

Spiritual Warfare pt 8 The Belt of Truth

Last week we talked about Satan has turned his attention to the destruction of the church. We also realized that we have the greatest gift God ever gave anyone, our salvation through Jesus.

Now Jesus lives in us, and is always with us no matter what we may be going through. Jesus also gave us the right to use His name, and all the authority and power that comes with it.

So this morning we are going to study our defenses, and the best place to study that is with Paul's letter to the church at Ephesus. We find that letter is our book of Ephesians.

So to begin let's turn to Ephesians chapter 6.

Ephesians 6:13-18 (KJV)

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.

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

¹⁵ And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;

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

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

¹⁸ Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

The very first thing Paul tells us that we've been given as our protection is "**per-id-zone'-noo-mee**", that is the Greek for the word "Girt". Having your loins girt about with truth.

Per-id-zone-noo-mee means **Belt**.

So Paul is telling us to have on the Belt of Truth. Now Paul is giving us some very important information on our protections in this spiritual war, why would he start with TRUTH?

Well let's look at truth, and just how much it is lacking in our world today. IF you just look at what you see on the news today you will realize how TRUTH is noticeably missing in our everyday lives.

Most advertisements on TV are stretching the truth for all it's worth. I've been reading the small print on commercials here lately, I don't even watch the commercial, I just spend the time reading the small print. That's where the truth is in the commercial.

Most of that small print is countering what is being said in the commercial. There is a commercial for a weight loss pill called GOLO. They make all kinds of claims about insulin resistance causing you to be overweight.

In the small print it says' " **This pill is not approved by the FDA, the phrase INSULIN RESISTENCE is not a clinical term, GOLO taken with strict diet, and exercise regimen can aid in weight loss**".

Truth is important because it's the one thing that tells us we can trust in what we are hearing. This is the one area of our lives that will stand out the most. When we are interacting with the lost of this fallen world, our word has to mean something more than the average word.

People need to see that we are "**THE PEOPLE OF TRUTH**".

Why would Paul start with the Belt of Truth?

This scripture is given to us in reference to a Roman Soldiers Armor, because in Paul's day, Roman soldiers where everywhere, and people were very aware of a soldiers armor.

Look at this picture of a Roman soldiers armor. Notice the belt, though most people don't realize it, the belt is one of the most important parts of the armor.

First as you can see, it has these leather straps hanging from the front of it, to protect the loins. Ladies if you ever take a self defense course, the instructor will teach you that your Knee is an effective weapon.

These straps hanging over the loins are protection against that knee. But the belt does a couple other things as well.

1. It does the obvious by keeping your skirt up.
2. It holds the loin's protection
3. It holds the breastplate in place
4. It holds your sword sheath in place.

So the belt of truth is a vital piece of armor, that without you wouldn't be able to wear your armor. It holds everything together.

That is what Truth is to us, it's the thing that holds everything together. Without truth, our faith would be nearly impossible to maintain.

Truth is mentioned in the scriptures 118 times.

John 1:17 (KJV)

¹⁷ For the law was given by Moses, *but* grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.

The Truth came to us in Jesus, as the word tells us in:

John 1:1-3 (KJV)

¹ **In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.**

² **The same was in the beginning with God.**

³ **All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.**

This scripture shows us that the Word has been with us since the beginning, and the word is God (pre-incarnate Jesus). This scripture is establishing that the Truth is the Word of God, and that Jesus brought us that word, and the Truth.

Vs. 3 tells us that The Truth is a part of everything that was made in this world.

This is why Satan wants to eliminate the truth, because it goes against the very fabric of our creation, and he hopes to unravel what God has put together.

John 8:44-45 (KJV)

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.**

⁴⁵ **And because I tell *you* the truth, ye believe me not.**

We must walk in the Truth even when it doesn't suit our immediate situation because TRUTH is part of your armor. When you don't operate in that truth, you are dismantling your armor, leaving parts of yourself unprotected.

God established this armor for us, and it is meticulously designed for the defense of His people in THIS FALLEN WORLD. YOU NEED EVERY PIECE IN TACT TO BE FULLY PROTECTED AGAINST THE WEAPONS OF THE ENEMY.

Without the Truth in our lives, everything comes apart, you can't even as a believer worship God without truth.

John 4:24 (KJV)

²⁴ **God *is* a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship *him* in spirit and in truth.**

The scriptures are given to us by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit under God's direction. We all know the importance of the Word, so I'm not going to try to convince you that it's important to the believer.

But think about this for a moment.

How important is truth when we are talking about the word of God?

What if you found out that part of the scriptures or even just one scripture wasn't true?

How could you trust any of the scriptures if you found that even one wasn't true.

Think about that for a moment, if the word was found to be not true, then the promises God made us come into question. What about when Jesus said **Hebrews 13:5 (KJV)**

⁵ ***Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.***

What about the scripture that tells us that: **1 John 4:4 (KJV)**

⁴ **Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.**

Do you see what I'm getting at. If you can't trust one scripture, the entire bible begins to unravel, and if it unravels, so does our salvation, our strength, our authority, and our power. It also brings into question whether our salvation still carries the promise of ETERNITY WITH GOD.

Trust it what holds all things together. In the beginning was the Word (Jesus) and the word was with God and the word was God.

Our armor which is our defense against anything Satan can come up with as a weapon against us, is held together by truth. When truth is not part of who we are, we lose God's protective armor one piece at a time. Eventually we are trying to fight Satan's schemes without any protection, and we will get hurt.

In closing:

The truth has an effect on everything, it's profound effect on the

Church: **2 Timothy 4:3-4 (KJV)**

³ **For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;**

⁴ **And they shall turn away *their* ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.**

It's affect on the Believer:

John 8:31-32 (KJV)

³¹ **Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, *then* are ye my disciples indeed;**

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

It's affect on the Believers heart:

1 John 3:19 (KJV)

¹⁹ **And hereby we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before him.**

The Belt of Truth, our most important piece of armor for defense in this SPIRITUAL WAR.