of righteousness.

Stand therefore having your loins girt about with truth and having on the breastplate of righteousness. The antithesis of standing here is falling.

We shall either stand or fall. And this is the truth that is contained here.

The apostle Paul judges the conflict to be a warfare with opposition from the enemy of souls.

[1:21] A solemn opposition and the purpose of the enemy of souls is to overthrow God's people. To cast them down.

He started this work in Eden and his object is to overthrow God's people. And we should take note that not only does he attack God's people but he solemnly attacked the Lord himself.

His object in the temptations in the wilderness was very real. His purpose was to overthrow the Lord of life and glory and to cast him down and to destroy the whole church of God.

And we see his solemn work. That he would overthrow God's work. Overthrow his people and cause them to fall as they did in Eden.

And what a fall that was. And we see the effects of it here in the earth. The effects of that solemn fall are eternal darkness.

[2:48] To be cast out of God's presence forever. And to be cast down into the bottomless pit with the devil and his angels.

This is the antithesis of this word that lies before us tonight. All who is sufficient for these things.

Who is able to stand against the wiles of the devil. Who is able to stand against his own fallen and her own fallen and ruin nature.

Who is sufficient for these things. And when we look at the solemnity and reality of the battle. The conflict.

It is always wise to be aware of the strength of the enemy. One of the features of the battle of Arnhem.

[3:56] Was that General Montgomery failed to grasp the power of the enemy. Surrounding the vicinity of that battle.

He did not realize what vast forces of the German army were present in the area.

And therefore he lost the battle. When we come to look at the Apostle Paul. As he speaks of standing here.

In the conflict. He speaks very clearly of the enemy. And he speaks not only of the enemy's strength.

But who the enemy is. And he says in the 12th verse. We wrestle not against flesh and blood.

[4:55] But against principalities. Against powers. Against the rulers of the darkness of this world. Against spiritual wickedness. In the high or heavenly places.

And he had a very clear sight. Of who. The enemy was. That is not surprising.

He himself had been in the grip. Of that enemy. He himself had been an instrument of Satan. If the Lord said to Peter. Get thee behind me Satan.

When. He queried whether Christ would die. For his church. How much more so the Apostle Paul. Who not only.

Queried it verbally. But queried it. In his actions. And his activities. Attempting to destroy God's people. Standing by at the death of Stephen.

[6:00] Solemnly in the grip of Satan. Solemnly doing his work. Solemnly manifesting his hatred. And going to Damascus. Set on casting God's dear children into prison.

All how. Satan had. Such a control over. The Apostle Paul. And in heavenly places. High places.

Yes. Spiritually. The Apostle Paul was. Walking in darkness. He was. Walking in an empty profession.

Of the Lord's name. He was. Gripped. Hardened. In. Formality and death. And oh.

What a. Solemn path he walked. And we see him here. When the Lord called him by grace. Having a realization. That. The.

[6:57] Conflict was not with flesh and blood. Not. Even with his own heart. Or. With those about him. It was something vastly different.

It was. It was principalities. And powers. It was with Satan. And he goes on to. Speak of it. Here. Against the rulers.

Of the darkness. Of this world. Against. The spiritual. Wickedness. In. High places. Or heavenly places.

Oh. Oh. How he. He saw the. Solemn nature. Of that conflict. In all its reality. It was the. Mighty power of Satan.

That. Would. Overthrow him. And that would cast him down. And. It wasn't only the power of Satan. It was the wiles.

[7:56] The subtlety. Of the enemy. It was. As we read. Later. The fiery dance. Of the wicked one.

That would set alight. As Satan had done. His own fallen nature. In such a way. That he turned his. Hatred and malice.

On the children of God. The apostle Paul. Knew something. Of the fiery dance. Of the wicked one. His solemn temptations. He knew something.

Of his subtlety. How he worked. Through religion. Through God's. Holy word. He worked. In the heart of the apostle.

The apostle was well. Instructed. In the word of God. He knew the word of God. We see this. In the epistle. To the Hebrews.

[8:49] How well he knew him. When he came. And his eyes were opened. To see the blessedness. Of the truth. Which he'd held. In the letter. Now he knew it.

