

## The Armour of God

"Fear makes the wolf bigger than he is."

*German Proverb*

### **Ephesians 6:10-11**

10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.

11 Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

Our strength and power is in the armour of God, and it is mighty to the pulling down of strong holds. We must be mindful that we the twice born of Christ are in a spiritual warfare and our Faith will be tried; our weapons are not of the flesh but forged by the Holy Hands of our Lord.

**2 Corinthians 10:4** (For the weapons of our warfare *are* not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)

**1 Peter 1:7** That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:

**Ephesians 6:13** 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.

### † TRUTH-BREASTPLATE of RIGHTEOUSNESS

**Ephesians 6:14** Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;

In this spiritual warfare Satan and his demons will use lies to manipulate and deceive **John 8:44** Ye are of *your* father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it. Satan will use 'the world to entice us and draw us away from God. **1 John 2:16** For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. As the Apostle Paul said "we are not ignorant of his devices" **2 Corinthians 2:11** Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices. Satan will use 'the flesh' and its desires against us and we cannot fight a spiritual war with fleshly weapons. We must guard ourselves with Truth and Righteousness.

**John 14:6** Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

**John 14:17** *Even* the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.

**John 17:17** Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

**John 8:32** And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

Of righteousness...

**Isaiah 11:5** And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins.

**Psalms 71:16** I will go in the strength of the Lord GOD: I will make mention of thy righteousness, *even* of thine only.

### † THE GOSPEL OF PEACE

**Ephesians 6:15** And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;

We are to prepare ourselves through the study of God's word and in fervent prayer that we may bring the Gospel of Peace to a lost and dying world. Speaking in the wisdom of the Holy Spirit and girded with Truth. Bringing the message of peace and reconciliation between God and man to those who will believe.

**Isaiah 52:7**How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth!

**Romans 10:15**And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!

The Gospel is termed the Gospel of peace, because it establishes peace between God and man, and proclaims peace and good will to the universe. Contentions, strife, quarrels, and all wars, being as alien from its nature and design, as they are opposed to the nature of Him who is love and compassion to man.-*Clarke*

## **2Corinthians 5:19-21**

19To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.

20Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech *you* by us: we pray *you* in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.

21For he hath made him *to be* sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

### † THE SHIELD OF FAITH

**Ephesians 6:16**Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.

As soldiers of Christ we must have Faith. It is through our Faith that the strength and power of God rests upon us and through us. What we cannot see with the eyes, we know with the heart. The Lord is our shield and defense and with His power and strength upon us because of our Faith in Him we are conquerors through Christ. **Romans 8:37**Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.

**Hebrews 11:1**Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

**Hebrews 11:6**But without faith *it is* impossible to please *him*: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and *that* he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

**Psalms 5:12** For thou, LORD, wilt bless the righteous; with favour wilt thou compass him as *with* a shield.

**Proverbs 30:5**Every word of God *is* pure: he *is* a shield unto them that put their trust in him.

The strength and power of the Lord which abides in us, is equal to the amount of Faith we have in Him.

### † THE HELMET OF SALVATION

**Ephesians 6:17**And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:

The helmet of salvation is our covering and protection. With our salvation secured in the blood of Jesus Christ; **John 10:27**My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: **John 10:28**And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any *man* pluck them out of my hand. We can be bold in our witness anchored in Faith and secure in the Truth of the Gospel.

**1Thessalonians 5:8**But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation.

The idea is that a well-founded hope of salvation will preserve us in the day of spiritual conflict, and will guard us from the blows which an enemy would strike. The helmet defended the head, a vital part; and so the hope of salvation will defend the soul, and keep it from the blows of the enemy. A soldier would not fight well without a hope of victory. A Christian could not contend with his foes, without the hope of final salvation; but, sustained by this, what has he to dread? –*Barnes*

## † THE SWORD OF THE SPIRIT

The sword is the only offensive weapon we have and all that is needed. Armed with truth all enemies are cut asunder. The truth though hard to bear sometimes frees those in bondage to sin; if they will but hear it and heed it. **John 8:32** And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. We are not left in doubt or confusion as to what is truth. **John 17:17** Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

**Hebrews 4:12** For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

The sword of which St. Paul speaks is, as he explains it, the word of God; that is, the revelation which God has given of himself, or what we call the Holy Scriptures. This is called the sword of the Spirit, because it comes from the Holy Spirit, and receives its fulfillment in the soul through the operation of the Holy Spirit. An ability to quote this on proper occasions, and especially in times of temptation and trial, has a wonderful tendency to cut in pieces the snares of the adversary. -*Clarke*

The word of God is compared to a "sword", for its two edges, the law and Gospel; the one convicts of sin, and cuts to the heart for it, and the other cuts down all the goodliness of man; and the Scriptures in general are a sharp sword, in convincing of sin, reproof for it, and threatening with wrath and ruin, in refuting error and heresy, and repelling Satan's temptations, and will be used in the destruction of antichrist: and this word may be called "the sword of the Spirit", because it is not carnal, but of a spiritual nature; and is used by the spiritual man. -*Gill*

Brothers and Sisters in Christ what have we to fear. We are children of the King and our armour is forged with Holy Hands and completed in our Faith. Let us have a spirit of service and not of fear, being Soldiers of Christ. Fear is not of God but of the evil one. Let us remember to always be prepared for battle and as the silver is purified of the dross through fire, so is our service to the LORD tried, refined, and made pure through the battles we go through and the trying of our hearts **Job 23:10** But he knoweth the way that I take: when he hath tried me. I shall come forth as gold. Remember we have the armour of God which withstands the fiery darts of Satan and anyone else for that matter.

**2Timothy 1:7** For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

JESUS SAVES