



## Meeting Notes: The Shoes of the Preparation of Peace (June 26, 2013)

These notes capture our June 26, 2013 meeting. We opened our meeting in prayer and then began our evening. Topic notes may not be in the order discussed during group, and they are not intended to cover everything discussed. They are intended as highlights to capture the essence of our study. General notes follow each topic that was discussed. Documents used or created during this meeting are attached.

### TOPICS DISCUSSED:

#### Closing the loop on last week:

- **Breastplate of Righteousness:**
  - **Wearing the breastplate.** In looking at **Romans 10:9-10**, “<sup>9</sup>that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup>For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation” (NKJV). We also noted we had not discussed how to apply, fasten, and keep on the breastplate, so that was our takeaway. **Takeaway.** **Apply** it through confessing Jesus, **fasten it on** by believing and receiving in your heart, and **keep it on** by dying to self!
  - **How far around did the breastplate go?** We looked at a story in 1 Kings 22:31-35 where the king of Israel ultimately died when a random arrow struck him, “between the joints of his armor” (v35 NKJV). This reminded us of 1 Peter 5:8 where we are told, “Be sober, be vigilant, because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour” (NKJV). **Takeaway.** Its important, to be spiritually aware, to include knowing when to leave the battle because we are wounded.

**Memory Verse:** **Psalm 51:6** remains our memory verse.

#### Discussion Topic: The Shoes of the Preparation of Peace:

- **Ephesians 6:15.** “**And.**” As with our study on righteousness, we noted the connectedness between righteousness and peace. **Takeaway.** Truth leads to righteousness and righteousness leads to peace.
- **Defining some key words:**<sup>1</sup> We looked at *shod*, *preparation*, *gospel*, and *peace*. The full definitions and comments are in the attached Teaching Notes. However, in our discussion, we noted **shod** means we have to bind peace to ourselves. In

---

<sup>1</sup> Strong's Concordance for the iPhone version 1.5.3, Copyright © 2009 Brian Thomas Webb

discussing **preparation**, we noted we have to make our feet ready to walk in and to hear the gospel of peace. Thus, there is an action on our part to be ready to receive the **gospel** or as it was defined, “the teaching or revelation of Christ.”<sup>2</sup> In addition to having **peace** with God, the “gospel” also helps us have peace with others. **Takeaway.** Peace is not active; it doesn’t just drop into our lives. Peace is active; it’s something we have to purposefully apply to our lives.

- **Additional discussion:**

- **Standing firm.** The Roman soldier’s shoes were constructed to provide protection for his walk and give him the ability to dig his spikes in and stand firm for battle! For the soldier, these spikes allowed him to dig in to the ground. From a spiritual perspective, these spikes represent our ability to dig in and stand firm on God’s Word. **Takeaway.** Peace protects our walk and our ability to stand firm in faith.
- **Wisdom and peace.** **James 3:17-18** highlights how Godly wisdom connects righteousness and peace. <sup>17</sup>“But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy. <sup>18</sup>Now the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace” (NKJV). Thus, if we are walking in God’s wisdom, we can walk in peace. Knowing wisdom connects righteousness and peace led us to **Proverbs 3:5-8**, “Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And lean not unto your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths. Do not be wise in your own eyes. Fear the Lord and depart from evil. It will be health to your flesh, and strength to your bones” (NKJV). **Takeaway.** Walking in Godly wisdom helps us trust God and trusting God binds peace to our lives!
- **Wearing our shoes.** Our ability to wear our shoes of peace depends on us first being connected to the Lord Jesus. Being connected to Jesus allows us to know our sins are forgiven. Knowing our sins are forgiven allows us to be forgiving towards others. As we keep our minds fixed on Jesus, we are able to walk in wisdom, which brings the peace that surpasses all understanding. But, to keep our shoes on, we have to allow the Holy Spirit to reveal any areas of sin in our lives that we need to overcome. **Takeaway.** We **apply** the shoes through the blood of Jesus. We **fasten on** the shoes by walking in wisdom, and **we keep the shoes on** by walking in faith and dying to self.
- **Growth opportunities.** We identified times when we are seeking to overcome any sin in our lives as growth opportunities. Because we have been made righteous in Christ Jesus, not confronting the things the Holy

---

<sup>2</sup> Strong’s Concordance for the iPhone version 1.5.3, Copyright © 2009 Brian Thomas Webb

Spirit reveals to us creates a sense of guilt and condemnation. However, if we recognize when we conquer one thing, the enemy will try to find a new area to attack, we realize we no longer have to walk in guilt and condemnation, but we can become thankful for a new opportunity to mature as Christians!