And understood it. In all its blessedness. But Satan used it. Solemnly. In all his ignorance. And death. He felt. Settled.

Satisfied. In handling. The word of God. In the word of God. But he only knew. The letter. He only knew. The law. He was working. For his own salvation.

And how well. The dear man of God. When brought out of it. Could write his epistle. To the Galatians. And how well. He could write this epistle. To the Ephesians. Not of works.

Not of works. He says. Regarding salvation. And regarding faith. Lest any man should boast. For we're his workmanship. Created in Christ Jesus. Unto good works.

[9:48] Which God hath. Before ordained. That we should walk in them. Stand therefore. Oh he knew. That wasn't easy. He knew that.

Was a mighty task. He knew the need. Of divine strength. If ever we were to stand. He knew the need. Of that heavenly strength.

Of God. And that heavenly power. If ever. Any poor child of God. Was to stand against. The wiles of the devil. The fiery darts. Of the wicked one. And these solemn principalities.

And powers. And this spiritual wickedness. In heavenly places. This darkness. He knew the grace of God. That was necessary. And I believe this.

When he came to speak. Of this standing. He had in mind. In the hour and article of death. To stand in a. Dying hour.

[10:48] Not to fall. Oh the mighty. Divine strength. Of God. That enables his. Dear people.

Not to. Sink. In a. Dying hour. But to. Rest in the. Arms of their God. And here.

We. See. Something of the. Blessed nature. Of the truth. Which he. Knew in his own heart. How was it.

That he. Was enabled. To stand. Before his God. How was it. That. In the street. Called straight. When the Lord said.

Behold. He. Prayers. He didn't sing. Under the weight. Of his own guilt. And sin. And fill. By. I believe this.

[11:44] Because his God. Drew near. And. In his. Darkest hour. Under the.

Solemn realization. Of the light. Of truth. In the. Opening up to him. Of all the. Solemn nature. Of his. Past life.

The Lord brought. His dear servant. Under the. Power of his holy law. And his. Solemn condemnation. As a schoolmaster. He brought him. To Christ.

He brought him. In that hour. To. Be. Enable to stand. In. A broken. And a.

Contrite heart. The Lord. Brought him. To confession. And I believe. He brought him. To peace.

[12:43] To peace. And to pardon. We read of the. Dear man of God. That almost immediately. He rose. From that place. The. The Lord.

Enabled him. To preach Christ. His. His loins. Came. As it were. Forth. In that hour. Gertibate with truth. And the point.

That has. Rested upon my mind. Tonight. Read that. Sixth chapter of John. For this. Very reason. We see there. In that.

Sixth chapter. Of the gospel of John. So much. Precious. Truth. Blessed truth. Spoken. By. Christ. And in the.

Whole of it. We see. The. Solemn nature. Of what. The Lord. Meant. That. The truth.

[13:40] When our loins. Are girt about with it. It is God. That does it. And his dear people. Learn that truth.

In the precious. Experience of it. All the depths. Of that truth. The Lord spoke such. Sacred truth.

Of eating his flesh. Drinking his blood. And when the truth. Is. Applied. In the hearts.

Of his dear people. By the. Mighty power of God. Revealing it to them. In their souls. In the experience. Of it. Then the Lord. Girds. Their loins.

About with truth. And here. We see. That the only way. In which his dear people. Can possibly stand. Before God.

[14:38] God. Is when they have been led. Into the truth. In the. Experience of it. In their hearts. When they.

Are fed by that truth. When. It is. Entered into their hearts. Into their souls. And when it is revealed to them. By the.

Holy Spirit. In their hearts. Then. Forever. Their. Their. Loins are. Girt about. With truth.

And they will stand. And we can see. The nature. Of that truth. Such. Truths.

In that. Sixth of John. As no man. Cometh unto me. Except the father. Which has sent me. Draw him. Oh. The. Mighty.

[15:33] Truth. That lies there. Of the. Divine. Work. Of the. Holy Spirit. In quickening. That. Lies in this epistle.

You hath it quickened. Oh. The. Truth. Of regeneration. The work. Of God's spirit. In. His. Mighty.

