



Repentance Tabernacle Church

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The Armor of God!

Lesson Text: Ephesians 6:10-18

Focus Verse: Ephesians 6:13 - 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.

Truth About Covenant: Although life in covenant involves spiritual opposition, God's Spirit works in our lives like armor to give us victory.

Covenant Context: Living in covenant with God puts us against our spiritual enemy. However, God graciously provides us with the armor we need to defend ourselves and attack the enemy spiritually. Here in Ephesians 6, Paul listed the whole armor of God and the ways we use it to win our wars.

There is a war that we as believers cannot avoid, no matter how much we may try. It is a conflict we cannot ignore. The apostle Paul understood that the battle every believer enters calls for armor so we are protected. God has designed such armor to protect us from every attack of the enemy. Covenant people can find strength through the armor of God, but it is our responsibility to put it on.

Paul began this entire section cautioning the believer to ***"be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might"*** (Ephesians 6:10). Paul clarified that God's strength came from the Holy Spirit's power in our lives (Ephesians 3:16). Paul used a soldier's armor to illustrate different ways the Holy Ghost works in our lives. We apply this passage of Scripture by staying full of the Holy Ghost. **The idea of putting on the whole armor of God means first being filled with His Spirit according to Acts 2:38 and then walking daily in the Spirit, which will then work through our lives as weapons against the kingdom of darkness.**

Paul began ***"having your loins girt about with truth"*** and it identifies us as belonging to God. Being faithful and committed to truth is vital for any offensive action necessary to defeat the enemy. The ***"breastplate of righteousness"*** of God imputed to believers through faith becomes the sanctification we daily put on, which protects from the enemy's blows destroying our lives.

Your ***"feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace"*** remind us the kingdom of God suffers violence, and only the violent (spiritually speaking) bring peace to the chaotic world of darkness (Matthew 11:12). The ***"shield of faith"*** is more than just a defensive weapon of belief in God, but Jesus taught us to use faith as an offensive weapon to move mountains or receive healing (Mark 11:23-24; Matthew 17:20). Paul instructed believers to use their faith by rejecting the fiery arrows and pressing forward into enemy territory.

The ***"helmet of salvation,"*** we are to remember salvation is not a one-time event, but a continual sanctification process we fulfill by renewing our minds daily as we put on the helmet of salvation. What we hear, see, and say all need to be in submission to Jesus, our Commander. The ***"sword of the Spirit is the Word of God."*** God's Word is our most powerful offensive tool to defeat and destroy the enemy. Jesus exemplified the proper use of this weapon in His confrontation with Satan in Matthew 4.

Paul continued in verse 18 to list two additional pieces of armor: The first is prayer in the Spirit and the last piece of armor for our fellow believers when we watch out for them. The armor of God is a must in our spiritual life. It is not a question whether we will be in battle; the enemy is plotting and planning attacks each day. We must put on the whole armor of God daily so we can withstand the enemy's wily maneuvers and be protected against his false doctrine and agenda in this evil day. **When we daily pray the armor of God over our lives, we can confidently stand and set our faces toward the enemy, knowing we are protected by Almighty God.**

Believers understand the powerful protection the armor of God offers. However, it does not work unless we daily pray to be full of the Spirit. Because we are distracted by our daily cares, we often forget that each day we are walking into a war. If we have answered the call to be Jesus' followers, we were drafted into His spiritual army. We cannot get complacent about putting on this armor. **Get up every day and put on the armor designed by God for your power and protection.** Then no matter what the enemy sends your way, you will be protected and you will be victorious.