- **Revelations from the Lord:** In addition to what's captured in the notes, we also discussed how expectation brings hurt. When we remember our salvation is our ultimate goal, nothing else matters—what others say and do loses its power over us! In addition, we discussed the importance of knowing what Scripture says so when we pray, we can pray His Word!

**Open Discussion:** We had an open time of sharing what hinders our peace. In this discussion, we examined **Micah 6:8**, "He has shown you, O man, what *is* good; And what does the Lord require of you But to do justly, To love mercy, And to walk humbly with your God?" (NKJV). We ended up asking God, "*How do you DO justice?*" While I will do some studying on the matter, we patiently await the Holy Spirit's answer!

#### **The Coming Weeks:**

- **Off Nights.** We will be off **July 3rd** and **July 17th** for various celebrations.
- **Our next meeting.** We will meet on **July 10th**; however, that night will be a Spirit Check. For those attending the weekly meetings, please review your journals, as Spirit Check is an opportunity for us to assess where we are in relationship to what we've been learning during this study and where we are going in the second half of the year.
- **Our next armor study. July 24th.** The current plan is to close the loop on peace and begin discussing the shield of faith, hence our new memory verses!

#### **Next Meeting Assignment:**

- **New Memory verse. Hebrews 11:1, 6.** <sup>1</sup>"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. ... <sup>6</sup>But without faith, *it is* impossible to please *Him*, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and *that* He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him" (NKJV).

#### **Closing:**

- We closed our meeting in prayer with a time of need-specific prayer for the challenges that were lifted up, for the group overall, and as the Holy Spirit led.

*If you have questions, comments, or concerns about information contained in this document, or would like to be added to or removed from the email distribution for the meeting notes, please email us at [wow2@wow2women.com](mailto:wow2@wow2women.com) or complete a Contact Form on our site, [www.wow2women.com](http://www.wow2women.com).*



Meeting Notes  
(June 26, 2013)

**ATTACHMENT: TEACHING NOTES FOR JUNE 26, 2013**

**Closing the loop on last week:**

- **Breastplate of righteousness:**

- **Applying it:** Last week, we learned our righteousness comes “through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe” (Romans 5:22 NKJV). Thus, in order to apply the armor, we must be “in Christ Jesus.”
- **Fastening it on.** In our study on righteousness, we also learned even though God makes righteousness available, we still have to receive His righteousness rather than try to walk in our own (Romans 10:3).
- **Keeping it on.** We keep on our breastplate by continuing to renew our mind so we can put off the old man and put on the new man, “which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness (Ephesians 4:24 NKJV).
- **Takeaway.** We put on our righteousness through faith in Christ; we fasten it by receiving God’s righteousness, and we keep it on by putting on the new man!

- **How far around did the breastplate go**

- **1 Kings 22:31-35.**<sup>1</sup> “<sup>29</sup>So the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat the king of Judah went up to Ramoth Gilead. <sup>30</sup>And the king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, “I will disguise myself and go into battle; but you put on your robes.” So the king of Israel disguised himself and went into battle. <sup>31</sup>Now the king of Syria had commanded the thirty-two captains of his chariots, saying, “Fight with no one small or great, but only with the king of Israel.” <sup>32</sup>So it was, when the captains of the chariots saw Jehoshaphat, that they said, “Surely it *is* the king of Israel!” Therefore they turned aside to fight against him, and Jehoshaphat cried out. <sup>33</sup>And it happened, when the captains of the chariots saw that it *was* not the king of Israel, that they turned back from pursuing him. <sup>34</sup>Now a *certain* man drew a bow at random, and struck the king of Israel **between the joints of his armor**. So he said to the driver of his chariot, “Turn around and

---

<sup>1</sup>United Church of God, *Bible Study Guides: Practical Answers A Real Hope*, 2012-2013. Retrieved from <http://www.freebiblestudyguides.org/bible-teachings/armor-of-god-breastplate-of-righteousness.htm> on June 22, 2013

take me out of the battle, for I am wounded.”<sup>35</sup>The battle increased that day; and the king was propped up in his chariot, facing the Syrians, and died at evening. The blood ran out from the wound onto the floor of the chariot” (NKJV) (**emphasis added**).

