The Forces We Face Ray Stedman

I. Introduction.

- A. Text: Ephesians 6:10.
- B. The whole of revelation has been given to us to deal with life as it really is.
- C. We are constantly confronted with distorted truth.
- D. We can only trust the sure word of God for matters of life.
- II. The nature of life in general.
 - A. The basic characteristic of life is struggle.
 - B. We continually find ourselves jarred by reality.
 - C. There are times that will be worse than others will.
- III. The specific character that the Christian life affords.
 - A. The struggle is not against man—the enemies are rulers of darkness, wicked spirits in high places.
 - B. One cannot explain the entrenched evil in human affairs without recognizing the existence of the devil.
 - C. The devil is a malevolent power whom Christians are to wrestle with daily—this is the teaching of the entire Bible.
 - D. The devil is a destroyer and a deceiver.
 - E. The way of escape is to be strong in the Lord and the strength of His might in the midst of the battle.
 - 1. The weapons of our warfare are not carnal.
 - 2. The weapons of our warfare are for the realm of our thoughts.

Application questions:

1. How would you respond to someone who says the devil is not a reality?

2. How is the devil effective in his work among men?
3. Why is it important to understand the nature of the Christian's battle? Explain.