

PUTTING ON AND UNDERSTANDING THE PURPOSE OF THE ARMOR OF GOD

¹² For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. ¹³ Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand, *Ephesians 6:12-13*.

¹⁴ Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; ¹⁵ And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; ¹⁶ Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. ¹⁷ And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: ¹⁸ Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints; *Ephesians 6:14-18*.

Question: How do you currently see the buzz about putting on and using the Armor of God.

Do you view the armor as necessary for all believers or just for those who do “spiritual warfare.”

It's all about believing and protecting God's Word within us:

Before we get into putting on and wearing the armor of God, we need to always realize and keep in mind that it is ALL ABOUT THE WORD, (JESUS THE WORD MADE FLESH). If we lose sight of this and relate the armor of God only as a comparison to physical armor explained with clever philosophies. We will not see the spiritual purpose that each piece of armor has in making up the whole man who walks in the spirit, for Spiritual armor is very different than physical armor.

The only piece of armor that is offensive is the sword of the Spirit which is the Word of God, the rest of the pieces are defensive. And we only take up the sword of the Spirit (the Word of God), after we have put on and have learned to walk in the other pieces of the armor.

Every believer needs to be protected and equipped with this armor however, if we are already walking in the Spirit, we have learned how to put on the armor, without really really realizing it. The teaching of the armor is to show us the areas in our lives that the devil, our enemy will come against us and what and how we need to guard against that attack. However, we only spend time and energy protecting what we value to be essential and vital to us and our life. Thus, if we have not made God's Word our treasure and believe that His Word is worth protecting, we will see little value in the armor.

It's all about God's Word, protecting that tiny [mustard seed](#) that is within every believer, allowing it to grow and mature into that great tree. All of us must protect our belief in God's Word, for the world, the flesh and the devil all wishes to compromise it or completely annihilate it. However, it is up to us, according to our belief, if we do not see a need to guard God's Word within us, any armor that we do put on will be ineffective. Since Spiritual armor is dynamic and not static, for it goes on according to our belief system and we apply it by faith.

Our essential foundation, knowing the truth of God's Word, [John 8:32](#). Gird your loins with the truth:

God's Word, the Gospel (Jesus Christ), is our foundational truth; this needs to become our core foundation. This can take a lifetime of learning, and it will affect all the other pieces and likewise our walk with Christ. For if our perception of the truth of the Gospel is skewed, our armor will be compromised and we won't even know it. Therefore, we first need to learn the truth of the Word, for everything stands upon God's Word. We are to worship in Spirit and in truth, and the truth that we know and understand shall make us free. We are sanctified and our souls are purified by the truth, for God's Spirit is truth. [John 1:17, 4:24, 8:32, 14:6, 14:17, 17:17, Galatians 2:5, 1st Peter 1:22](#).

Summary: The truth of the Word is the foundation of the armor. Therefore, to the degree that we believe and receive God's truths, is also to the same degree that the armor will protect us.

Put on the breastplate of righteousness:

Putting on the breastplate of righteousness is to protect the gift of Christ's righteousness within us, we are not protecting our righteousness, for our righteousness is as filthy rags. Righteousness is closely associated with believing from the heart that God raised Christ from the dead and the breastplate protects our heart, the very thing that allows us to believe unto righteousness. Discernment and judgment are elements of righteousness and that is why we first must gird our loins with the truth of God's Word. [Acts 17:31, Romans 3:22, 5:17, 6:13, 10:9-10](#),

Summary: we are protecting our belief in the saving work of Jesus Christ, that He has risen from the dead and that He has declared us to be righteous.

Question: Are you aware of the difference of being declared righteous vs. relying on your actions to prove your righteousness. Do you believe that you are righteous and what does that mean to you?

Shod your feet with the gospel of peace:

Being justified by faith we have peace with God, through Jesus Christ. Jesus gave us His Peace and that is the only reason why we can walk in peace. Peace is a fruit of the Spirit, and the kingdom of God is righteousness, peace and joy, and God is a God of peace. This is actually using the armor as it is meant to be used, for the devil hates it when he cannot get us riled up, when we are walking in peace and confidence. Therefore, let the peace of God rule in your heart and have peace one with another. [Mark 9:50, John 14:27, Romans 5:1, 14:17, 15:33, Galatians 5:22, Colossians 3:15](#).

Summary: We are to walk in peace at all times, if we are not at peace something is wrong. If you are not walking in peace, go back and focus on the first two pieces until you can walk in peace. For, these first pieces of armor are to protect and reinforce our belief system.

Question: The level of Peace that you walk in is a great indicator of your walk with Christ.
Are you walking more-so in peace or in fear? Do you believe God has your back?
On a scale of 1 – 10, rate your level of peace.

