The Armor of God

We are in fight.

- ¹² Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses. I Timothy 6:12 KJV
 - We will only win this fight of faith if use the weapons God gives us
- ³ For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh:⁴ (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)⁵ Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ; 2 Corinthians 2:10:3-5 KJV
- ➤ These verses tell us what these weapons are going to do they will pull down strongholds Ephesians 6:10-13 Amplified Bible, Classic Edition

¹⁰ In conclusion, be strong in the Lord [be empowered through your union with Him]; draw your strength from Him [that strength which His boundless might provides]. ¹¹ Put on God's whole armor [the armor of a heavy-armed soldier which God supplies], that you may be able successfully to stand up against [all] the strategies *and* the deceits of the devil. ¹² For we are not wrestling with flesh and blood [contending only with physical opponents], but against the despotisms, against the powers, against [the master spirits who are] the world rulers of this present darkness, against the spirit forces of wickedness in the heavenly (supernatural) sphere. ¹³ Therefore put on God's complete armor, that you may be able to resist *and* stand your ground on the evil day [of danger], and, having done all [the crisis demands], to stand [firmly in your place].

Ephesians 6:14-18 KJV

Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;

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

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

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

- Paul was probably referencing the armor of a Roman soldier.
- > He was a Roman and in prison. He was sure to have seen these soldiers.
- Why use them for examples? Because they would be the most powerful military force in the world at that time.

- > Why does he compare a Roman soldier's armor to a Christian's spiritual armor?
- > The Roman soldier was the most powerful force in that time. God's armor is the most powerful force there is, and when each type is used properly nothing can stop it. No force from hell.

Part One, The Belt of Truth

- ➤ Having done all to Stand, stand therefore: Read the Bible!
- If you are going to do everything to stand, you will do everything you can. This means you are going to use every piece of that armor and after you do that, you are going to continue to stand.
- You would think that with all that emotion in those verses that the first piece of armor would be something great.
- Your loins girt about with truth. The first piece of armor is a belt!

Why a belt? In the natural, every part of the armor was connected to the Roman soldier's belt.

The loin belt is the truth, the written Word of God.

It is the ONLY piece of armor you can see in the natural.

It is the most important part of armor, because, as with the Roman soldier's armor, every other piece is connected to it.

Breastplate of Righteousness Hebrews 5:12-13 King James Version

12 For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat.13 For every one that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe.

Shoes of peace Colossians 3:15-16 Amplified Bible, Classic Edition

15 And let the peace (soul harmony which comes) from Christ rule (act as umpire continually) in your hearts [deciding and settling with finality all questions that arise in your minds, in that peaceful state] to which as [members of Christ's] one body you were also called [to live]. And be thankful (appreciative), [giving praise to God always].

16 Let the word [spoken by] Christ (the Messiah) have its home [in your hearts and minds] and dwell in you in [all its] richness, as you teach and admonish and train one another in all insight and intelligence and wisdom [in spiritual things, and as you sing] psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, making melody to God with [His] grace in your hearts.

Shield of Faith Romans10:17 King James Version

17 So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Helmet of Salvation

Deliverance ,safety, preservation, healing and soundness of mind.

2 Timothy 3:15 King James Version

And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

Sword of the Spirit which is the Word of God

Sword of the spirit spoken out of your mouth. The Word of God inspired by the spirit

Where do you get that word? You get it from God's Word.

Can you imagine a Roman soldier in a battle who needs his sword but he can't use it because he didn't put his belt on? Therefore, he didn't have a sheath on which to put his sword. Then, when the enemy comes up he can't defend himself if under attack.

** God's life or breath is in his Word. 2 Timothy 3:16 Amplified Bible, Classic Edition

¹⁶ Every Scripture is God-breathed (given by His inspiration) and profitable for instruction, for reproof *and* conviction of sin, for correction of error *and* discipline in obedience, [and] for training in righteousness (in holy living, in conformity to God's will in thought, purpose, and action),

- > He created us with his breath
- > The Word of God has His essence and presence in it

**Stop trying to get a word and realize God's Word is God speaking to you and the greatest word you can get comes from the Bible. 2 Peter 1:18-19 King James Version

¹⁸ And this voice which came from heaven we heard, when we were with him in the holy mount. ¹⁹ We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:

**If you continue with the Word, it will set you free.

Part Two, The Breastplate of Righteousness

Ephesians 6:10-18 (KJV)

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.12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.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; KJV

The Breastplate of Righteousness

Why is this a part of the Weaponry?

