

THE ARMOR OF GOD PART 2 EPHESIANS 6:10-17

THIS WEEK WE CONTINUE IN THE LAST PART OF THE LETTER TO THE CHURCH IN EPHESIS. PAUL THE APOSTLE IS ON HOUSE ARREST IN ROME, CHAINED TO A ROMAN SOLDIER. INSTEAD OF A 'WHOAH IS ME' ATTITUDE, THE APOSTLE PAUL SPENDS HIS TIME VIGOROUSLY EXORTING THE GENTILE CHURCH. OUR FAITH IN CHRIST HAS BROUGHT US NEAR TO GOD. WE WERE DEAD IN OUR SIN AND MADE ALIVE SPIRITUALLY, PREDESTINED FOR SALVATION AND GOOD WORKS THAT GLORIFY THE SON. JESUS CHRIST DIED IN OUR PLACE MAKING PEACE BETWEEN GOD AND THE SINNER, SO PAUL SAYS THEREFORE, LIVE LIKE IT. WE ARE TO "PUT OFF THE OLD NATURE" AND "PUT ON THE NEW". WE ARE SET APART FROM THE REST OF THE WORLD, SO OUR LIVES MUST LINE UP WITH THIS GLORIOUS TRUTH. PAUL ENDS THIS LETTER APPROPRIATELY, WITH A BATTLE CRY. WE ARE IN A SPIRITUAL WAR WITH SATAN, THE WORLD SYSTEM, AND OUR OWN FLESH. THERE WILL BE BATTLES. WE WIN SOME, WE LOSE SOME...BUT BECAUSE OF THE PERFECT LIFE AND BLOOD OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST, WE WIN THE WAR!! JESUS CONQUERED SIN, DEATH, AND THE GRAVE. SATAN IS A DEFEATED ADVERSARY TO THE SPIRIT FILLED CHRISTIAN. THANK YOU, JESUS!!

Ephesians 6:10-17 NIV

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.

LAST WEEK WE WENT OVER VERSES 10-13 SO I WILL REFRESH BRIEFLY THEN WE WILL GET INTO THE SPECIFICS OF THE ARMOR. VS. 10 SAYS BE STRONG IN THE LORD AND HIS MIGHTY POWER NOT OURS. BE FILLED WITH HIS WORD AND HIS SPIRIT

VS. 11 SAYS PUT ON THE FULL ARMOR OF GOD/PANOPLIA/EVERY WEAPON OF WARFARE OFFENSIVE AND DEFENSIVE.....STAND/HISTEMI/DUG IN FIRMLY

VS. 12 SAYS THAT WE SHOULDN'T STRUGGLE OR FIGHT WITH PEOPLE BUT FIGHT THE SPIRIT BEHIND THE DISCORD

VS. 13 PAUL REPEATS HIMSELF ON PURPOSE TO EMPHASIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING PREPARED EVERYDAY SO THAT WE CAN STAY FIRMLY DUG IN, IN THE SPIRIT, AS WE STAND

DO ALL YOU CAN, DO THE BEST YOU CAN, LEAVE THE RESULTS UP TO GOD....THIS WAY YOU WILL NOT GET KNOCKED OFF COURSE

Ephesians 6:14 NIV

¹⁴ Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist

3RD TIME PAUL SAYS STAND FIRM.... GETTING KNOCKED OFF COURSE MUST BE COMMON IN A SPIRITUAL WAR
TEMPTATION, TRAGEDY, DIFFICULT RELATIONSHIPS

BELT OF TRUTH

BUCKLED AROUND/PERIZONNUMI/TO GIRD AROUND AS
PREPERATION FOR WORK OR ACTIVITY, READINESS

The officers in the Roman army wore short skirts very much like Scottish kilts. Over them they wore a cloak or tunic that was secured at the waist with a belt. When they were about to enter battle, they would tuck the tunic up under the belt so as to leave their legs free and unimpeded for the fight. Belting one's waist (or, as many older translations put it, "girding the loins") was always a symbol of readiness to fight. That is why Paul mentions this item of armor first. You cannot do battle until you have surrounded yourself with the belt of truth.

