

THE ARMOR OF GOD AS IDENTITY IN CHRIST

INTRODUCTION

- Stepping in for Pastor Paul for Wednesday night Bible study.
- Continuing the series on the armor of God.
- Topic: **The Armor of God as Identity in Christ.**
- The true armor is **Christ Himself**:
 - Breastplate of righteousness — *He is our righteousness*
 - Helmet of salvation — *He is our salvation*
 - Shield of faith — *Our faith is in Him and what He has done*
 - Sword of the Spirit — *He is the Word of God*
 - Belt of truth — *He is the way, the truth, and the life*
 - Shoes of peace — *He is our peace*
- When we walk clothed in Christ, we are protected and victorious.

SECTION 1 — PERSONAL NATURE OF THE ARMOR

David and Saul's Armor

- Reference: **1 Samuel 17:38–39**
- David could not wear Saul's armor because it didn't fit him.
- Armor in ancient times was tailor-made.
- Our walk in Christ is personal and tailor-made.
- Human strength and man-made coverings cannot equip us for spiritual battles.
- We must put on Christ Jesus.

SECTION 2 — BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

Purpose

- Protects the heart against accusations.
- Satan is the accuser of the brethren.

Scriptures Used

- **Revelation 12:10** “For the accuser of the brethren who accuses them before God day and night has been cast down.”
- **2 Corinthians 5:21** “He made him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in him.”
- **Hebrews 10:22** “Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience...”
- **James 1:6–7** “But let him ask in faith, with no doubting... let not that man suppose he will receive anything from God.”

Key Points

- Satan attacks the mind to make believers feel unworthy.
- Our righteousness is **in Christ**, not ourselves.
- Without confidence in righteousness, prayer life suffers.
- God hears the prayers of the righteous because we believe in Jesus.
- The breastplate protects the heart from condemnation and sin-consciousness.

SECTION 3 — SHOES OF PEACE

Scriptures Used

- **John 14:27** “Peace I leave with you, my peace I give you...”
- **Romans 16:20** “And the God of peace will crush Satan under your feet shortly.”
- **Isaiah 52:7** “How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news...”
- **Colossians 3:15** “And let the peace of God rule your hearts...”

Key Points

- Jesus is our peace.
- Peace is not passive; it crushes the enemy.
- We do not fight people — we wrestle not against flesh and blood.
- Peace prevents us from being drawn into confrontations.
- The gospel is spread through peace, not debate or argument.
- Religion argues; salvation draws with love and kindness.
- Peace guards the heart and crushes the enemy beneath us.
- Walking out of love breaks spiritual laws and opens the door to attack.

SECTION 4 — BELT OF TRUTH

Scriptures Used

- **John 14:6** “I am the way, the truth, and the life...”
- **Ephesians 6:14** “Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth...”
- **John 4:24** “God is a Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth.”

Key Points

- Truth is a person: **Jesus**.
- The belt holds all the armor together.
- Without truth, the armor collapses.

- Many try to walk by faith without the other pieces in place.
- Faith works by love; without peace and righteousness, faith fails.
- All promises of God are yes and amen **in Christ Jesus.**
- We worship God for what Jesus has done for us.
- Jesus is the center of everything — the devil fights to keep people from hearing about Him.

SECTION 5 — HELMET OF SALVATION

Scriptures Used

- **2 Corinthians 11:3** “...as the serpent deceived Eve... your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.”
- **Ephesians 2:8–9** “For by grace you have been saved through faith... it is the gift of God...”
- **John 10:28–29** “Neither shall anyone snatch them out of my hand...”
- **Romans 8:38–39** “...nothing shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Key Points

- The helmet protects the mind — the place of thoughts, deception, imagination.
- We must renew our mind to:
 - The benefits of salvation
 - Our identity in Christ
 - What Jesus has done for us
- Salvation is a finished work.
- The enemy attacks the mind first.
- The helmet protects against lies that question what Jesus already accomplished.
- Our security is in Christ’s hands, not man’s.

- Nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.
- We must pull down thoughts that exalt themselves against the knowledge of what God has done for us in Christ.