2 Corinthians 6:7 KJV By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armour of righteousness on the right hand and on the left,

Isaiah 59:17 KJV For he put on righteousness as a breastplate, and an helmet of salvation upon his head; and he put on the garments of vengeance for clothing, and was clad with zeal as a cloke.

> Breast plate has an offensive part and a defensive part

The Defensive

Remember it is to stand against the wiles of the devil

Ephesians 6:11 Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

Wiles means to work by method. Method, the following or pursuing of an orderly and technical procedure in the handling of a subject. In the NT, connected with evil doing, a device, artifice, art, artificial method, craft or wile

Devil means false accuser or slander

The Greek and scriptures themselves tell us this enemy strikes over and over again in your mind and in Heart until you believe it.

When it sinks into your mind and heart then you start to sink.

You lose your confidence with God you don't think God will come through for you. That it is over.

How to put this breast plate on:

A 2 Corinthians 5:21 KJV For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

Put on Jesus righteousness and accept the fact that Jesus took your sinfulness to the cross with him.

B Romans 3:21-22

²¹ But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets;²² Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:

Accepting the righteousness that comes through faith in Jesus Christ.

C Romans 5:17 New Living Translation

¹⁷ For the sin of this one man, Adam, caused death to rule over many. But even greater is God's wonderful grace and his gift of righteousness, for all who receive it will live in triumph over sin and death through this one man, Jesus Chris

Receive it and walk in it.

The Offensive

The Roman soldier's breastplate

The breast plate was the most beautiful, shiny and visible piece of Armor that the Roman soldier wore.

When you looked at a Roman soldier, you didn't notice his loin belt, shoes or sword as important as they were, what you noticed was his beautiful breastplate. It began at the top of his neck and it went all the way down to his knees. It was composed of two different pieces of metal. One piece went down the front and the other went down the back. They were held together by solid brass rings on top of the shoulders. The larger sheets of metal covered the front and the back was comprised of smaller sheets. Smaller scale like pieces of metal similar to the scales of a fish were on the front of the breastplate. This was the heaviest piece of weaponry that the Roman soldier wore. It weighed about forty pounds. The breast plate was either made of bronze or brass. A Roman soldier walked from one destination to another with this on. When he did this, something incredible would happen.

When you rub two pieces of metal against each other for a long period of time, they begin to add a luster to each other. Though these pieces of metal were already very shiny, this new luster would make them even more shiny. This is exactly what happened when the Roman soldier walked around with his breastplate on. The smaller scale like pieces of metal would rub against each other, thus causing each piece to have a beautiful luster. Brass is a golden color. When it is out in the sun, it shines and sparkles especially if it is a fine piece of brass. Furthermore, the rays of the sun would reflect off the breastplate, presenting a dazzling spectacle. The beauty and shine of the breastplate was enhanced when the Roman soldiers were walking in the sun light toward the enemy.

When you're driving down the road and the sun shines on a very shiny piece of metal it is blinding and frightening and can cause you to lose your direction. Can you imagine how frightened the enemy would be when legions of Roman soldiers marched toward them, each with a shiny breastplate on. The enemy would be in fear, confused and blinded by the light. The same thing happens spiritually when you put the breastplate of righteousness on.

Revelation 21:23 King James Version

²³ And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof.

That needs to be some kind of bright It is some kind of bright light. And it his name is Jesus.

1 John 1:7-9 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

- Christian experience: Recognizing his command is to walk in the light as he is in the light.
 I see I cannot do it.
- I must receive his righteousness by faith. Then the light comes on.
- > But when we go the wrong direction, we repent and confess he forgives and when continue to walk in the light
- ➤ Because you are putting the breastplate on and keeping it on and what the enemy sees is a spiritual breast plate that is so bright that he can not focus and he does not know which direction to go. He is blinded by the light.
- ➤ We are Talking about a light that is so bright that it lights up a city that is 1500 miles wide long and high.

