

## The Enemy We Face

Ephesians 6:10-13\*

As Christians, we face three enemies: the world, the flesh, and the devil (Eph. 2:1-3). "The world" refers to the system around us that is opposed to God, that caters to "the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life" (1 John 2:15-17). "Society apart from God" is a simple, but accurate, definition of "the world." "The flesh" is the old nature that we inherited from Adam, a nature that is opposed to God and can do nothing spiritual to please God. By His death and resurrection, Christ overcame the world (John 16:33; Gal. 6:14), and the flesh (Rom. 6:1-6; Gal. 2:20), and the devil (Eph. 1:19-23). In other words, as believers, we do not fight *for* victory—we fight *from* victory! The Spirit of God enables us, by faith, to appropriate Christ's victory for ourselves.<sup>2</sup>

The root of our strength (10-11)

The reality of our struggle (12)

The resource for our stand (13)

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LORD . . .

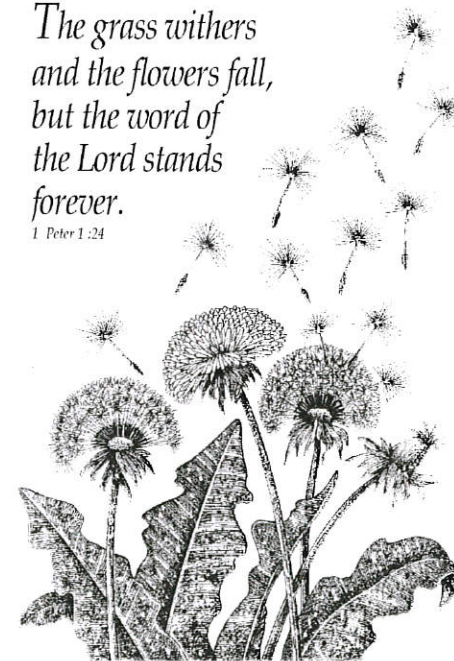
Speak to me,  
that I may hear thee giving me  
    courage for hard times and  
    strength for difficult places;  
    determination for challenging tasks.  
I ask of thee no easy way,  
but just thy grace that is sufficient for every need,  
so that no matter  
    how hard the way,  
    how challenging the hour,  
    how dark the sky,  
I may be enabled to overcome.  
In thy strength,  
Who has overcome the world,  
I make this prayer. Amen.

-Peter Marshall

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*The grass withers  
and the flowers fall,  
but the word of  
the Lord stands  
forever.*

1 Peter 1:24



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\* These notes are prayerfully provided to aid, not replace, your personal study of God's Word.  
<sup>2</sup> Warren W. Wiersbe, *The Bible Exposition Commentary*, vol. 2 (Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1996), 56-57.