

goes right on: Put on the whole armor of God. The Greek word planopia is one word. You remember the Greek hoplites. I always used to think that was such a funny word - hoplite for a man who had heavy armor on, and they called him a hoplite in Athens. But the hoplia is the armor and the planopia is the complete set of armor. He's referring to the Roman system of arms here. Put on the planopy, the whole armor. Do not just put on part of it. You don't know what direction the adversary will come from. He calls on us to put on the complete armor and to be ready for what God calls us to. And the armor we are to put on is the armor of God. Not just stand in human strength, not to stand in human flesh because we cannot accomplish God's purposes if we try to depend on the arm of flesh. It will fail us. We must put on the planopy of God. Why should we put it on? That ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil, against the methodias of the devil, against the clever tricks against the ways to lead you astray that will be used by the devil.

There is a man - a very fine man - who has written some very fine books on Christian counselling and given some very fine ideas on Christian activity and Christian character, but he says in one of his books, that the millennium is now in process, and Satan is bound all through this church age, and consequently we do not need to fear the devil or demons in this age because now is when he is bound and he will then be let loose for a little season. I wish the man would read Ephesians. Paul said we should put on the armor in order to be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. The devil is a real force today. If he is bound today who is carrying on his work? Certainly the work is there. It's very evident. And you won't go far in your Christian life, you won't go far in your activity in the world but you will find that the wiles of the devil are very real and very true. He'll come at you from this side. He'll come at you from that side. He'll come at you from the other side. He'll attack you with the lusts of the flesh. He'll attack you with envy, with the desire to have something other people have. -He- and you don't have. He'll give you a blow where you tend to strike back in your own interests, and to do despite to the name of Christ. And if you withstand all these he'll try to get you to get you puffed up and proud and think how wonderful I am. Oh the wiles of the devil. You cannot stand against them in your own might. But if you put on the planopy of God, put on the whole armor of God in His strength you can stand against the wiles of the devil. And here he goes on in the next vs. and makes it very clear that it is the devil, it is the spiritual forces that are our great enemies in this age.