Malachi 4:2 Amplified Bible, Classic Edition

2 But unto you who revere and worshipfully fear My name shall the Sun of Righteousness arise with healing in His wings and His beams, and you shall go forth and gambol like calves [released] from the stall and leap for joy.

Part Three, The Shoes of Peace

Ephesians 6:10-18 (KJV)

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.12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.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; KJV

THE SHOES OF PEACE

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

There are two words that are connected together here and I think the Holy Spirit wants us to connect them together from this. Foot wear and Gospel. You are going to need good footwear to share the Gospel.

Scriptures:

Romans 1:16-17 King James Version

¹⁶ For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. ¹⁷ For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith

Good news needs to go forth.

Mark 16:15 King James Version ¹⁵ And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

Isaiah 52:7 King James Version 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!

There are two kinds of peace. Before we even go out to fight, we must have the first kind of peace which is peace with God.

Your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel

Shod means: under, and déō (G1210), to bind. To bind under

Before you fight you must have peace with God. This comes only through faith in Christ and what He did at the Cross.

Colossians 1:20 King James Version²⁰ And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven.

5 Therefore, since we have been made right in God's sight by faith, we have peace [a] with God because of what Jesus Christ our Lord has done for us.

Warning make peace with God.

Peace of God:

The description of the Armor

Protected defensive piece of the armor

It protects you when you walk through dangerous areas and also attacks.

Colossians 3:15 Amplified Bible, Classic Edition

¹⁵ And let the peace (soul harmony which comes) from Christ rule (act as umpire continually) in your hearts [deciding and settling with finality all questions that arise in your minds, in that peaceful state] to which as [members of Christ's] one body you were also called [to live]. And be thankful (appreciative), [giving praise to God always].

We must allow His peace in us to determine what can penetrate and what cannot by the way we have His peace.

John 14:27 KJV Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

How it works: Philippians 4:6-7 New Living Translation

⁶ Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. ⁷ Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.

Spikes on the shoes I have to stand.

Stand on the word I stand in faith I stand with his peace.

How do I do this?

Isaiah 26:3 King James Version

³ Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.

Isaiah 26:3 Amplified Bible, Classic Edition

³ You will guard him *and* keep him in perfect *and* constant peace whose mind [both its inclination and its character] is stayed on You, because he commits himself to You, leans on You, *and* hopes confidently in You.

Isaiah 26:3 New Living Translation ³ You will keep in perfect peace all who trust in you, all whose thoughts are fixed on you!

This is setting your spikes down! Stepping on the enemy.

Romans 16:20 King James Version

²⁰ And the God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen.

Bruise To break, strike against something, crush together, or break in pieces.

Shortly as it connects to the armour of God.

Luke 10:19 King James Version

¹⁹ Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.

What a Promise: But it is connected to go where Jesus had commissioned them to go and to preach the kingdom of God was near them, and to heal the sick and cast out devils.

Example of Jesus in the ship: Why were they in the ship? They were going to go to where God had told them to go. They had to wake Jesus because of the storm. Then he rebuked the storm.

See Mark 4:35-41

Part Four, The Shield of Faith

Ephesians 6:10-17 King James Version

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. ¹² For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. 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:

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

First: You must understand *everyone* has been given *enough* faith to sustain them against the enemy and his attack.

Romans 12:3 King James Version

3 For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.

You have been given faith at salvation but you must develop that faith.

Second: The scripture says ABOVE ALL taking the shield of faith. (to take means to grab a hold of)

Above all here is not talking about its place of importance but the purpose it holds. There were two kinds of shields in the soldier's armor:

- > The decorative shield
- ➤ The other shield, better translated door or door shaped, when used correctly it was to go above all of you to protect you against the enemies' arrows. This shield was made out of seven different layers of treated leather that even though it was raw hide was as strong as steel.

The shield connected to the loin belt of truth. The loin belt is the most important part of the armor because it is where faith comes from.

So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. Romans 10:17

There is no way take hold of this shield without hearing the Word of God.

Ways to hear the word of God

Preaching

Audio bible

Speaking word of God.

