

The Desires Of The Devil

Ephesians 6:10-13

We wrestle against ...

- **Wrestling:** “a contest between two in which each endeavors to throw the other, and which is decided when the victor is able to hold his opponent down with his hand upon his neck.” (Thayer)
- “Struggle or hand-to-hand combat. It was used of the wrestling of athletes and the of the hand-to-hand combat of soldiers both of which required deftness and speed. It denoted the struggle between individual combatants in distinction from an entire military campaign *strateia*. Used figuratively in Eph 6:12, meaning struggle, combat.” (The Complete Word Study Dictionary) ²

The Devil: Father of Lies John 8:44

- His desires find a place in the heart.
John 13:2, 27; Acts 5:3; Matthew 15:18; Proverbs 4:23
- His desires destroy lives and souls.
- His advantage is gained when we are ignorant of his devices. 2 Corinthians 2:11

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The devil desires lies where there should be truth. John 8:44

- The truth of God’s word, John 8:45-47 (8:37-38, 31-32)
- The truth of honest speech, Ephesians 4:25; Proverbs 3:3; 23:23

“having girded your loins (waist) with truth”
Ephesians 6:14

The devil desires confusion where there should be order.

1 Corinthians 14:33

- Heaven’s wisdom helps remove disturbances. James 3:13
- Selfish rivalry, boasting, lying ... confusion of evil. James 3:14-16

“having put on the breastplate of righteousness”
Ephesians 6:14

The devil desires darkness where there should be light.

2 Corinthians 4:3-4

- Light has come into the world. John 3:19-21; (2 Corinthians 4:6)
- Walk as children of light. Ephesians 5:8

“having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace” Ephesians 6:15

The devil desires a place to stand where none should be given.

Ephesians 4:27

- No opportunity. Ephesians 4:25-26
- Satan wants you. Luke 22:31-34
- Stand in the faith, 1 Corinthians 16:13; Colossians 2:6-7 (Romans 1:17)

“withal taking up the shield of faith”

Ephesians 6:16

The devil desires senselessness where men should come to their senses

2 Timothy 2:24-26

- Know the truth: Corrects, frees, calms the spirit, and brings sober thinking. Luke 15:17
- Walk carefully. Ephesians 5:15

“And take the helmet of salvation”

Ephesians 6:17

In Battle Against the Devil

- Cunning, crafty, deceptive, and powerful. Ephesians. 6:11-12; 2:2
- Desires surrender ... we must stand Ephesians 6:11, 13

“and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God” Ephesians 6:17

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The devil desires peace where there should be war. Jeremiah 6:14

- War against the world, sin, and error. 2 Corinthians 10:3-5
- Militancy of gospel and godly living. Matthew 10:34 (Luke 12:51)

“Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.” Ephesians 6:13

The devil desires war where there should be peace. James 4:1

- Conflict and strife among brethren, Genesis 13:8 (Ephesians 4:31)
- Be of the same mind ... give ourselves to peaceful living, Romans 12:16-21

Prayer, watchful perseverance
Ephesians 6:18

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The devil desires tolerance where there should be resistance
James 4:7; 1 Peter 5:8;

- Humility cures worldliness. James 1:6-16
- Devil resisted “in the faith,” not in opinions. Jude 3; Galatians 2:4-5, 11ff

“Finally, be strong in the Lord, and in the strength of his might ... that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.” Ephesians 6:10