- **Summary.** While this account doesn’t provide a clear picture of how far around the breastplate went, even if the armor went all the way around, an arrow could penetrate through the joints of the armor. In addition, the king left the battlefield when he was wounded! We should learn to do the same!
- **Takeaway.** Make sure we stay connected to God, because He is our ultimate protector in those instances where the armor may “fail” us.

### Memory Verse:

- **Psalm 51:6.** “Behold, thou desireth truth in the inward parts, And in the hidden part thou shalt make me to know wisdom (NKJV).

### Discussion Topic: The Shoes of the Preparation of the Gospel of Peace

- **Ephesians 6:15:** “and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace (KJV).
- **Key definitions:**<sup>2</sup>
  - **Shod.** (G5265) from two different words; to bind under one’s feet, i.e. put on shoes or sandals:--bind on, (be shod).
  - **Preparation.** (G2091) from another word; preparation [the action or process of making ready or being made ready for use or consideration].
  - **Gospel.** (G2098) from another word; a good message, i.e. the gospel:--gospel [the teaching or revelation of Christ].
  - **Peace.** (G1515) probably from a primary verb (to join); peace (literally or figuratively); by implication, prosperity:--one, peace, quietness, rest, + set at one again.
- **Key points:**
  - **Progressive nature of the armor.** With righteousness, we noticed truth was connected to righteousness with the word, “and.” Here we also notice another, “and” connecting the shoes of the preparation of the gospel of peace. When we have the Word of God in our heart, that truth leads to righteousness. When we know we are in right standing with God, that

---

<sup>2</sup> Strong’s Concordance for the iPhone version 1.5.3, Copyright © 2009 Brian Thomas Webb

truth leads to peace in our lives.

- **Describing the shoes.**<sup>3</sup> The shoes were not mere sandals, but were more like boots. The upper portion (the greaves) protected the legs, and the lower portion (the actual shoe) contained metal spikes to help the soldier dig in for battle! From a spiritual perspective, then, peace protects our walk and our ability to “withstand in the evil day” (Ephesians 6:13 NKJV).
- **Understanding peace.**
  - **What is peace?** Peace is not passive; it doesn’t just drop in our lives. Peace is active; it’s something we have to purposefully apply to our lives.
  - **Different kinds of peace:** Horizontal peace and vertical peace. Renner describes two kinds of horizontal peace, though he does not use those words.<sup>4</sup>
    - **Horizontal peace:**
      - **Peace with God.** This is the peace that comes from being in right standing with God.
      - **Peace of God.** This is the peace that truly does surpass all understanding. It exists in the midst of the storm rather than in the absence of the storm.
    - **Vertical peace:** This peace exists towards self and towards others.
  - **Wearing our shoes.**
    - **Applying our shoes of peace.** Since our peace with God comes from the shed blood of Jesus, we apply peace to our lives by walking in the righteousness Jesus purchased for us. We then extend that righteousness to others, by doing our best to walk in peace with those we encounter. Because we know we have been made right with God, we can walk in forgiveness towards self. Being able to forgive ourselves allows us to heal so the devil no longer has access to our hearts to destroy our peace. Moreover, he can no longer cause us to be accusers of the brethren to destroy our peace with others. **Takeaway.** Righteousness leads to peace and

---

<sup>3</sup> Rick Renner, *Dressed to Kill: A Biblical Approach to Spiritual Warfare and Armor*, (Tulsa: Teach all Nations, 1991).

<sup>4</sup> Ibid

peace allows us to walk in forgiveness (towards self and others).

- **Fastening on our shoes of peace.** Isaiah 26:3 tells us when our minds are fixed on God, He will keep us in perfect peace. And, Proverbs 3:5-8 teaches us to trust God, not lean on our own understanding, not be wise in our own eyes, fear the Lord, and depart from evil. When we keep our minds stayed on Jesus, the resulting peace allows us to truly trust God so He can direct our path. When our ways please God, He can make our enemies to be at peace with us. **Takeaway.** Trust the Lord and follow His wisdom, not ours. That is how we fasten peace to our feet!

