

PROVERBS 3:18

The FULL Armor of God

Ephesians Six

Part One

All over the spectrum

• This topic tends to be avoided by "cessationist's" because it causes one to acknowledge Spiritual things – Which may be uncomfortable for some!

• Others are obsessed with Spiritual things, and the "bogyman" is behind every corner! It becomes "ritualistic".

 How do we effectively understand and use the weaponry provided without becoming obsessed with the powers of darkness?

Eph 6:10 **Finally**, be strong in the **Lord** and in **His mighty power**.

Spiritual war equipment sandwich!

Eph 6:18 Pray in the Ruach on every occasion, with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, keep alert with perseverance and supplication for all the kedoshim.

All over the spectrum

- It's not enough to have "will power" to overcome
- A "will" to desire God is important, but it doesn't mean we have the ability. Ability comes through training...
- Training strengthens and helps give us the ability:
- 1Samuel 17:36-37 Your servant has killed both the lion and the bear, so this uncircumcised Philistine will become like one of them—since he has defied the ranks of the living God." Then David said, "Adonai, who has delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear, will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine." "Go!" said Saul to David, "and may Adonai be with you."
- God worked David up in steps

- How do we train? By walking with the Lord!
- "Be strong in union with the Lord" Eph 6:10 CJB
- Paul begins the war equipment statement with "finally" as he built up to that statement in prior chapters!
- Ephesians 1-5 establishes how to have a relationship, that's the training...

Chapter	Relationship Focus	What It Prepares Us For
1	Identity in Messiah	Authority & Confidence
2	Reconciliation	Unity & Boldness
3	Revelation	Empowerment
4	Transformation (people)	Maturity & Discernment
5	Submission (God→ people)	Order, Family, Alignment
6	Resistance	Spiritual Warfare

- After establishing identity, reconciliation, revelation, maturity, and submission...
- Now that you know how to have a relationship with God and man...
- Paul now says: "Finally" or "lastly" **STAND** not in your own strength, but in the One you've come to know intimately.
- "Put on the whole armor of God..." (6:11)
- **Relational step:** Resistance. Only after we're rooted in relationship can we effectively resist the enemy.
- There is a priority in how we learn spiritual truth!

Yeshua as an example, confidence in our relationship with God:

Luke 2:48-52 When His parents saw Yeshua, they were overwhelmed. And His mother said to Him, "Child, why did you do this to us? Look! Your father and I were searching for You frantically!" He said to them, "Why were you searching for Me? Didn't you know that I must be about the things of My Father?" But they did not grasp the message He was telling them. Then He went down with them to Natzeret and was obedient to them. But His mother treasured all these words in her heart. And Yeshua kept increasing in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.

Luke 3:21 Now when all the people were immersed, Yeshua also was immersed. And while He was praying, heaven was opened and the **Ruach ha-Kodesh came down upon Him in bodily form like a dove**. And from out of heaven came a voice, "You are My Son, whom I love—with You I am well pleased!"

Luke 4:1-13 Yeshua, now filled with the Ruach ha-Kodesh, returned from the Jordan. He was led by the Ruach in the wilderness for forty days, being tested by the devil. Now He ate nothing during those days, and when they had ended, He was hungry. The devil said to Him, "If You are Ben-Elohim, tell this stone to become bread." Yeshua answered him, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone." And leading Him up, the devil showed Him all the kingdoms of the world in an instant. And the devil said to Him, "I'll give to You all this authority along with its glory, because it has been handed over to me and I can give it to anyone I wish. Therefore, if you will worship before me, all this shall be Yours." But answering, Yeshua told him, "It is written, 'You shall worship Adonai your God, and Him only shall you serve." Then he brought Yeshua to Jerusalem and placed Him on the highest point of the Temple. He said to Him, "If You are Ben-Elohim, throw Yourself down from here. For it is written, 'He will command His angels concerning you, to guard you,' and 'upon their hands they will lift you up, so that you may not strike your foot against a stone." But answering, Yeshua said to him, "It is said, 'You shall not put Adonai your God to the test." And when the devil had completed every test, he departed from Him until another occasion.

Walk in Authority

- Confidence comes from our relationship with God...
- Relationship with God is the fountain from which all authority flows from...
- No relationship, no strength...
- It's Gods' strength! Not ours, it flows from Him.
- Isolation is one of the great tools of the enemy 1 Peter 5:8-9
- Three classes of temptation: 1 John 2:16
- Yeshua had strength before the Battle
- "If you wait to get faith until you need it, you've waited to long" ~ Smith Wigglesworth
- Spiritual activity to build ourselves up Strengthen our Spirit!

Paul's Structure, Spiritual Warfare Last

- First three chapters: Our relationship with Messiah.
- Chapter four: Transformation & maturity.
- Chapter five: Order and Relationship.
- Then Spiritual Warfare... He didn't start with it.
- Relationships and family structure are spoken of separately!
- That shows us that maturity, relationships and Spiritual warfare are separate issues. Not every problem with our spouse, children, employer etc... is from the Devil... Sometimes it's us!
- Satan can certainly influence some of those areas, but we must be able to recognize a true attack of the enemy...

Not Everything is a Spiritual Attack Perhaps Satan got this guy was in his mind prior to his actions! The attack perhaps already took place, he wasn't "in armor" and now these are the consequences... Or he just made bad choices or was tazy.

Gal 6:8 For the one who sows in the flesh will reap corruption from the flesh. But the one who sows in the Ruach will reap from the Ruach eternal life.

