

Opposition

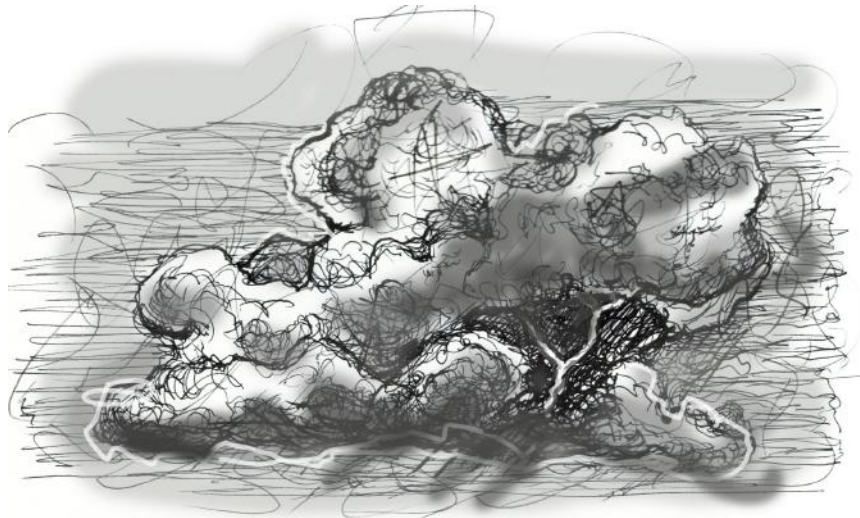
You want to stop someone from doing something
Forces trying to stop God's work

1

Life in the Storm: God's Mighty Power

Ephesians 6:10-20

ref.ly/Ep6;niv



2

The “Mystery” of God’s Will

With all wisdom and understanding, ⁹ [God] made known to us **the mystery of his will** according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, ¹⁰ to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfillment—to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ.

Ephesians 1:8b-10

3

The Mystery of God’s Will

[God] raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, ²¹ **far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come.** ²² And God placed **all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church,** ²³ which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

Ephesians 1:20b-23

4

The Big Idea

God is bringing unity to all things under Christ

5

Ephesians 2:1-2

As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, ² in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient.

6

Ephesians 6:10-20

¹⁰ Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. ¹¹ Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. ¹² For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. ¹³ Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.

7

The Big Idea

God is bringing unity to all things under Christ
Satan and his spiritual forces are fighting back

8

Ephesians 6:10-20

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9

¹⁴ Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, ¹⁵ and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. ¹⁶ In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷ Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

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¹⁸ And **pray** in the Spirit on **all** occasions with **all** kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and **always** keep on praying for **all** the Lord's people.

