

Spiritual Warfare Series

Aug/Sept 2021

[Ephesians 6:10-18](#)

Part I - The Belt of Truth

DESCRIPTION: Every Roman soldier would wear a tunic to battle. It was a large, square piece of material with holes cut out for the arms and head. It was somewhat like a dress. With the tunic fitting loosely over the soldier's body, it was very awkward for the soldier to engage in hand-to-hand combat.
(1) It fastened together the soldier's clothing making it much easier for the soldier to maneuver.
(2) It was necessary because it was used to secure short swords or daggers. Picture this belt looking somewhat like a thick heavyweight championship belt or "tool" belt.

The Belt of Truth was the holder for the Sword of the Spirit, you can't have the Word without the truth.

John 1:14 The Belt was the holder for short swords or daggers – **Mathew 4:1-11** It is written

- ✓ The devil hides out when we are not truthful with ourselves! – **THIS IS CRUCIAL** **Psalms 51:6** God desires truth in the inward part who am I fooling, why kid yourself, The Word must be our mirror **James 1:23&24** Truthfulness means taking the mask off and being real with ourselves about what our real issues are **I Cor 10:12** Let a man take heed unless he fall.
- ✓ Danger in Taking Work out of context To make it fit what we want it to fit. See **Rev 22:18-19** The devil hides out in false teaching and taking the scripture out of context **Eph 4:14-15**
- ✓ Cant suppress the Truth!! **II Tim. 3:16, Rev. 22:18-19** The wrath of God is revealed from heaven and against men who hold the truth in unrighteousness.

Part II - The Breast Plate of Righteousness

Description - The purpose of the soldier's breastplate is quite obvious in that it protected the soldier's most vulnerable organs (lungs, intestines, heart, abdomen, etc.) The breastplate was usually a touch, thick, sleeveless piece of armor that covered his full torso. It was often made of leather covered with pieces of metal. Or sometimes it was made of one large piece of metal that was molded to conform to the shape of the soldier's body. Today it would be compared to somewhat of a bulletproof vest.

- (1) Know your Position of Righteousness - The Righteousness of Christ is our Salvation – **II Cor 5:21**
 - (2) Grow in your Progression of Righteousness – That's our sanctification and growth in Christ (WORD) Progression – The process of moving gradually toward a more advanced state; Being conformed. **I Peter 1:15-17** – “Be ye holy as I am holy”
- ✓ Know Who Christ is **Phil 3:10**
 - ✓ Know What Christ has done. **Isaiah 53, Eph 4:8-10**
 - ✓ Know Who we are in Christ **I Peter 2:9**

Part III - The Gospel of Peace

DESCRIPTION: Each piece of the believer's armor is symbolic for some aspect of the Christian life that enables us to be successful against the attacks of the enemy. We will now look at what Paul refers to as the "shoes" or "sandals" of the Gospel of peace. The Roman soldier wore sandals with nails in the soles to give them better footing during battle. If the soldier was going to be successful in standing firm in the midst of an attack he had to have the proper types of shoes. He could not afford to slip and fall or to easily be pushed backwards.

Two Views on Feet Shod with the Preparation of the Gospel of Peace

1. Peace in the battle resulting from salvation – This is the peace of knowing that if we are saved then God is fighting for us in the battle and all the attacks have first been filtered through His divine will and we can trust that He would not put on us any more than we could bear (**1 Cor. 10:13**).
2. Evangelism – The believer's feet should always be "prepared" or ready to share the gospel of God's "peace" with others (**1 Pet. 3:15**)

3 TYPES OF PEACE GOD GIVES TO

- ✓ We have Peace With God – Vertical Peace **Rom 5:1-2**
- ✓ We have the Peace of God – Inner Peace **Phil 4:6**, This peace guides heart and mind **Rom 5:2**
- ✓ We have Peace with one another. – Horizontal Peace **Eph 2:15** Christ broke down middle wall.

Part III - The Shield of Faith

DESCRIPTION: The shield spoken of here was made of wood and overlaid with metal. It was covered with linen or leather and soaked in water to absorb fiery arrows. It was about 2 ½ feet wide and 4 feet long and was designed to cover the whole body. Oftentimes the soldiers would stand shoulder to shoulder, making a solid wall sometimes a mile or more long. The archers stood behind this wall for protection and shot their arrows as the army advanced against the enemy. Opposing armies would douse the tips of their arrows in a flammable substance and set it on fire. Archers would then shoot the arrows at their opponents. When the arrows hit the targets the fiery substance on the tip would splatter often burning the rival soldiers and starting fires on the ground around them.

Satan loves to attack the faith of believers with doubt, depression, stagnation, temptation, fear, worry and many other destructive emotions, these are fiery arrows that primarily attack the mind. Paul says that we have a defense called faith.

- ✓ Know your Faith is solely of God – **Eph 2:8**, Faith is a fruit of the Spirit **Gal 5:22-23**
- ✓ The Word of Faith is not engrafted until it is applied **Rom 10:17** **Placing on the Shield of faith is an inside job**

How do we grow in Faith?

Faith comes by hearing and hearing the word of God. This hearing is not physical but spiritual. We must have agreement – Lord your right!! Leading to obedience!

Hear the Word – Agree with the Word – Obey/Apply the Word = Engrafted Faith

- ✓ Faith comes thru Immersion of the Word **Rom 10:17 & 1Peter 1:23, Psalms 1**
- ✓ Faith comes through relationship **John 14:21** He makes his abode with us.
- ✓ Faith pulls from the realm of heavenly places in Christ **Romans 5:2, Ephesians 1:3**

THE THREEFOLD NATURE OF MAN

1 THESS 5:23

HEB 4:12

