

## Put on the Armor of God

*“Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. 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” - Ephesians 6:10-12*

Spiritual warfare is part of the salvation package. Whether it is our own flesh or the world that seems to have us down for the moment, the Bible is very clear that trouble really only has one base source: the devil. He sends fiery darts of doubt and afflicts with illness and circumstance. He also accuses and torments through other people and our very own thoughts. But the Bible is clear about something else, too. God is in control. Nothing happens without God’s say-so, and greater is He who is in us than he who is in the world. Our job is to be ready for the battle by protecting ourselves and counterattacking with the weapons God gave us: the armor of God.

## The Belt of Truth

*“Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth” Ephesians 6:14a*

A soldier’s belt keeps the armor in place and is wide to protect vital organs. Deception is one of the Enemy’s strongest weapons. The truth protects us so that we are not vulnerable to Satan’s lies. *We must compare everything in our world to what the Bible says and believe the Bible even over what we think we see or feel.*

## The Breastplate of Righteousness

*“...and having on the breastplate of righteousness” Ephesians 6:14b*

A chest wound can be fatal. A soldier’s breastplate covers his heart and lungs. Jeremiah 17:19 says “The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; Who can know it?” Our heart is susceptible to the world, but our protection is righteousness – but not OUR righteousness! *The righteousness of Jesus Christ is imputed to us (given to us by faith) when we BELIEVE in Jesus’ finished work on the cross.*

## The Shoes of the Gospel of Peace

*“And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace” Ephesians 6:15*

The battlefield is rocky and scattered with spikes, sharp stones, and traps of the enemy. We protect ourselves by remembering it is by GRACE we are saved. John 3:16 says “For God so loved the world, He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believes in Him will not perish but have everlasting life.” *1 Peter 3:15 says to share the gospel by always being “ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear.”*

## The Shield of Faith

*“Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.” Ephesians 6:16*

A soldier’s shield stops all kinds of attacks, making them glance harmlessly to the

ground. Our shield guards against one of Satan’s deadliest weapons: fiery darts, also known as seeds of doubt. Satan shoots doubt at us when God does not act immediately or visibly in our given situation. We can start to question if God is really there, if He cares for us, or if He will really act on our behalf. *But the truth of God’s Word allows us to STOP those attacks when we remain stubbornly confident in the knowledge that God provides, protects, and is faithful to His children.*

## The Helmet of Salvation

*“And take the helmet of salvation” Ephesians 6:17a*

Helmets obviously protect the head, where all our thoughts reside. The truth of salvation through Christ sets us free, and 1 Corinthians 2:16 tells us that believers "have the mind of Christ." 2 Corinthians 4-5 says “For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, <sup>5</sup>casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ.” *So when we make sure that all our thoughts, every one of them, are pleasing to the Lord and line up with the truth of His Word, we are protected from the devil’s bad ideas.*

## The Sword of the Word of God

*“...and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God” Ephesians 6:17b*

## Contact Information

The Sword of the Spirit is the only offensive weapon in the Armor of God with which we can strike against Satan. This weapon represents the Word of God, the Bible. "For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart." (Hebrews 4:12). When Jesus was tempted in the desert by Satan, he countered with the truth of Scripture, setting an example for us. Satan's tactics have not changed, so the Sword of the Spirit, the Bible, is still our best defense. *Commit the Word to your memory and to your heart, and the Holy Spirit will bring verses to your mind at the just the right time.*

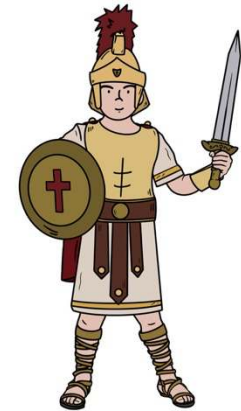
### The Power of Prayer

*"Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints."*  
*Ephesians 6:18*

Every smart soldier knows he must keep the line of communication open to his Commander. God has orders for us, through his Word and the promptings of the Holy Spirit. Satan hates it when we pray. He knows prayer strengthens us and keeps us alert to his deception. Paul cautions us to pray for others as well. *We need each other's prayers and encouragement as the days get darker in these end times.*

With the Full Armor of God and gift of prayer, we can be ready for whatever the Enemy throws at us.

## You Just Joined a War, So Prepare to Fight



### Spiritual Warfare is Real, So You Had Better Get to Know Your Weapons

Becoming a Christian isn't the end of your troubles. It's the beginning of your time as a soldier for God. Colossians 2:15 tells us that the devil is a defeated foe, but he still attacks Christians to hurt us and try to get us to turn away from God. When we understand our weapons, both defensive and offensive, we are prepared to fight and win.

By: Angela G  
nolongerlukewarm.com