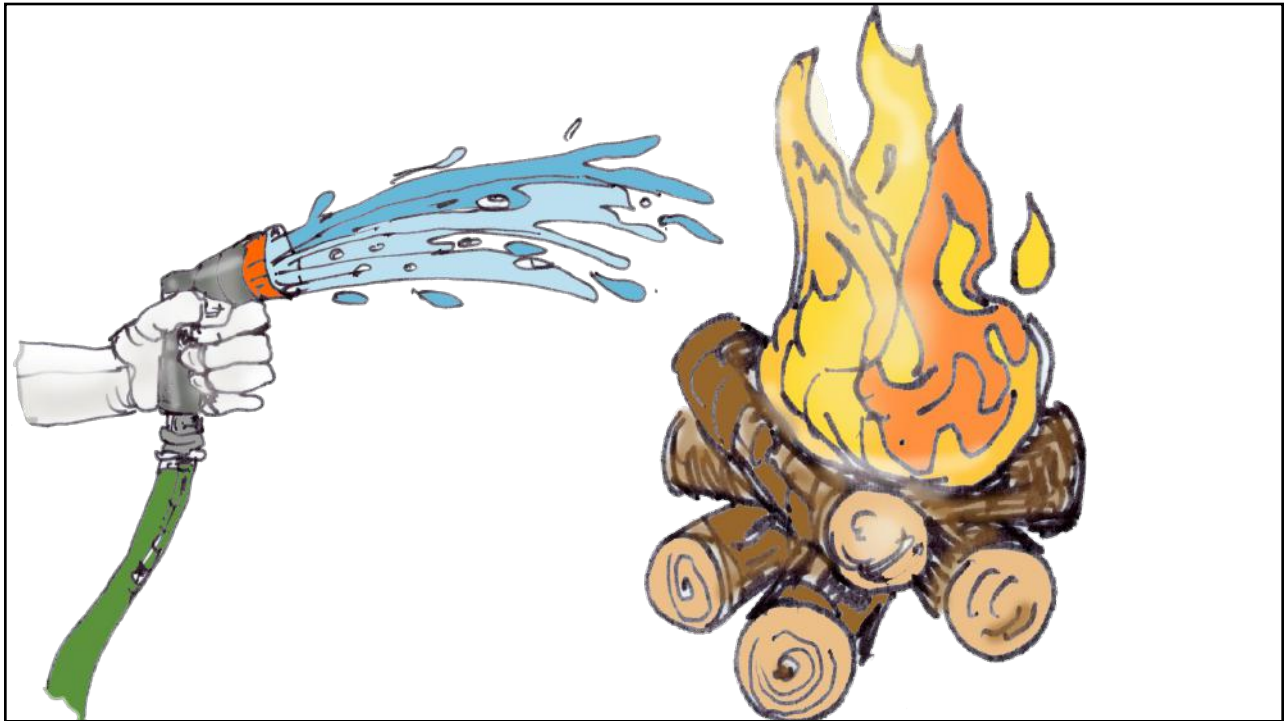
¹⁹ Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known **the mystery of the gospel** ²⁰ for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.