Take up the shield of faith:

This peace of armor is meant to stop ALL of the fiery darts of the wicked one. The other peaces of armor are meant to build you up with kingdom values and protect them. It is not wise to have fiery darts bouncing off your chest, your feet, your belt or your head. The fiery darts that come against us is in accord with the analogy of physical armor but, the way the devil comes against us is with lies and half truths, always attacking God's Word of truth. Therefore, we need to rely on knowing the truth, (the first peace of armor), and knowing that Christ has declared us to be righteous, (the second peace of armor). After having done this, Check yourself that you are walking in peace and then stand strong in faith. Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God, **Romans 10:17**. Therefore, in-order to make this armor active, we need to nourish ourselves in the Word of truth and of good doctrine, **1st Timothy 4:6**, while also building ourselves up on our most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost, **Jude 1:20**.

Summary: Since faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God, **Romans 10:17**. The shield is also Word activated, (little Word = little faith, much Word = much faith). The shield of faith is dynamic as are the other peaces of armor, this is conditional to your walk with God as to how effective your shield will be.

Question: Are you believing by faith for certain things, I encourage you to do so. Put your faith to work for you, **Luke 17:6-8**, call things forth. When have you last seen your faith in action.

Put on the helmet of Salvation:

I believe this shows us three important areas that we need to be aware of and guard:

This might be stretching things a bit here, but I see these first peaces of armor more-so as building yourself up in the Word able to discern and destroy the lies of the enemy that come against us.

1. To assure us of our salvation, **John 3:3**; It is essential that we be 100% sure of our salvation. **Romans 10:9**, is our litmus test to assure us of our salvation. It is all about what and Who we believe on, its not about our works, whether they be (good or bad).
2. Keep negative thoughts from bombarding our mind: This will happen within time as we learn to take every thought captive and cast down thoughts that exult themselves against the knowledge of God, **2nd Corinthians 10:5**, through the renewing of our mind, **Romans 12:2**, for we have the mind of Christ, **1st Corinthian 2:16**.
3. This can lead us into further revelation of God's Word: (communing with God's Holy Spirit). That the Lord will grant you the Spirit of knowledge and revelation, **Ephesians 1:17**, making known unto you the mystery of the Gospel, **Ephesians 3:3**, **Galatians 3:3**.

Summary: Not only are we to be assured of our salvation, there is also much said about the mind in scripture. We are to have the mind of Christ, renewing our mind to the truth of God's Word, resting in Him. We are to guard our mind, casting down vain imaginations.

Question: Are you aware that we can control our mind and the thoughts that we entertain? For God would have been unjust to tell us in scripture to cast down thoughts that exalt themselves against the knowledge of God, and to bring into captivity all thoughts to the obedience of Christ, **2nd Corinthians 10:5**, if it was impossible for us to do so. Have you been attempting to cast down past wrong thoughts and temptations? This is a process, don't give up, for you can succeed! You do not have to accept every though the world, the flesh or the devil throws your way and call them yours.

And take up the Sword of the Spirit:

This is the only piece that can be used as an offensive weapon. When Jesus was tempted He replied to the devil using the Word of God, [Matthew 4:4, 7, 10](#), [Luke 4:4, 8, 12](#). God's Word may not seem to us to be the club or the weapon that we need to slay our enemies with. As we use His Supernatural WORD, it can become that double edged SWORD for us. For we are not dealing with physical armor, nor are we doing physical warfare. As we go into this spiritual battle we must first be well grounded in God's truth, having the other pieces of armor active in our life, so as to protect our belief in God's Word and standing firmly on our faith. Only then are we properly prepared to use God's Word, that is sharper than any two-edged sword, [Hebrews 4:12](#), and see its results.

Summary: It's all about Jesus, it's all about the Word! His Supernatural WORD is our SWORD of the Spirit. However, notice that the use of the Word is the last thing we take up, first we must get our believing right, being able to resist the lies of the enemy and walk in peace, only then we are able to effectually use God's Word to do damage to the enemy.

Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit:

The armor of God is not as putting on a physical pieces of clothing that one puts on and gives no more thought to. It is dynamic and the effectiveness of the armor is dependent on our walk and relationship with Christ. There are many types of prayer, (praying/interceding for others, praying for ourself, building ourself up or just simply communing with God).

Prayer, I believe keeps our spiritual life active. For all types of prayer are relational and results in a closer belief in the Creator God, that He is personal God who hears us and cares for us. Not only does this give us the benefit of having a prayer life but, it also helps us to maintain and grow our relationship with God our Father and keep our armor active and intact.

Summary: Having a prayer life is an required part of keeping the armor active. For it keeps one's relationship with God active. Also scripture tells us to pray without ceasing, [1st Thessalonians 5:17](#).

Question: Can your existing prayer life and relationship with God, support your armor, or do you need to focus on and increase your prayer life?

Conclusion: It is all about the Word, Jesus Christ (the Word made flesh), [John 1:14](#), and protecting God's Word within us, it is not about playing a game of laser tag. The comparison of physical armor was given to us to give us insight into what we need to walk in and protect. The initial pieces of the armor are to prepare us and strengthen us in the truth of God's Word, whereas the fiery darts of the enemy are lies against the truth of God's Word. **It is all about abiding in God's truth, walking in His peace, resisting the devil, and speaking His powerful Word.**

This teaching can also be found in pamphlet form by going to this link, [Armor of God](#).