Quickening. Power. And effectual. Call. Are to be learned. In the. Glorious. Experience. Of them. That's the only way. That ever be learned.

And it's the only way. Our. Loins will ever be girt about. With those truths. Is as the. Lord. Leads us into them. In. Revelation.

In the experience. Of them. And as we. Personally. In our own heart. And souls. Experience. Walk them out. Here below. And know them.

[16:30] Otherwise. We shall be. No better off. Regarding the truth. Than the apostle Paul was. Before the Lord. Led him into the truth.

When he. Spoke here. Of standing. By. He stood. He stood. Upright. On that road. To Damascus.

In the. Evil purposes. Of his heart. But when we come. To look at the. Truth. Here. We see that.

He stood. In God's sight. Far better. When the Lord. Said of him. As he bowed his. Head. In the street. Court straight. Behold.

He prayed. Then he stood. Before God. Then the Lord. Was dealing. With the issues. That concerned. His. Eternal welfare.

[17:25] Then the Lord. Was bringing him down. In. Brokenness. And contrition. Then he was standing. Before God. I take it. That here. Lies. The truth.

Equally. Of standing. Before his throne. In that great day. Then. There. To be enabled.

To stand. We are told. That. Every knee. Will bow. But equally. There is a solemn. Distinction.

Between the bowing. Of God's dear people. And the bowing. Of a wicked world. Bowing of God's dear people. Will be to worship him.

In that. Solemn day. They will stand. They will indeed. Before God. But.

[18:22] The bowing. Of the wicked. Will be to be cast. Into that bottomless pit. Where Christ said. The worm dieth not. That is conscience. And the fire.

That is condemnation. His wrath. Is not quenched. Oh. How the. Apostle speaks. To these Ephesians. Who had worshipped.

At the temple of Diana. The standing here. That is spoken of. Concerns. The. Propitiation.

Of Christ. He. Is the propitiation. For our sins. What a. Word that is.

It. Means. That. He himself. Has. Born. The wrath of God. In that scripture.

[19:17] Awake. O sword. Against my shepherd. Against the man. That is my equal. Smite the shepherd. The wrath of God. Has. Been poured out.

Upon his. Dear people. But. It does not then. Fall. Upon his dear church. At his propitiation. It is the removal.

Of that. Wrath. Of God. And it is done. At the. Mercy seat. The place. Of propitiation. Beautifully.

Prefigured. In the. Ark. With the cherubims. And the blood sprinkled. Mercy seat. That is the place. Of propitiation. And the place.

Of propitiation. Was. Calvary's cross. And. There we. See. He.

[20:13] Is the. Propitiation. For our sins. And there. His dear people. Stand. Not. Condemned.

By God's wrath. And his holy law. Any longer. For they. Have a. Substitute. A vicarious. Sacrifice. Offered.

For their sins. Stand. All this. Is what lies. In this word here. Stand. Stand. Therefore. Having your loins.

Girt about. With truth. All dear friends. When we. Go further. Into this. And see. The truth.

And what truth. It is. That. Is girt about. Our loins. We must. Come. To. Redemption. Job. I know.

[21:07] Job. Said. I know. He knew. Redemption. He knew.

That. Christ. Had redeemed him. From the curse. Of the law. That he was. His. Redeemer. That he had. Bought him.

With a price. He said. Regarding him. The end. Of his book. I've heard of thee. By the hearing. Of the ear. But now. My eyes.

Seeth thee. That. Was the fruit. Of the solemn path. That. Had followed. The Lord's words. To Satan. Hast thou considered.

My servant. Job. Little did. Satan know. That the Lord. Was to use him. As an instrument.

[22:03] In his hands. To bring Job. To that. Blessed ground. To stand. In Christ. In the. Sweet experience. Of it. And that it was. The Lord's intention.

To leave. Satan. To bring Job. Down. Under. Solemn. Suffering. And temptation.

That. Christ. Might be revealed. In his heart. The hope of glory. And I've long felt. That. Had. Satan. Known. What he was doing. When he put it. Into the heart. Of Judas.