- The Armor of God is Spiritual equipment for three areas:
 - 1) Your Mind
 - 2) Your Mouth
 - 3) Your Heart (Your Spirit)
- There is more than one component or aspect to the weapons.
 Different functions, they aren't the same.
- That's why we should take the "whole armor of God"
- Wear it even when you don't feel like it!
- Our will and choice will always trump our feelings

- It doesn't say it's my armor, your armor or the believer's armor...
- It's Gods Armor! This is the armor that He would use if He were on this Earth!
- So... this is the Armor that Yeshua used when He was here!
- He rebuffed the lies and schemes of the Devil using it.
- The idea behind the Armor is that it doesn't just stop the attacks, but it turns the tide of war against the enemy!

- The scheme of the enemy (Read Daniel 6:1-9)
- The action Daniel took, the Armor he put on: Read Daniel 6:10-12
- The attack of the enemy: Read Daniel 6:13-18
- The attack was thwarted by the Armor: Read Daniel 6:20-24
- Tides of war changed! God, through the Armor, flipped the script on the enemy!

Dan 6:25-27 At the king's command, those men who had maliciously accused Daniel were brought and thrown into the lions' den—they, their children, and their wives. They had not even reached the bottom of the pit before the lions overpowered them and crushed all their bones. Then King Darius wrote to all the peoples, nations, and languages dwelling in all the earth: "May your peace be abundant! I issue a decree that in all the dominion of my kingdom people are to tremble with fear before the God of Daniel. "For He is the living God, enduring forever! His kingdom

will never be destroyed, His dominion will never end.

- Having Faith doesn't mean we will never have a trial or attack, it means we will successfully overcome them!
- The armor mitigates the attack, minimizes the impact that the enemy designed it to have.
- The armor of God advances you!
- You don't return to the same atmosphere as before.
- You move ahead! God reverses the attack and flips the script.
- You win by wearing the armor!

- The scheme of the enemy (Read Daniel 3:6-15)
- The action they took, the Armor they put on: Read Daniel 3:17-18
- The attack of the enemy: Read Daniel 3:19-22
- The attack was thwarted by the Armor: Read Daniel 3:23-28
- Tides of war changed! God, through the Armor, flipped the script on the enemy!

Dan 3:29-33 Therefore I hereby decree that any people, nation or language that says anything slanderous against the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego will be torn limb from limb and their house made a pile of rubble, because there is no other God that is able to deliver in this way." Then the king promoted Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego in the province of Babylon. King Nebuchadnezzar—To all peoples, nations and languages who dwell in all the earth: May your peace abound! It seemed good to me to declare the signs and wonders that God Most High has done for me. How great are His signs, how mighty are His wonders! His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, His dominion from generation to generation.

- The Red Sea....
- God led them to that exact spot: Exodus 14:1-3
- They had no where to go, defying human logic/wisdom
- The attack: Exodus 14:4-9
- The People had no Armor: Exodus 14:10-12
- But Moses had the Armor on! Exodus 14:13-14
- The attack was thwarted: Exodus 14:28-30
- And reversed: They do not see Egypt again! It put fear of God in all nations (protection) and God was glorified over Pharoah!

• Again we don't stop the attack, you mitigate and flip!

Ephesians 6:11 Put on the full armor of God, so that you are able to stand against the schemes of the devil.

- It doesn't say "so we can stand against the strength of the devil"....
- **G3180** μεθοδεία methodeia meth-od-i'-ah From a compound of G3326 and G3593 [compare "method"]; traveling over, that is, travesty, (trickery): wile, lie in wait.
- He uses a "method" against you.
- The Job method: attack, then messenger, he wants the fear to set in. He wants to rub it in, impact your circumstances.
- · He's a "bluffer" He doesn't want to fight! Fear/Mind games

1Samuel 17:8-11 Then he stood and shouted out to the ranks of Israel saying to them, "Why come out to line up in battle array? Am I not the Philistine and aren't you Saul's servants? Choose for yourselves a man and let him come down to me. If he is able to fight with me and kill me, then will we become your slaves; but if I prevail against him and kill him, then will you become our slaves and serve us." The Philistine added, "Today I defy the ranks of Israel—give me a man, so we may fight together!" But when Saul and all Israel heard these words of the Philistine, they were dismayed and very terrified.

- They weren't overrunning the Israelites.
- They didn't want to fight, rather schemes of fear, words, mind games.

• God had an answer for Israel in that time, a strategy and plan put in place... Reverse the Spirit of fear!

Deuteronomy 20:1-4 "When you go out to battle against your enemies and see horse and chariot—a people more numerous than you—do not be afraid of them. For Adonai your God, the One who brought you up from the land of Egypt, is with you. When you draw near to the battle, the kohen will come forward and speak to the people. He will say to them, 'Hear, O Israel, you are drawing near today to the battle against your enemies. Don't be fainthearted! Don't fear or panic or tremble because of them. For Adonai your God is the One who goes with you, to fight for you against your enemies to save you.'

- David was the one that was encouraging others on that Battlefield Read 1Samuel 17:45-47 David had no Spirit of fear!
- He didn't do it with physical armor, but spiritual 1Samuel 17:38-39
- We make this harder than it has to be! God wants to be our warrior, and we let Him do that by "Eph 6:18 Pray in the Ruach on every occasion, with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, keep alert with perseverance and supplication for all the kedoshim."
 - 1Samuel 17:53 When Bnei-Yisrael returned from chasing the Philistines, they plundered their camp.
- Will is important, but the ability comes by training 1Samuel 17:36-37

- Spiritual Armor is something that you learn about and grow in.
- You don't get it all at once, or understand it all at once.
- It's not something we do off the cuff, never having done it before.
- It's something you develop with God, like David did.
- But you are capable of it, and you can do it!
- God's looking for somebody that He can show himself strong for!

Eph 6:10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power.



TABERNACLE

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Questions & Answers