- **Keeping on our shoes of peace<sup>5</sup>.**

- **Deal with sin.** We keep our peace by allowing the Holy Spirit to deal with any areas of sin in our life. Wherever there is a lack of peace, there is lie tormenting us. It can be a lie from the devil, a lie that life's circumstances has caused us to believe, or even a lie generated from an inner vow (I'll never ...; I won't let ...; I refuse to let anyone ...). As we have learned, we deal with the lie by replacing it with God's truth. As we become obedient to God's Word, it will heal us! **Takeaway.** Keeping on our shoes of peace means we have to be willing to face whatever is destroying our peace so we can heal from it through the power that comes from being obedient to God's Word.

- **Walk in faith.** With our belt of truth firmly in place, when we stand on the Word, we can stand on faith, because we know what we are expecting to see based on what God's Word says. However, if we allow doubt to creep in, we lose our peace, and end up getting tossed to and fro! **Takeaway.** Stand on the Word and keep standing until God's Word comes to pass.

- **A few Scripture references.**

- **Peace with God:**

- **Colossians 1:19-20.** "For it pleased the Father that in Him

---

<sup>5</sup> Rick Renner, *Dressed to Kill: A Biblical Approach to Spiritual Warfare and Armor*, (Tulsa: Teach all Nations, 1991).

[Christ] all the fullness should dwell, and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of the cross” (NKJV)

- **1 Timothy 2:5-6.** “For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time” (NKJV).

▪ **Peace of God:**

- **Isaiah 26:3.** “You will keep him in perfect peace Whose mind is stayed on You because He trusts in You” (NKJV).
- **Colossians 3:15.** “And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body, and be thankful” (NKJV)
- **Philippians 4:6-7.** “Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God, and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus” (NKJV).
- **Romans 16:19-20.** “For your obedience has become known to all. Therefore I am glad on your behalf; but I want you to be wise in what is good, and simple concerning evil. And the God of peace will crush Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen” (NKJV).

▪ **Peace with men (self and others):**

- **Proverbs 16:7.** “When a man’s way please the Lord He makes even his enemies to be at peace with him” (NKJV)
- **Romans 12:18.** “If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men” (NKJV).
- **Proverbs 3:5-8.** “Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And lean not unto your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths. Do not be wise in your own eyes. Fear the Lord and depart from evil. It will be health to your flesh, and strength to your bones” (NKJV).
- **Acts 24:16.** This being so, I myself always strive to have a conscience without offense toward God and men” (NKJV).



- **Summing up Dressed to Kill, Chapter 12, Shoes of Peace:**<sup>6</sup>
  - **A few key points:**
    - "...we must firmly tie peace around our lives. If we only give peace a loose fitting position in our lives, the affairs of life will easily knock our peace out of place" (p. 315).
    - "So stay alert to this truth: As you grow in your walk with God, spiritual confrontations will come to challenge your new growth" (p. 327).
    - "It is interesting to note that the majority of verses in the New Testament that have to do with *standing* also have to do with *faith* (p. 330).
    - "...you must learn how to plant your feet firmly into the soil of God's Word and then by faith to stay right where you are – unmoved and unhindered by the devil's threats and lies" (p. 333).
    - "It may be that there are areas of sin in your life that seem to linger and defeat you. There may be habits that held you for a long time or personal struggles that seem impossible to overcome. But at the Cross of Jesus Christ, every single one of those hindrances was resolved. Their power over your life was utterly shattered" (p. 336).
  - **Takeaway:** Peace is something we get from God the Father through our relationship with His Son, Jesus; it is something we keep by turning our hearts and minds to the Lord Jesus, so He can help us remove sin from our lives that could separate us from the Father.
  - **Revelations from the Lord.**
    - We receive peace through the blood. We walk it out through the Word.
    - Faith brings peace. Idolatry brings hurt.

### Final thoughts:

- The connectedness of the armor is amazing! Without truth, we cannot have righteousness. Without righteousness, we cannot have peace. And, unless we are willing to take up our shield of faith, the enemy can destroy our peace! Thus, it's no surprise our next piece of armor is the shield!

---

<sup>6</sup> Rick Renner, *Dressed to Kill: A Biblical Approach to Spiritual Warfare and Armor*, (Tulsa: Teach all Nations, 1991).