To betray him. He'd never have done it. He hadn't. Any inkling. Of what was going to happen. At Calvary's cross. Else he wouldn't. Have put it. Into the heart. Of Judas.

To betray him. To be crucified. Nor had he. Any inkling. When the Lord. Permitted him. To torment Job. That it would be.

[22:58] The. Very avenue. To bring. His dear servant. To say. I've heard of thee. By the hearing of thee. But now. Mine eyes seeth thee. Wherefore I abhor myself.

And repent. In dust and ashes. I. Mine eyes seeth thee. And we hear it. In that lovely word. In the 19th of Job. And the beauty of the. Loins.

That were girt about. With truth there. When Job said. I know. That my redeemer liveth. And though worms. Destroy this body. Yet. In my flesh.

Shall I see God. He had. A glorious. Assurance. The sealing. Of the spirit. He had the. Spirit of adoption.

Given to him. He had. A precious hope. That one day. He would be with Christ. Which was far better. And the Lord. Had sealed.

[23:54] These. Precious truths. In his heart. And in his sorrows. And in his sufferings. And in his darkness. And in his temptation. The Lord. Had girt his loins.

About with truth. And I believe. It's in the darkest hours. And in the most solemn paths. As we see. With the Lord's servant David. In all his. Adultery and sin.

The Lord. Was to overcome all. And girt his. Loins. About with truth. In the 51st Psalm. We. See it.

When the Lord. Girded his dear servant. Loins. About with truth. As he. Brought him. Through that solemn sin. A broken. And a contrite heart.

O God. Thou wilt not despise. And the Lord. Girt his loins. About with the. Practical. Knowledge. Of that. Blessed truth.

[24:49] When he said. Purge me. O how he. In his sin. And guilt. And darkness. Entered in. To the.

Precious nature. Of that. Truth. Wash me. Purge me. O how. Satan. Would have. Overthrown him.

He wrestled not. Against flesh and blood. It was a mightier power. Than that. Principalities. And powers. That would have destroyed him.

And cast him into hell. But no. The Lord is my shepherd. I shall not want. O the.

Mercy of his God. That. Followed his. Footsteps. As that. Psalm says. In its alternate verses. His mercy. Endureth.

[25:44] Forever. Stand. Therefore. Having your loins. Girt about. With truth. We can see here.

Immediately. That it is not the poor sinner. That. Girds his loins. About with truth. But. His God. God. Does it in him.

And. For him. The. Lord. The Lord. Speaks. In his. Holy word. By. The spirit. And reveals the.

Manner of his. Working. The. Lord's. Purposes. Regarding his. Dear church. Are to. Bring them to. Glory.

The truth is this. Thou. Lord. Lord. Wilt ordain. Peace for us. For thou. Also. Hast wrought. All our works.

[26:43] In us. And how we. See it here. Loins. Girt about. With truth. Thou. Lord. Hast wrought.

All our works. In us. It is his. Blessed work. To teach. His dear people. And to.

Gird their loins. Abound with truth. He. Established the principle. So clearly. When he. Spoke to his dear servant Peter.

And said to him. When he confessed. Christ. Thou art the Christ. The son of the living God. And the Lord said.

Flesh and blood. Has not revealed this unto thee. But my. Father which is in heaven. The Lord looked on his. Dear servant Peter. And he could see. His loins.

[27:38] Had been girt about. With. Glorious truth. He could see. The deity of Christ. It had been revealed.

In his heart. And established there. And oh. How. I believe. He saw it again. When. In the judgment hall.

Jesus turned. And looked on him. Oh. How. He went out. And wept. Bitly. He was established. In that. Same truth. His loins.

Girt about with it. A broken. And a contrite heart. Of God. Thou art not despised. It is a truth. That. Can only be learnt. In the.

Solemn experience. Of it. There. The. Sinner. Learns. What. True. Repentance is. And all. What a solemn issue.

[28:32] It is. And what solemn issues. Surround. Loins. That are. Girt about. With truth. They are most solemn. Issues.

In which. The sinner learns. Godlies. Are overseen. The sinner learns. The atoning. Love.