The Roman Soldier would treat his shield well, soaking it the night before battle in water.

Ephesians 5:26 King James Version

²⁶ That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word

The soldier also smeared oil on his shield so it would not crack and crack under pressure

To be anointed by the Holy Spirit I to be smeared on by his presence.

Good confession

Psalm 92:10 New Living Translation ¹⁰ But you have made me as strong as a wild ox. You have anointed me with the finest oil.

How can I be anointed?

Ephesians 5:18-19 New Living Translation

¹⁸ Don't be drunk with wine, because that will ruin your life. Instead, be filled with the Holy Spirit, ¹⁹ singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, and making music to the Lord in your hearts.

Praying in tongues

Jude 20 Amplified Bible, Classic Edition

²⁰ But you, beloved, build yourselves up [founded] on your most holy faith [almake progress, rise like an edifice higher and higher], praying in the Holy Spirit.

What about the fiery arrows or darts. There were three types:

- > Arrow
- > Arrow that was lit and would burn at impact
- > The deadliest was one that had compostable chemicals that exploded on impact and caused a fire.

This was the deadliest because it was ignored.

We do the same thing, ignoring what we shouldn't.

Our scripture tells us what the shield of faith will do.

The Bible says we are to take up this shield because it extinguishes every fiery dart.

2 Corinthians 10:3-5 King James Version ³ For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh:⁴ (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)⁵ Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;

Unity: The shield had a place where it hooked onto other shields.

Matthew 18:18-19 Amplified Bible, Classic Edition

¹⁸ Truly I tell you, whatever you forbid *and* declare to be improper and unlawful on earth must be ^[a] what is already forbidden in heaven, and whatever you permit *and* declare proper and lawful on earth must be ^[b] what is already permitted in heaven. ¹⁹ Again I tell you, if two of you on earth agree (harmonize together, make a symphony together) about whatever [anything and ^[c] everything] they may ask, it will come to pass *and* be done for them by My Father in heaven.

Part Five, The Helmet

Ephesians 6:10-18 KJV

¹⁰ Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.¹¹ Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.¹² For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.¹³ Wherefore take unto you the whole armor 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 description of the Roman Soldiers helmet

- ➤ The helmet was fascinating piece of armor. It was ornate and very intricate.
- The helmet of a roman soldier was beautiful and looked more like a piece of artwork. His helmet was beautiful rather than simple piles of metal hung together. Roman soldiers had beautiful etchings and carved pastoral farm scenes on their helmets. Also, a huge plume of beautiful feathers and even horse hair would rise from the top of it. Sometimes pictures of fruit, or shapes of an animal like a Lion or Elephant.
- Why did he use this example? Because Salvation is personal, it is the most beautiful thing God did for you, and when you are truly walking in all the things that salvation gives you, you will be noticed.

How and why you need a helmet.

- The helmet was made of bronze and was equipped with pieces of armor that were specifically designed.
- It protected the cheeks and jaws. It was extremely heavy and therefore, the interior of the helmet was lined with sponge in order to soften the weight of the helmet upon the head of the soldier. This piece of armor was so strong so massive and so heavy, that nothing could pierce it-not even a hammer or battle ax.
- The battle ax was used to hit the head of your enemy and then chop the head off.
- > The helmet fitted tightly around the whole head so that when it was hit and it will be then it would stay in place.
- The helmet of salvation is to be used to protect your mind from the attacks of the enemy against your mind.

<u>The word take means to receive</u> when your receive the benefits of salvation you must meditate, study and speak what all God's Word says about salvation, then you are receiving the benefits of salvation and it becomes a helmet on your head to protect your thought life or brain.

If we are going to receive the helmet of salvation we must understand the meaning of salvation

Salvation is an all-inclusive word.

It means from a primary word $\sigma\tilde{\omega}\varsigma$ sōs̄ (contraction for the obsolete $\sigma\acute{\alpha}o\varsigma$ saos, "safe"); to save, that is, deliver or protect (literally or figuratively): - heal, preserve, save (self), do well, be (make) whole. **Total KJV occurrences: 110**

Isaiah 12:2-3 King James Version

² Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for the Lord Jehovah is my strength and my song; he also is become my salvation. ³ Therefore with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation.

