

The Armor of God: Standing Strong in Spiritual Warfare

Introduction

In the life of a believer, we are called not just to believe, but to stand firm. The Apostle Paul, writing from prison, understood the intensity of spiritual warfare and God's provision for us in it. He calls us to recognize that our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against spiritual forces of evil. To engage in this battle effectively and emerge victorious, God has provided us with divine armor. This teaching will explore each piece of the Armor of God, as outlined in Ephesians 6, and how we can apply it daily.

The Call to Stand Firm

📖 Ephesians 6:10-12 (NIV):

"Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms."

As Charles Spurgeon wisely stated, "Do you think of turning back? You have no armor for your back. To cease to fight is to be overcome." This truth compels us to be always ready, always standing.

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📖 **The Armor of God Checklist: Are You Fully Equipped?** 📖

Let's delve into each piece of this spiritual weaponry:

✓ □ 1. The Belt of Truth – Are You Standing on God's Truth?

The belt of a Roman soldier held everything together, providing stability and readiness for action. Spiritually, the Belt of Truth is foundational. It's about grounding ourselves in God's absolute, unchanging truth – both His Word and the truth of who He is. Without truth, everything else will unravel.

What it means:

Living with integrity and sincerity.

Knowing and adhering to the Word of God as the ultimate standard.

Recognizing and exposing the lies of the enemy.

Why it's essential:

Truth keeps us from deception and ensures our spiritual posture is secure.

It gives us stability in a world filled with falsehoods.

Supporting Scripture:

□ Ephesians 6:14a (NIV): "Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist..."

📖 John 8:31-32 (NIV): "To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, 'If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.'"

📖 Psalm 119:105 (NIV): "Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path."

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✓ ☐ 2. The Breastplate of Righteousness – Is Your Heart Guarded?

The breastplate protected the vital organs, particularly the heart. The Breastplate of Righteousness guards our inner being, our conscience, and our motivations. This righteousness is twofold: the righteousness of Christ imputed to us through salvation, and the practical righteousness we live out daily through obedience to God.

What it means:

Relying on Christ's perfect righteousness for our salvation.

Living a life that aligns with God's moral standards.

Protecting our hearts from sin, guilt, and condemnation.

Why it's essential:

It shields us from the enemy's accusations and our own sinful desires.

It gives us confidence and peace before God.

Supporting Scripture:

📖 Ephesians 6:14b (NIV): "...with the breastplate of righteousness in place,"

📖 Philippians 3:9 (NIV): "and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith."

📖 Romans 3:22 (NIV): "This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile,"

✓ 3. The Shoes of the Gospel of Peace – Are You Walking in Peace and Readiness?

Roman soldiers wore sturdy, spiked sandals that gave them firm footing and allowed them to advance without slipping. Spiritually, the Shoes of the Gospel of Peace enable us to stand firm and to move forward, ready to share the good news. It's about having inner peace and being prepared to bring peace to others.

What it means:

Experiencing the peace that only God can give, regardless of circumstances.

Being ready and willing to share the message of salvation with others.

Walking confidently in our faith, grounded in God's peace.

Why it's essential:

It prevents us from being tripped up by anxiety or doubt.

It equips us to be ambassadors of Christ in a chaotic world.

Supporting Scripture:

📖 Ephesians 6:15 (NIV): "...and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace."

📖 Romans 10:15 (NIV): "And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: 'How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!'"

📖 Isaiah 52:7 (NIV): "How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, 'Your God reigns!'"

✓ 4. The Shield of Faith – Are You Deflecting the Enemy's Attacks?

The large Roman shield (scutum) could cover the entire body, offering protection from flaming arrows and spears. The Shield of Faith is our primary defensive weapon against the enemy's fiery darts – doubts, temptations, fears, and lies. Faith is our trust and confidence in God and His promises.

What it means:

Actively trusting God's character and His Word.

Using our faith to extinguish every deceptive attack from the enemy.

Believing that God is able and willing to protect us.

Why it's essential:

It enables us to withstand the most intense attacks of the enemy.

It builds resilience and perseverance in our spiritual journey.

Supporting Scripture:

📖 Ephesians 6:16 (NIV): "In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one."

📖 Hebrews 11:1 (NIV): "Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see."

📖 1 John 5:4 (NIV): "for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith."

✓ ☐ **5. The Helmet of Salvation – Is Your Mind Protected?**

The helmet protected the most vulnerable part of the soldier – the head. Spiritually, the Helmet of Salvation guards our minds against the enemy's schemes, which often target our thoughts with discouragement, despair, doubt, and destructive ideas. It reminds us of our identity in Christ and the eternal hope we have.

What it means:

Remembering the security of our salvation in Christ.

Renewing our minds with God's truth, not worldly thoughts.

Protecting our thoughts from lies, anxiety, and condemnation.

Why it's essential:

It prevents the enemy from gaining a stronghold in our minds.

It brings peace and clarity of thought, ensuring we live from a place of hope.

Supporting Scripture:

📖 Ephesians 6:17a (NIV): "Take the helmet of salvation..."

📖 1 Thessalonians 5:8 (NIV): "But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet."

📖 Romans 12:2 (NIV): "Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will."

✓📖 6. The Sword of the Spirit – Are You Using the Word of God?

Unlike the other pieces, which are primarily defensive, the sword is the only offensive weapon in the armor. The Sword of the Spirit is the living and active Word of God. It's not just about reading the Bible, but knowing how to wield it effectively in spiritual battle, speaking truth against lies, just as Jesus did in the wilderness.