And. Blood. Of. Jesus Christ. The sinner learns. Truth. Upon truth. In his. Own heart. In the. Blessed experience.

Of it. And. The words. That I speak. Unto you. Said Christ. Or. What lies.

In that. Well. The Lord. Only speaks. To his. Dear children. Then. When he. Speaks. Their loins.

[29:25] Are. Girt about. With truth. The words. That I. Speak. Unto you. Their spirit. And their life. Or. What do we know.

Of such. Words. Of. Christ. Spoken to us. In our hearts. That have been made. In our souls. Spirit. And life. Stand therefore.

Having your loins. Girt about. With. Truth. And having on. The. Breastplate. Of righteousness. Who puts that on. I think of.

The armor. Of Saul. That. David put on. How useless. It was. It was. A futile. He went forth.

Clad. In another armor. Who. Clad him. In that. Other armor. Beautifully. We read. Of that. Other armor.

[30:27] Which. David went forth. To meet Goliath. Clad in. Faith. Is. The gift. Of God. Not of works. Lest any man.

Should boast. Oh. How we see. That gift. And how was it given. By grace. Sovereign grace.

Of God. Gave him that armor. Why. When the Lord. Would anoint him. King of Israel. God. And he sent.

His. God. A discerning. Prophet. To anoint him. How. Samuel's eyes.

Were up. To heaven. To distinguish him. From the others. And again. And again. It wasn't that one.

[31:23] But. There came the word. Arise. Anoint him. This is he. Oh. The distinguishing. Grace. Of God.

That manifest. His dear. Servant. And. We see. In the. Dealings of God. With him. As he went. To fight Goliath.

His eyes. Were up to heaven. And he could. Truthfully say. The Lord. Delivered me. From the lion. And the bear. He shall deliver me. From this Philistine. The. Eleventh of Hebrews.

Speaks. Of the faith. Of God's elect. If ever. There was a gift. Of God. We see it in faith.

A divine gift. That enables the. Sinner. To rest. In. Christ. And this is where the. Apostle.

[32:20] Where the Lord. Servant David. Rested. Many times. He wrote of him. In his psalms. Even to the extent. Of.

Prophecying. Regarding the. Events. Of his life. They pierced. My hands. And my feet. And we see.

The. Sweet. Psalmist. Of Israel. Thus. Taught. By God. And brought. Into a blessed. Possession.

Of the. Gift of faith. And when he came. To fight against Goliath. What was his armor. Why. It was the armor.

Of his God. It was this. Blessed. Breastplate. Of righteousness. And all the. What is described here. In the.

[33:18] Words. Of the apostle. The whole armor. Of God. The day. Beautiful. Is the. Breastplate. Of righteousness. Oh.

How. David. Knew. And saw. That. Blessed. Breastplate. Purge me. He said. Wash me. Here. Here we see.

The. Fountain. That was open. For sin. And uncleanness. And here we see. The heart. The two are spoken of.

Here together. All. How. This. Precious. Blood. Of sprinkling. And this. Spotless.

Robe. Of Christ. Righteousness. His imputed. Righteousness. Lie. Here. In this. Blessed. Truth. A heart. That. Is washed.

[34:15] And cleansed. In the. Blood. Of Jesus. Christ. As John. Says. The blood. Of. Jesus. Christ. His son. Cleanses. Us. From all. Sin.

Peter. Speaks. Of it. In his epistle. Who his own self. Bore. Our sins. In his own body. On the tree. The apostle.

Had. Such a sight. Of the. Blood. Of. Jesus. Christ. And his. Spotless. Righteousness. And he refers.

To it here. In the. Eleventh. Chapter. Of. The prophecy. Of Isaiah. We have.

That remarkable. Chapter. Regarding. Christ. Himself. There shall come. Forth a rod. Out of the stem. Of Jesse. And a branch. The great. Of his roots. With righteousness.

[35:11] Shall he judge. The poor. And reprove. With equity. The meek. Of the earth. And he goes on. To say this. And righteousness. Shall be the girdle. Of his loins. And faithfulness.

The girdle. Of his reigns. Oh how. Remarkably. We. See this. Blessed. Righteousness. Of Christ.

