

Episode #1037 Ephesians 6 Part 3 - Putting on the Armor

I. In Ephesians 1-3, the Holy Spirit revealed to us all the glorious things that are true of us “in Christ.” Now, in Ephesians 4-6, we are told of the “worthy walk” that we should live in love and gratitude to God for the glorious position we have received.

II. In Ephesians 6:10-12, we saw that our empowerment needs to come from the Lord. We need His armor to fight our battle against Satan and his high officials. The Lord Himself wears this armor, and we need it as well to stand. But what is the armor of God?

III. Ephesians 6:13. The whole armor is necessary for us to stand.

- A. We need every piece in order to stand in the wicked day.
- B. The wicked day we live in is the stage upon which we battle. Once we have stood against the wicked day, then we need to stand some more.
- C. The point is not to take the world for God, but to personally stand. We are not so much offensive as defensive.

IV. Ephesians 6:14-17. Listing the pieces of armor.

- A. Verse 14. First piece: The loins are girded with truth.
 1. The loins are between your hips and lower ribs.
 2. Where does this truth come from? Truth comes only from God’s Word!
 3. We must know the truth in order to be protected, so we must know the Bible.
- B. Second piece: The breastplate of righteousness.
 1. Righteousness guards our hearts! As well as our vital organs.
 2. How do we know what righteousness is? The Word teaches us. It means being upright, moral, and just, as God is.
 3. This is a piece that the LORD Himself uses! Isaiah 59:17.
- C. Verse 15. Third piece: Our feet are shod with the readiness of the gospel of peace.
 1. The gospel prepares our feet. We have nothing to stand on otherwise! It helps us to be ready to spring into action.
 2. A “gospel” is a right message, spoken in view of a need, and with an element of promise.
 3. “Peace” means a true union, in this case with God. We need to know the right message that brings a true union with God in order to be ready to act for Him.
- D. Verse 16. Fourth piece: The great shield of faith.
 1. What is “faith”? Greek pistis, same word as “belief.” It means to take God at His Word and to respond accordingly.
 2. Romans 10:17 tells us how faith comes. Faith is by the word of God. Galatians 3:2,5 says we receive the Spirit by the hearing of faith.
 3. Hebrews 11:1. Faith connects us to the unseen!
 4. Faith is what helps us extinguish Satan’s fiery arrows. Psalm 64:3 tells us arrows stand for bitter words.
 5. Satan’s attacks will come! What if we are unprotected? We need faith for protection, and to have faith, we need to know the Scriptures!
- E. Verse 17. Fifth piece: The helmet of salvation-bringing.
 1. Again, this is a piece the LORD uses, Isaiah 59:17.
 2. “Salvation” is an adjective in Greek, “salvation-bringing.” What? In context (verse 15), the salvation-bringing gospel (or message).
 3. What brings salvation is the word of God.

4. *Kai* and = even, these two pieces are aspects of the same thing.

F. Sixth piece: The sword of the Spirit, God's words. *Rhema*, His utterances.

1. This is the only offensive weapon, but a sword can also be defensive.

2. The armor begins and ends with God's word. God's Word protects us in everything!

V. Without the armor of God, none of us can hope to stand. It involves truth, righteousness, the gospel, faith, the salvation-bringing message, and God's utterances. The armor begins and ends with God's word. Once we realize we are part of a warfare, we realize that we need the Lord and His Word. We need to wake up to this fact!