

“Strong In The Armor Of God” – Ephesians 6:10-17

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Introduction

1. The Christian’s purpose in Christ is to have a walk worthy of our calling. To effectively live this purpose in our lives Paul’s says we are to “strong” in the armor of God...

I. The Enemy (6:10-12)

- a. The Leader – the devil
 - i. 2 Corinthians 2:10-11 says we should not be taken advantage by him for we are not to be ignorant of his schemes.
- b. Satan’s Helpers
 - i. Paul calls them “principalities, powers, rulers etc. He has an army against all believers and we are under constant attack. The battle is not against people but spiritual powers.
- c. Satan’s Abilities
 - i. Paul’s admonitions indicate that satan is a strong enemy and we need the power of God to stand firm against him.
 - ii. Not only is he strong but he also wise and subtle and we fight against his wiles (crafty arts).

II. The Armor of God (6:13-17)

- a. The Equipment
 - i. First of all God provided the “whole armor” for us and we cannot omit any part for us to stand against the devil.
- b. The Belt Of Truth
 - i. Truth is like a belt that holds all this armor together. Truth is the integrating force of the victorious Christian. This belt holds the sword (the Word of God). Unless we practice truth we cannot use the sword.
- c. The Breastplate Of Righteousness
 - i. Jesus is our righteousness (2 Cor 5:21; Eph 4:24) When we put on the breastplate we are living for and with Jesus which is the way of righteousness and holiness.
 - ii. Our faithful lives are one of our best defenses from attacks of the devil.
- d. The Shoes Of The Gospel
 - i. If we are to stand and withstand we need the shoes of the gospel.
- e. Shield Of Faith
 - i. This large shield made of wood and covered in leather was able to withstand the fiery darts by putting them out as they sank into the shield.
 - ii. Faith can deal with the darts of the devil. With complete trust in Christ we are safe.
 - iii. These shields were built to stand together by interlocking with other shields allowing soldiers to march forward like a solid wall. We are never alone in battle!
- f. The Helmet Of Salvation
 - i. Satan attacks the mind and when God is leading our minds satan cannot.
- g. The Sword Of The Spirit
 - i. The word of God is both our weapon and defense. Heb 4:12 talks of its sharpness and ability to pierce us in the deepest sense. It is meant not to harm but to heal and give life. But against Satan it cripples him and his attacks.

III. Conclusion

- a. In one sense the “whole armor of God” is a picture of Jesus Christ. Christ is truth, our righteousness and our peace. His faithfulness makes our faith possible. He is our salvation and the Word of God.
- b. When we put on Christ we put on the armor (Rom 13:11-14) and He makes us victorious!