What it means:

Actively knowing and applying God's Word in every situation.

Using scripture to counter temptation and spiritual attacks.

Proclaiming God's truth with authority.

Why it's essential:

It empowers us to aggressively defeat the enemy.

It is the very voice and power of God unleashed in our lives.

Supporting Scripture:

📖 Ephesians 6:17b (NIV): "...and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God."

📖 Hebrews 4:12 (NIV): "For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart."

📖 Matthew 4:4,7,10 (NIV): (Jesus' use of scripture against temptation) "It is written...", "It is also written...", "Away from me, Satan! For it is written..."

✓ 7. Praying in the Spirit – Are You Constantly Communicating with God?

While not a physical piece of armor, prayer is the spiritual "power source" that activates and sustains all the other pieces. Praying in the Spirit involves communion with God, being led by the Holy Spirit in our prayers, and interceding for others. It's the constant connection that ensures our armor remains effective.

What it means:

Maintaining an active and dynamic prayer life.

Praying according to the will of God, often guided by the Holy Spirit.

Interceding for all believers.

Why it's essential:

Prayer is our direct line to God, enabling us to receive strength, wisdom, and direction.

It keeps us alert, connected, and empowered for spiritual warfare.

Supporting Scripture:


📖 Ephesians 6:18-19 (NIV): "And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel,"


📖 Jude 1:20 (NIV): "But you, dear friends, by building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit,"


☐ Daily Application: How to Keep the Armor On ☐

Putting on the armor is not a one-time event but a daily discipline.

📖 Stay in the Word – Daily Bible reading and meditation are crucial to know and wield the Sword of the Spirit and apply the Belt of Truth.

 Stay in Prayer – Maintain a lifestyle of prayer and communion with God. This is the breath of the spiritual life, activating and strengthening all other pieces.

 Stay in Fellowship – Surround yourself with strong believers for encouragement, accountability, and mutual support in spiritual warfare. We are not meant to fight alone.

 Stay Alert – Recognize spiritual attacks and respond with God's truth, always discerning the enemy's strategies and standing firm.

Follow-up Prayer

*Heavenly Father, we thank You for Your incredible provision for us in spiritual warfare. Thank You for the full armor of God, which You have given us to stand firm against the devil's schemes.

We pray now for every person who has heard this teaching today.

For the Belt of Truth: Lord, buckle them firmly with Your truth. May they discern Your Word and live with integrity, letting Your truth anchor their lives. Expose every lie of the enemy and flood their hearts with Your unwavering truth.

For the Breastplate of Righteousness: Father, guard their hearts with Your righteousness. May they walk in the righteousness imputed to them through Christ, and live lives of practical holiness. Protect them from guilt, shame, and the enemy's accusations.

For the Shoes of the Gospel of Peace: Equip their feet with the readiness that comes from Your gospel of peace. May they walk in Your perfect peace and be ready to share the good news of salvation with a world in desperate need.

For the Shield of Faith: Strengthen their faith, Lord, that it may be a mighty shield to extinguish every flaming arrow of the evil one. May their trust in You be unwavering, deflecting all doubts, fears, and temptations.

For the Helmet of Salvation: Crown their minds with the hope and assurance of their salvation. Protect their thoughts from discouragement, anxiety, and despair. Transform their minds daily by Your Spirit, that they may think Your thoughts.

For the Sword of the Spirit: Empower them to wield Your living Word, the Sword of the Spirit, with power and precision. May they hide Your Word in their hearts, speaking it against every lie and spiritual attack.

For Praying in the Spirit: Ignite within them a fervent spirit of prayer. May they pray without ceasing, in the Spirit, for themselves, for other believers, and for Your kingdom to advance. Keep them alert and always communicating with You.

Lord, may they not turn back, but instead, stand strong and overcome by Your mighty power and the glorious armor You have provided. We pray all this in the powerful name of Jesus, our Lord and King. Amen.*

Pastor Nate Thompson Deliverance Revolution Ministries

DeliveranceRevolution.org Contact us If you need deliverance:

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🔥 Are You Ready to Be Set Free and Step Into Your Calling? 🔥

Here at Deliverance Revolution Ministry, we're not just another ministry—we are a frontline movement raising up Full-On Jesus warriors for the Kingdom of God! ✨

Join us every day at 11 AM and 7 PM Eastern (except Sunday mornings) for our powerful Zoom sessions. These aren't just meetings—they're encounters with the living God! We minister deliverance, provide discipleship training, and empower you to walk in freedom, boldness, and purpose.

🔗 Whether you're battling oppression, possession, depression, or suicidal thoughts, we've seen Jesus transform lives. Our YouTube channel is filled with real testimonies—people who walked in broken but came out victorious.

Our website, DeliveranceRevolution.org, is loaded with life-changing prayers, training, and tools to help you grow into everything God has called you to be.

☐ But hear this: Your freedom starts with your will. You must want it. Pursue Jesus with all your heart, and He will meet you. He will break every chain. This isn't about religion—it's about relationship and relentless pursuit of the King of Kings.

🙏 So, in the mighty name of Jesus, I pray right now: Father, surround them with Your protection, stir their hunger, and draw them into deeper freedom, in Jesus' name. Amen.

➡☐ Don't wait. Get connected. Get trained. Get free. Full-On Jesus is the only way.