

But ~~at~~ the same time the fact is that the rest of you might ~~here~~ that God pictures us as Christians, not as those who are to sit down and simply wait for whatever may happen, but we are to be put on the whole armour of God that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the Devil. But we reckon not against flesh and blood but against principalities and powers.(4)

Well that's not what Paul says. He says we ~~reckon~~<sup>wrestle</sup> not against flesh and blood but against ~~the~~ principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against ~~spiritual~~ wickedness in high places. In other words, while the Bible clearly teaches the sovereignty of God and teaches that God has His plan, His plan is going to come to pass as predicted, he also teaches that we have to wait as a part of His plan, that we in this age are to be in the midst of a time when the appearance of calmness and peace is apt to be deceptive, a time when though everything looks beautiful to us externally, it's because we really aren't seeing what's happening, externally. We can have peace in our heart and that he wants us to have. We can have calmness there, we can know that he has everything in his hand and that there is no~~n~~ reason for us to get upset and in turmoil, and have turmoil in our hearts--we should not do that. We can calmly follow as He leads because all things are under his hand. But externally we should face the fact that we are in a time of wrestling, a time of turmoil, a time of upheaval, a time when we need to take the shield of faith, ~~if~~ we are to <sup>winch?</sup> confront the powers of darkness and wickedness. A time when the enemy is there trying to smash a way to the sea, when the enemy is active and working, and a time when he wants us to have our eyes opened, not to ~~sleep~~ when we are working, but to have our eyes open and be watchful in order that we may serve Him effectively.