We draw this out with joy. You do this when you with joy draw the benefits of salvation out. Before you draw it out you have to know what was is in the well. Every promise that God has promised is because you are saved.

Why is the helmet so important? Because of the way the devil operates.

Number one Wiles

Ephesians 6:11King James Version

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

Wiles means a road. There is a road the devil always travels on.

Number two Devices

2 Corinthians 2:11 King James Version

¹¹Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices.

Devices are mind games

Number three Deception

Titus 3:3 KJV

For we ourselves also were sometimes foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving divers lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, and hating one another.

To use deception is to bait someone so they will bite and then be controlled .

Summarize: The devil goes down a road, then he plays mind games, then he baits a trap with lying accusations, condemnation, unworthiness, ungodly sin, depression, sickness and lack until he beats your head off and stops you.

This is true spiritual warfare, and it is in your mind. Whoever wins the mind wins the fight.

2 Corinthians 10:3-5 King James Version

- ³ For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh:⁴ (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)⁵ Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;
 - These weapons are mighty to pulling down strong holds
 - A strong hold can mean two things: it can mean a fortress or a prison.
 - Fortresses keep people out. Sometimes a fortress can keep people out that could really help you.
 - > Prison keeps you from getting out.

Philippians 2:11-12 King James Version

- ¹¹ And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. ¹² Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.
 - ➤ When you work out your salvation you are walking out your salvation you're starting to break out of the prison.

You must realize these things didn't happen over night and you must admit you had a part to play in them.

Casting down imaginations

2 Corinthians 10:5 Amplified Bible, Classic Edition

⁵ [Inasmuch as we] refute arguments *and* theories *and* reasonings and every proud *and* lofty thing that sets itself up against the [true] knowledge of God; and we lead every thought *and* purpose away captive into the obedience of Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed One),

Imaginations are reasonings. IT is natural practical thinking based on the way you see things in the natural. If you are an over thinker you can get in bondage in this area real quickly with imaginations.

This will lead to far out there impractical thinking.

- ⁵ Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and *bringing into captivity* every thought to the obedience of Christ;
 - That phrase is a very strong violent word that means to take control of someone with a spear in their back.
 - > Thought is the word mind-games .

You should get the armor onm this is were the fight is. Learn what you have when you are saved and when the devil starts playing mind games, you get that spear out and say, "Get out of here, you don't control my mind the Lord and His Word control my mind.

Now I want to leave you with two scriptures.

Peter 1:13 King James Version

- ¹³ Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ;
- 1 Peter 1:13 Amplified Bible, Classic Edition
- ¹³ So brace up your minds; be sober (circumspect, morally alert); set your hope wholly *and* unchangeably on the grace (divine favor) that is coming to you when Jesus Christ (the Messiah) is revealed.

Peter 1:13 New Living Translation

A Call to Holy Living

¹³ So prepare your minds for action and exercise self-control. Put all your hope in the gracious salvation that will come to you when Jesus Christ is revealed to the world.

I keep my mind stayed on him.

Romans 8:6 The Voice

- ⁶ A mind focused on the flesh is doomed to death, but a mind focused on the Spirit will find full life and complete peace.
 - You can have a saved mind or an unsaved mind. That is all up to you.

The Armor of God

Part Six, The Sword of the Spririt

Ephesians 6:10-18 King James Version

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. ¹² For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. 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; KJV

...and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God

- Every weaponry of this armor is to be used in these everyday occurrences when the enemy attacks our mind.
- It is also to be used when the devil is attacking you and everything about you and doing everything he can to defeat you. Then, you know you have entered into spiritual warfare.
- Even though you have a breastplate, a shield and a helmet you can't just be somebody that knows how to with stand an attack you have to counter attack!
- The number one spiritual weapon you use is the most powerful weapon in the universe the sword of the spirit.
- You cannot just take a beating!

There are five different Greek words that describe different swords that a Roman soldier would use.

The Greek word for this sword was the deadliest sword a Roman soldier could use.

Just the thought that the enemy knew you had this sword would put fear into their heart.

This Greek word for sword is Machuria.