His. Spotless. Obedience. His. Keeping. Of his. Father's. Holy law. From the womb. To the tomb. Obedient.

Unto death. Even the. Death. Of the cross. And we read. In the psalm. The king's. Daughter. Is. All glorious. Within. Her. Raiment.

Is of raw gold. She shall be brought. Under the king. In raiment. Of needlework. It is. The. Glorious. Righteousness. Of Christ. That is.

[36:05] Spoken of here. Spoken of. In the figure. Of the. Breastplate. Of righteousness. The armor. But spoken of. As it covers.

The heart. That poor. Fallen. Ruined nature. Of God's. Dear people. The heart. That is deceitful. Above all things.

And desperately wicked. But now. Watched. Cleansed. And clothed. In the. Spotless. Righteousness. Of Christ. And. Therefore.

Able. To stand. Oh. I. See here. That the only way. In which a sinner. Can stand. In the presence. Of divine. Majesty.

And holiness. Is when. He wears. The. Breastplate. Of righteousness. And when. His loins. Are girt about.

[37:01] With heavenly. Revealed. Truth. By the spirit. When. He is made. Right. With his God. God. Only then.

Can he stand. Before his God. Otherwise. Shame. Guilt. Will be upon. Heart. And conscience.

But here. We have. A sight. As it were. Of heaven. The redeemed. Of the Lord. Standing. Before the. Throne. Of God.

And the anthem. That is upon. Their lips. Is. Unto him. That loved us. And washed us. From our sins. In his. Home blood. John the divine.

Fell at his master's feet. As dead. In his humanity. I do not believe. He does now. He stands.

[37:59] But under a sight. In his. Poor fallen humanity. Of the majesty. Of Christ. Revealed to him. That day. When he was. That Sabbath day. When he was in the spirit. On the Lord's day.

Dear man of God. Had. Such a blessed sight. Of his redeemer. And he bowed. At his feet. But the Lord. Called him. To rise.

And to stand. And spoke. Into his heart. Those precious truths. I am he that liveth. And was dead.

And behold. I am alive. Forevermore. And have the keys. Of hell. And of death. Stand. Stand. Therefore. Having your loins.

Girt about. With. Truth. And having on the. Breastplate. Of. Righteousness. And your feet. Shard. With the preparation.

[38:57] Of the gospel. Of peace. Just one word. In closing. In that. Last. Part. Which follows on. From our text. It is.

As it was. With the case. Of the apostle. Who wrote it. A beautiful expression. When he journeyed. To Damascus. His feet. Were anything else. But shard. With the preparation.

Of the gospel. Of peace. They were shard. With the most awful. Hatred. And war. But the Lord. Touched. His dear heart.

With sacred peace. And brought him. To be at rest. Brought his dear servant. To be as clay. In the hands of the heavenly potter. Made him willing.

In the day of his power. And. Brought him into the. Glorious paths. Of obedience. Made him to be at peace. With God.

[39:53] And not only so. But led him. As we have said tonight. Regarding doctrine. Led him. Into a. Glorious experience.

In his own soul. He who had walked. In such. Hatred. And enmity. And animosity. And bitterness. And darkness. And malice. He led his dear servant.

Into a most glorious peace. In the street called Strait. Where he. Said. First. Lord. What. Wilt thou have me to do.

And then confessed. All. That he had been. And was. And bowed. Before his God. In the peace. Of pardon. And entered in.

To that. Perfect peace. Peace. Perfect peace. In this dark. World of sin. The blood of Jesus.

[40:55] Speakers. Peace within. Peace. Perfect peace. And then this.

To do. The will of Jesus. This is rest. And the dear man. Entered. Sweetly into it. Stand.

Stand therefore. Having your loins. Girt about with truth. And having on the. Breastplate of righteousness. And your feet.

Shod. That is by God himself. As it was with the apostle Paul. And with these Ephesians. With the.

Preparation. Oh. How the Lord. Prepared. That. Mighty peace. In coming here. Into this earth. For his dear church. The preparation. Of the.

[41:52] Gospel. Of peace. Amen. Amen.