

# 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 & 1 Peter 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

## Part 5 – The Helmet of Salvation

**Description** - The helmet of salvation is another part of the armor of God that Paul discusses in Ephesians 6. In the Roman army, the helmet served as protection for the head. It was a vital piece of the armor, as an attack to the head could result in instant death.

Salvation is not limited to a one-time act... salvation is an ongoing... It is daily protection and deliverance from our sin nature and Satan's schemes. You can be saved – but not have on the helmet of salvation!!! Because of the power of the cross, our enemy no longer has any hold on us (**Romans 6:10; I Cor 1:18 & II Cor 5:17** Through this helmet of salvation, we can “destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ” (**2 Cor 10:5**).

### The Purpose of the Helmet - This Battle is Internal

1. **We must live in view of the finished work of Calvary** – Heir of Salvation **I Peter 1:8, Phil 1:21** For me to live is Christ

2. **Renew our minds.** Our minds are battlefields. The outcomes of those battles determine the course of our lives. **Romans 12:1–2** instructs us to renew our minds by allowing the truth of God's Word to wipe out anything contrary to it.

**Rom. 12:2** – “be transformed by the renewing of your mind”

**Eph. 4:23** – “be renewed in the spirit of your mind” (Read all the chapter)

**Col. 3:10** – “the new man is being renewed to a true knowledge of him who created him.”

3. **Reject doubts that arise from circumstances.** When doubts due to circumstance attack your mind. They must be met by the Word of God! **Psalms 119:9, Phil 4:6**

3. **Deliverance from Negative and Traumatic Experiences of the Past** – With helmet of salvation we must prevent effects traumatic experiences from sinking into our soul and subconscious and shaping who we are **Psalms 51:5**. Also things that have happened in the past must be executed by the Word of God. Otherwise these past experiences shape who we are and the enemy gains a foot hold in our lives... Our attitudes become jacked up. Don't just deal with the fruit of the problem but the root of the problem!!

**Phil 2:12** – “Work out your soul salvation with fear and trembling”

**Heb 4:12** – “The Word is quick sharp powerful...”

**Psalms 51:6** “.. And in the hidden Part make me to know wisdom”



## Part 6 – The Sword of The Spirit

### **Labor in the Word Heb 4:11**

- Let us labor (vv. 9-13). "Give diligence" Diligence is the opposite of "drifting" (Heb 2:13). How do we give diligence? By getting in the Word, by laboring in the Word, by examination of the Word **Heb 9:13**,

### **The Word is our Rest Heb 4:11 Cont.**

- That rest is an absolute place of surrendering and contentment in relationship with the Lord! Submitting and surrendering your efforts and human resources, for a life of replacement through Christ! We labor in replacement!

### **The Word and our Cutting between the Soul and the Spirit. Heb 4:12**

- Believers often accept what is of the soul as coming from the Spirit. The soulish and religion can blend together especially in an emotionally filled church where there is no emphasize on repentance, brokenness and death. **Romans 10:2, Col 2**
- Through the body man is in contact with the sensual world. Through his spirit man holds fellowship with the Spirit of God. The "soul" stands between these 2 worlds, yet belongs to both. It is linked through the spiritual world through the spirit and the material world with the body. THE SOUL HOLDS THE KEY!!!! You grow in the Word its only a love relationship that will make one want to submit!!!! **II Cor 5:14**
- The soul also possesses the power of freewill. The soul is the gate and holds the key to whether we die to the flesh **John 12:24, Mathew 16:24** or whether we yield to the Spirit **Romans 8:1, Gal 5:1**

### **The Word is our Sword- Eph 6:12**

- In comparing the Word of God to a sword, the writer is not suggesting that God uses His Word to slaughter the saints! However the Sword is to be applied to our hearts. The Word is supposed to cut!! (**Acts 5:33; 7:54**), and the Word defeats Satan off of the soul of the believer. Cuts, reprovcs, examines and dissects (**Eph 6:17**). The Greek word translated "sword" means "a short sword or dagger." The emphasis is on the power of the Word to penetrate and expose the inner heart of man. The Word is a "discerner" or "critic." Meaning it always has the believers best interest in mind.

Before Joshua conquered Jericho, he went out to survey the situation; and he met the Lord Jesus Christ (**Josh 5:13-15**). Joshua discovered that he was second in command! The *Lord had a sword in His* hand, and Joshua fell at His feet in complete submission. It was this action in private that gave Joshua his public victory!! The Battle was spiritual!!!!