This brutal weapon of war was approximately 19 inches long. It was razor-sharp on both sides. Because both sides of the blade were razor sharp it was more dangerous than any other sword.

The very end of the sword turned upward. This caused the end of the blade to be extremely sharp and deadly.

This two-edged sword was more deadly than any other sword. When the Roman soldier would stab this sword into the gut of the enemy and grab it with both hands and twist it, it would literally tear the entrails, or guts out of the person.

Now, do you know why Paul used the sword of the spirit and this particular sword to describe the spiritual sword we have?

Because when used correctly it will rip the devils guts out!

The Word of God

- The Greek word is Rhema. It is a selection of scripture that you have gotten from the Word of God, which you have read, memorized, studied, listened to, and meditated on. You put it in your mind and it goes into your heart. Then the Holy Spirit illuminates it when you need it, or makes it come alive in you. Then, you speak it out and it becomes a sword of the Spirit.
- ➤ When the written Word of God is consciously put in your mind and your heart, the Holy Spirit breathes on it and it becomes a living Word you speak out of your mouth; it becomes a sword of the Spirit.
- > Remember it all starts at the loin belt, the truth the written Word of God.

Listen to the role the Holy Spirit has in this:

John 14:26 Amplified Bible, Classic Edition

²⁶ but the Comforter (Counselor, Helper, Intercessor, Advocate, Strengthener, Standby), the Holy Spirit, Whom the Father will send in My name [in My place, to represent Me and act on My behalf], <u>He will teach you all things. And He will cause you to recall (will remind you of, bring to your remembrance) everything I have told you.</u>

> This sword was so sharp it only had to go a few inches to destroy the enemy.

You don't need deep truths to destroy the enemy all you need is the Truth becoming alive in you.

Moses, Noah, Abraham, Joshua, David, Paul, Ananias, and Peter did not have deep words from God they had short powerful words from God.

Stop looking for new revelation look for fresh revelation!

The Two-edged sword is a two-mouthed sword

Revelation 1:16 King James Version

¹⁶ And he had in his right hand seven stars: and out of his mouth went a sharp two-edged sword: and his countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength.

- Two-edged: two compound Greek words, one means bi or two the other means mouth so two mouths.
- > Sword mentioned here in the Greek comes from the derivative of the Manchuria sword.

Hebrews 4:12-13 Amplified Bible, Classic Edition

12 For the Word that God speaks is alive and full of power [making it active, operative, energizing, and effective]; it is sharper than any two-edged sword, penetrating to the dividing line of the [a]breath of life (soul) and [the immortal] spirit, and of joints and marrow [of the deepest parts of our nature], exposing and sifting and analyzing and judging the very thoughts and purposes of the heart.13 And not a creature exists that is concealed from His sight, but all things are open and exposed, naked and defenseless to the eyes of Him with Whom we have to do.

- ✓ The first mouth of God is when His Word comes into us. As we speak it, read it, memorize, meditate, and pray over it. One edge of that sword is cutting, changing, helping, strengthening, and building us up.
- ✓ Thought to consider: To get to the marrow of the bones, the bone has to be broken. God allows us to be broken from our way so He can fill in the void with His way from the Word.
- ➤ I have great news for you! If you are doing that, you are ready for the battle!
- Next step, the Holy Spirit comes and God gives you a word. When you speak it to the devil, you stabbed into him that Sword of the Spirit and it will rip his guts out.

The best example was Jesus.

He never fought back with experience

He fought back with the Word of God!

Matthew 4:1-10 King James Version

4 Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil.

² And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungered.

³ And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread. ⁴ But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread

alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.⁵ Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city, and setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple,⁶ And saith unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone.

- ➤ Jesus spoke the Word that He had memorized. Out of his heart every time Jesus said, "It is written." Then a verse from the Old Testament that He knew. Then, by the power of the Holy Spirit is became a two-edged sword.
- Notice that the devil changed the subject when Jesus said, "It is written"?

⁷ Jesus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God.

⁸ Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them; ⁹ And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me. ¹⁰ Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.

SOURCES: KING JAMES BIBLE, AMPLIFIED BIBLE CLASSIC EDITION

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