11

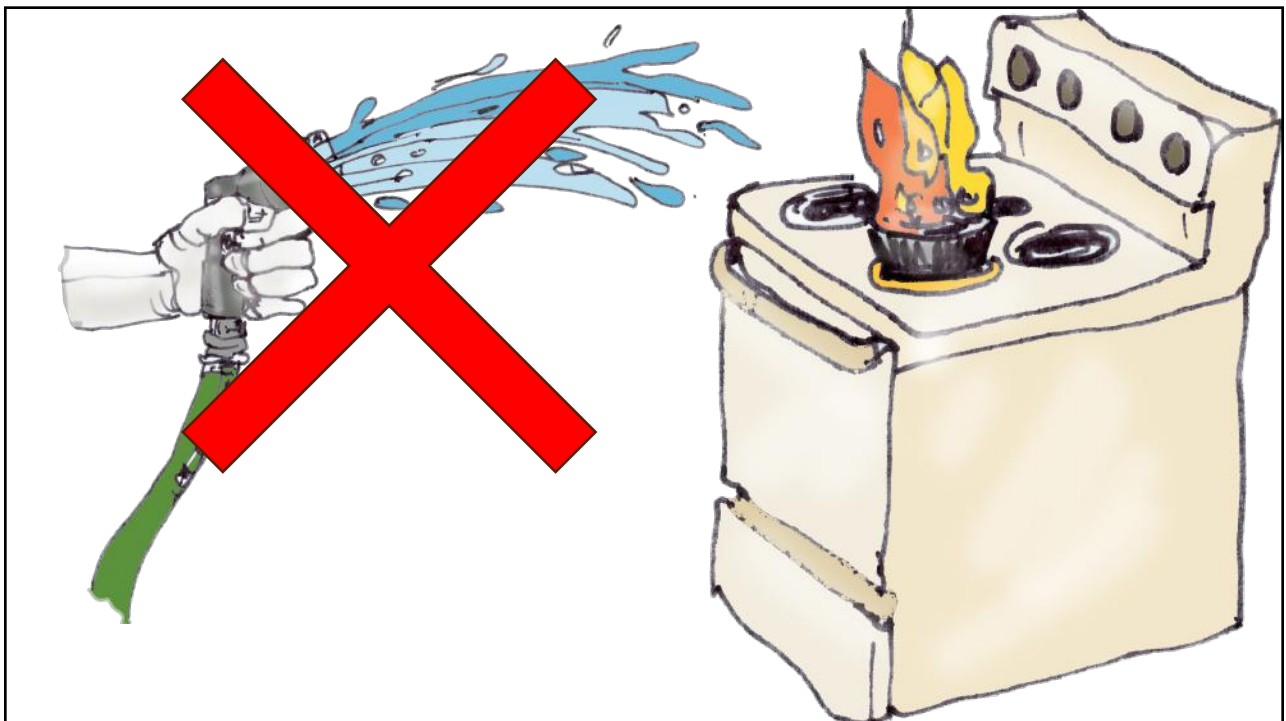
The Big Idea

God is bringing unity to all things under Christ
Satan and his spiritual forces are fighting back
so God's people must stand firm in the Gospel
by God's mighty power
using God's holy armor

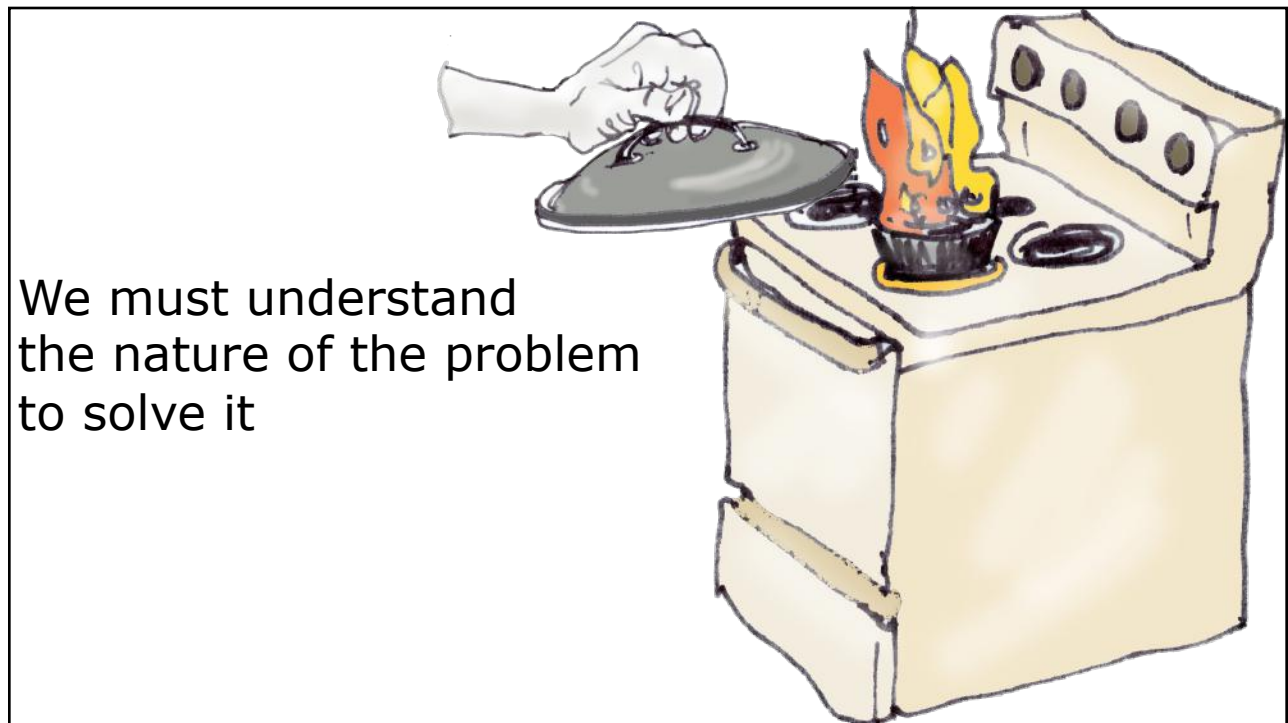
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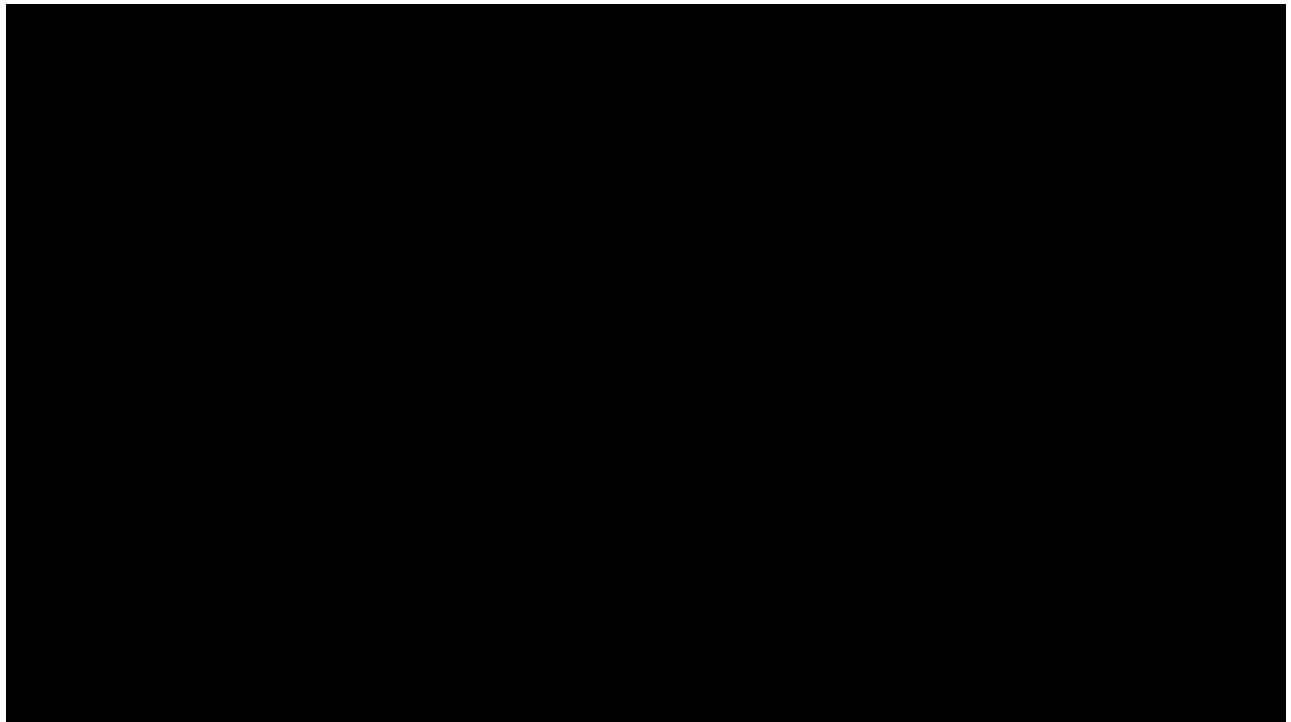
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The Big Idea

God is bringing unity to all things under Christ

Satan and his spiritual forces are fighting back

so God's people must stand firm in the Gospel
by God's mighty power
using God's holy armor

17

What are we to do?

**Understand the nature and scope
of our calling and of the opposition**

- God's great work is our great calling
- Whatever God wants done, the devil fights
- Merely human efforts are WAY too little and may make the problem much worse!

18

What are we to do?

Understand the nature and scope of the opposition to our calling

Stand firm in the Lord and His mighty power

- Unafraid
- Undeterred
=discouraged from action by doubt or fear
- Undistracted

19

What are we to do?

Understand the nature and scope of the opposition to our calling

Stand firm in the Lord and His mighty power

Pray!

- In **all** situations
- With **all** kinds of prayers
- With **all** determination
- For **all** God's people

20

The Big Idea

God is bringing unity to all things under Christ
Satan and his spiritual forces are fighting back
so **God's people must stand firm in the Gospel
by God's mighty power
using God's holy armor**

21

*Finally, be strong in the Lord
and in his mighty power.
Put on the full armor of God,
so that you can take your
stand against the devil's schemes.*

EPHESIANS 6:10-11

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Questions