

“The Armor of God”

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Be biblical, balanced, and brave

Our three enemies (James 3:15): Internal (James 4:1-3) + External (James 4:4-6) +
Infernal (James 4:7-10); 1 Peter 5:6-9; Ephesians 6:10-18

Notice James 4:7, 8, and 10

Intimidation + Insinuation / force + fraud / bully + beguiler

deadly business

Isaiah 59:14-17 + Romans 13:12 + 1 Thessalonians 5:8

Spiritual Warfare: 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. **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.

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.

1 John 5:19

Belt of Truth

The Lord Jesus Christ is the Person of Truth! (John 14:6; John 1:14). As we study the armor of God, we will see that each part of the armor is intimately related to the Person and work of Christ.

The word of God is the word of Truth (2 Tim 2:15; James 1:18).

The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Truth (John 15:26; John 16:13). He will lead us into all truth.

The church is the pillar and foundation of truth (1 Timothy 3:14-15).

The belt gathered the soldier's tunic together and also held his sword (prepared for action).

*truth of doctrine + sincerity of character (if you do not stand in truth, you will not stand)

Breastplate of Righteousness

Philippians 3:8-9; Romans 8:1-2; Ephesians 2:6

*the character of God closely combined with our character (since Christ imputes his righteousness upon us, the enemy is unable to bring a charge against us)

Shoes of Peace

Romans 5:1; Philippians 4:4-7

*a firm foothold in the conflict (we stand in the victory of Jesus)

If I don't pick up the next three, I am vulnerable in the battle.

The Shield of Faith

Psalm 5:12: "Surely, Lord, you bless the righteous; you surround them with your favor as with a shield."

Proverbs 30:5: “Every word of God is flawless; he is a shield to those who take refuge in him.”

THE SHIELD OF FAITH IS THE SOVEREIGN OMNIPRESENCE OF OUR TRIUNE GOD

Gen 15:1: “Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield and your very great reward.”

Deuteronomy 33:29: “Blessed are you, Israel! Who is like you, a people saved by the LORD? He is your shield and helper and your glorious sword. Your enemies will cower before you and you will tread on their heights.”

2 Samuel 22:2-3

*reliance upon God (believing what God has said)

Helmet of Salvation

2 Cor 10: 3-5: “For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. We demolish arguments and every pretense that sets itself up against the knowledge of God. And we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.”

The mind: Ephesians 2:2 makes clear that prior to our conversion, we followed “the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient.”

Colossians 1:21: “Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior.”

Romans 8:6-7: “The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace. The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God’s law, nor can it do so.”

Jesus Christ is our Salvation and Salvation is a person.

Luke 2:30 “my eyes have seen your salvation” (Simeon, when he saw Jesus).

Peter proclaimed that salvation is found in no one else (Acts 4:12).

*hope (Hebrews 6:11)

In the name of Jesus Christ I reject this thought (_____) as being wrong. I ask my Lord Jesus Christ to replace it with his thoughts. What are his thoughts?

The Sword of God

John 1:1; Hebrews 4:12

short sword

Prayer

Questions

1. How does spiritual warfare affect you?
2. Which of the characteristics of God do you like/dislike?
3. What in your daily life causes you to doubt?
4. What does God say about you that you can't believe?
5. How are we supposed to fight in this war?