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Ephesians 6:13

Be Armed and Stand Your Ground

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Be Armed and Resist

Ephesians 6:13a (LEB)
Because of this, **take up the full armor** of God, in order that you may be able to **resist** in the evil day...

- “Because” refers to the spiritual battle
- “Take up” is imperative in the Greek
- “The evil day” is singular while “the days are evil” (Eph. 5:16) is plural
- The singular day likely refers to particular incidents of intense battle (see Lk 4:13)

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Having Prepared, Stand!

Ephesians 6:13b (LEB)
...and having done everything, to **stand**.

- “Having done everything” means “everything pertaining to the conflict”
- The details about what this means are revealed in the following verses
- These are: truth, righteousness, the gospel, faith, salvation, and the Word of God (sword of the Spirit)

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Implications and Applications

- “Standing” is abiding in the truth of the gospel, not gaining territory
- Avoid spiritual warfare teachings that promote direct interaction with Satan and his cohorts

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Abide, Don't Run Ahead

2 John 9a (ESV)
Everyone who **goes on ahead** and does not **abide in the teaching** of Christ, does not have God...

- “goes on ahead” is *proago* which in this context means ‘go beyond established bounds of teaching’ (Louw/Nida)
- To “abide” (Gr. *meno*) is thematic in John and means “stay put”
- “Teaching” can be translated “doctrine”

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Dreamers Cross Boundaries

Jude 8 (LEB)
Despite that, in the same way also these men, **because of their dreams**, **defile** the flesh and **reject** authority and **blaspheme** majestic beings.

- “Despite” refers to boundary crossing (Jude 6, 7)
- “Dreaming ones” reject *kuriote_s* (supernatural ruling powers) and blaspheme “glories” (evil ones)

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Bold But Totally Deceived

2 Peter 2:10b-12a (NASB)

Daring, self-willed, **they do not tremble when they revile angelic majesties**, whereas angels who are greater in might and power do not bring a reviling judgment against them before the Lord. But these, like unreasoning animals, **born as creatures of instinct** to be captured and killed, **reviling where they have no knowledge**,

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6

Divine Council Majestic Beings

1 Kings 22:19, 20 (NASB)

Micaiah said, "Therefore, hear the word of the LORD. I saw the LORD sitting on His throne, and **all the host of heaven standing by Him on His right and on His left**. The LORD said, 'Who will entice Ahab to go up and fall at Ramoth-gilead?' And one said this while another said that."

- **Ahab was a wicked king who did not want to listen to the truth**

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7

A Lying Spirit Will Deceive Ahab

1 Kings 22:21, 22 (NASB)

"Then a spirit came forward and stood before the LORD and said, 'I will entice him.' The LORD said to him, 'How?' And he said, '**I will go out and be a deceiving spirit in the mouth of all his prophets**.' Then He said, 'You are to entice him and also prevail. Go and do so.'"

- **This shows that the council included evil beings**

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8

A Greater to Lesser Argument

Jude 9 (LEB)

But Michael the archangel, when he argued with the devil, disputing concerning the body of Moses, did not **dare to pronounce a blasphemous judgment**, but said, "The Lord rebuke you!"

- **Archangel is the highest rank of good angels**
- **The false teachers are so brazen they do what even Michael would not!**

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9

Humans Cannot Live by Instinct

Jude 10 (LEB)

But these persons blaspheme all that they do not understand, and all that they understand **by instinct like the irrational animals**, by these things **they are being destroyed**.

- **Boundary crossers go into the arena of unrevealed secrets of spirits (Deut. 29:29)**
- **Humans need what is revealed because we operate by reason, not instinct!**

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10