

THE ARMOR OF GOD

Ephesians 6:10-18

Helmet of Salvation

The Roman soldier's helmet was made of bronze or metal and was formed to fit the head, the cheeks and jaws of the soldier. The helmet was decorated with different kinds of engravings and etchings on it, plus a plume of horse's hair stood straight up on the top of the helmet. It protected the soldier from having his head cut off. The helmet of salvation is our protection of knowing and having assurance who we are in Christ by the victory God had over the enemy at the Cross. The enemy wants to attack our minds and steal our victories every day. We can have victory by immersing ourselves in the Word of God and praying. We must grow in the Lord. *2 Timothy 1:9, 2 Corinthians 5:17*

Belt of Truth

The soldier put on his wide leather belt first. The belt was used as a holder to keep his armor/weapons in proper position. We must apply the Word of God to our lives on a daily basis. *Psalm 119:9, John 3:16, 1 Peter 3:15-16*

Sword of the Spirit

The Roman soldier's sword was a very brutal weapon. It was shaped like a dagger. This sword was made of iron and used in close combat and was razor sharp on both sides, they were made in different sizes up to two feet long. It is the only offensive weapon mentioned in Ephesians 6 and was used to defeat the enemy's plans. Paul was telling the church that God has given us a weapon, a sword, God's Word to defeat the enemy as Jesus did in Luke 4. The enemy will have to flee when we speak God's Word. *Joshua 1:9, Romans 10: 8-9, Hebrews 4:12*

Breastplate of Righteousness

The soldier's breastplate was used to protect the soldier's vital organs. We need to walk in the righteousness of God which is a weapon of defense against all the tricks, schemes and accusations from the devil. *Isaiah 59:16-17, Galatians 2:20-21, Hebrews 1:9*

Shield of Faith

The Roman shield was door-shaped that was wide and long. It was made with many layers of leather. Before going into battle the soldier would have to soak his shield with water. When the fiery arrows struck the wet shields, the flames were extinguished. The shield of faith was long, rectangular, chin to knees shield which protected them from arrows and spears. They could kneel down behind their shield or make a circle or wall of shields together for additional protection. We must walk in faith and trust God as He is our shield of faith every day. Hold up our shield of faith daily. It will block all the fiery darts of the evil one when our shield of faith is soaked with the Word of God which is in us. The fiery darts will be extinguished. *2 Samuel 22:31, Psalm 18:35, Romans 10:17, Romans 12:3*

Feet Prepared with the Gospel of Peace

Offensively, the Roman soldier's shoes were vicious weapons. The shoe was made with heavy leather and metal. The shoes had spikes on the soles so that the soldier could have balance and stand strong. In addition, there were two sharply pointed spikes coming out of the front of the shoes to fight the enemy when they were on the ground. We can live in God's peace, with our feet firmly planted in the Word of God. *John 13:35, 2 Corinthians 5:18-19, Philippians 4:6-7*

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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. Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. 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 saints.

Full Armor of God's Prayer

Belt of Truth: Lord, I put on the belt of truth. I thank You Lord, that Your Word is truth. Lord, sanctify me by Your Word every day. (*John 17:17*) Lord, help me to be faithful in reading and studying Your Word daily.

Breastplate of Righteousness: Now I strap on the breastplate of righteousness. I thank You, Father that Jesus became sin for me so I am able to live now in Your righteousness according to *2 Corinthians 5:21*. May me and my family always remain "in Christ" daily, as apart from You, Lord we can do nothing. (*John 15:4-5*)

Gospel of Peace: I put on my feet the preparation of the gospel of peace. I thank You, Father, that I am prepared to witness my hope to every person You bring across my path today. I will walk daily in God's peace not in fear of the enemy's threats or lies against me or my family, but stand on the Word of God. (*1 Peter 3:15, Romans 10:17*)

Shield of Faith: I lift up the shield of faith high in front of me and my family which will quench all the fiery darts of the evil one's plans and schemes against me and my loved ones today in Jesus' Name. The Lord is my strength and shield. (*Psalms 28:7a, 1 John 5:4*)

Helmet of Salvation: I put on the helmet of salvation. I thank You for my salvation and the gift of eternal life that I received through Jesus Christ, my Lord. (*Romans 6:23, 1 John 5:11-12*) Thank You Lord, for all the benefits that I have "in Christ Jesus." I will take captive every thought in my mind to make it obedient to Jesus Christ. (*2 Corinthians 10:3-5*) I choose to set my mind on the things above and not the things of the earth. (*Philippians 3:19, Colossians 3:2*) I thank You, Lord, for protecting my mind and my family from all types of attacks from the enemy. May our family choose to be dead to sin and the temptations of the world and alive unto Christ Jesus and be filled with the Fruit of the Holy Spirit which is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. (*Romans 6:11-14, Galatians 5:19-26*)

Sword of the Spirit: I lift up the sword of the Spirit which is the Word of God. With it, I can conquer all of our marriage or children's problems because it is sharper than any other double-edged sword. (*Joshua 1:9, Hebrews 4:12*) I will speak the Word in season and out of season, whether it is convenient or inconvenient. (*2 Timothy 4:2*) Lord, let me speak Your Word boldly with Your love. (*Romans 10:8-9*) I will speak the Word in prayers, to every person and situation that You orchestrate for me to do, in Jesus' Name. **Amen.** (*Mark 16:15*)