

Ephesians

Walking In Power

July 13 & 16, 2017

(Ephesians 6:10-18) Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.

1. Belt of Truth - Truth is Jesus and His Word.

(John 14:6) Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

(John 17:17) "Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth."

✓ Application - I center my life on truth, then make all decisions based on it.

(John 15:3-4) "You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. Remain in me, as I also remain in you."

2. Breastplate of Righteousness - Righteousness is being "right" with God and being "right with God".

(Romans 3:24) Yet God, with undeserved kindness, declares that we are righteous. He did this through Christ Jesus when he freed us from the penalty for our sins.

(1 Peter 3:18) For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit..

✓ Application - I cover myself in the identity that Christ has given me.

(1 Peter 2:24) He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.

3. Shoes of The Gospel of Peace - Peace is assurance in my future.

(1 Peter 3:15) Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect...

✓ Application - I look for opportunities to serve others and share the good news.

(2 Corinthians 5:18) This is from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation.

4. Shield of Faith - Faith is trust in all circumstances.

(Hebrews 11:1) Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.

(2 Corinthians 5:7) For we live by faith, not by sight.

✓ Application - I stand confidently knowing God is with me and God is for me.

(Psalm 28:7) The LORD is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and he helps me. My heart leaps for joy, and with my song I praise him.

5. Helmet of Salvation - Salvation is deliverance and security.

(Psalm 116:8-9) For You have rescued my soul from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling. I shall walk before the LORD in the land of the living.

(John 10:28) "I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one can snatch them out of My hand."

✓ Application - I filter all thoughts through my salvation and Jesus' victory.

(2 Corinthians 10:5) We take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.

6. Sword of the Spirit - The Spirit of Jesus through the Word of God.

(Matthew 4:10-11) Jesus said to him, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.'" Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.

✓ Application - I speak God's truth over my life in the battle.

(1 Corinthians 15:57) But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.