TRUTH/ALETHEIA/PURE TRUTH CORRESPONDING TO REALITY,
OUT IN THE OPEN CONTAINING NOTHING HIDDEN

GOD HIMSELF IS THE GREAT REALITY, HIS PRE-EMINENT NATURE IS THE PLUMBLINE. MANIFESTED IN CHRIST

YOU ARE NOT PREPARED TO FIGHT UNLESS YOU ARE FULLY COMMITTED TO LIVE IN THE TRUTH. TOTALLY SOLD OUT TO WHO GOD IS, WHAT HE HAS DONE, AND WHAT HE HAS SAID

Warren Wiersbe - Unless we are motivated and directed by truth, we will be defeated by the enemy. If we permit any deception to enter our lives, we have weakened our position and cannot fight the battle victoriously. The girdle of truth is not an offensive weapon; it is for protection. When the believer has what I call “an attitude of truth” in their life, this protects them from Satan’s attacks. It does not prevent these attacks; it keeps the believer from being harmed by them.

Middle voice—you yourself have to fasten on the belt, no one else can accomplish this for you / COMMITMENT

A BELT PROTECTS YOUR GUTS/INTERNAL ORGANS

Ephesians 6:14 NIV

¹⁴ Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place,

BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

ANOTHER DEFENSIVE WEAPON IN THE ARMOR
RIGHTEOUSNESS/DIKAIOSUNE/JUST, RIGHTNESS

DERIVED FROM A ROOT WORD MEANING “STRAIGHTNESS”

When we first believed the Gospel we were justified (declared righteous) by faith which describes positional righteousness. What Paul is referring to in this passage is not so much our position of righteousness but our daily practice of righteousness, living rightly before God and mankind as we rely on the power of the Holy Spirit.

ALTHOUGH OUR IMPUTED POSTIONAL (JUSTIFYING) RIGHTEOUSNESS IS NECESSARY FOR US TO EVEN ENTER THE FIGHT (WHICH NEVER CHANGES), IT IS OUR IMPARTED PRACTICAL (SANCTIFYING) RIGHTEOUSNESS THAT MUST BE WORKED OUT. FULLY RELYING ON THE HOLY SPIRIT FOR EMPOWERMENT AND GUIDANCE

WHEN A PERSON IS CLOTHED IN PRACTICAL RIGHTEOUSNESS, THEY ARE FORTIFIED AND UNBREAKABLE

WORDS ARE NO DEFENSE AGAINST ACCUSATION, BUT A GOOD (RIGHTEOUS) LIFE IS

RIGHTEOUSNESS PROTECTS THE HEART AND WILL OF THE CHRISTIAN PROTECTING THEM FROM ANY DISABLING WOUND

2 Corinthians 5:16-21 NIV

¹⁶ So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. ¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has

come: The old has gone, the new is here! ¹⁸ All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: ¹⁹ that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. ²⁰ We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. ²¹ God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD IS ALL THAT HE IS, ALL THAT HE COMMANDS, ALL THAT HE DEMANDS, ALL THAT HE APPROVES, AND ALL THAT HE PROVIDES (THROUGH THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST, THE PERFECT RIGHTEOUS ONE)

WE MUST MANIFEST INTEGRITY AND UPRIGHTNESS IN OUR PERSONAL AND PRIVATE LIVES BY OBEDIENCE TO GOD'S WORD WHEN WE DON'T, LET CONVICTION BRING US TO REPENTANCE

Ephesians 6:14-15 NIV

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.

FEET ARE FOUNDATIONAL
FITTED/HUPODEO/TO BIND
READINESS/HETOIMASIA/ PREPAREDNESS

THIS IMPLIES A FIRM AND SOLID UNDERSTANDING OF THE
GOSPEL/EUANGELION/GOOD NEWS

CAUSES US TO DIG IN

PEACE/EIRENE/TO JOIN OR BIND TOGETHER THAT WHICH HAS
BEEN SEPERATED MAKING IT ONE AGAIN

PAUL IS NOT TALKING ABOUT EVANGELISM; HE'S TALKING
ABOUT A "PREPAREDNESS OF MIND" OR "READINESS" OF
SOLID FAITH AND UNDERSTANDING OF OUR FAITH IN CHRIST

WE ARE WEARING THE CLEATS OF THE GOSPEL AND WE ARE
ANCHORED ON THE ROCK
WE HAVE BEEN PURCHASED BY THE BLOOD OF JESUS,
RECONCILED BACK TO GOD

NO MAN ON EARTH OR DEVIL IN HELL CAN TAKE SALVATION
FROM US. COME HELL OR HIGH WATER, OUR ETERNITY IS SURE
SOMEDAY WE WILL BE IN GLORY...WHOLE....TOGETHER WITH
GOD

REMEMBER THIS

END