

THE ARMOR OF GOD

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THE ARMOR OF GOD

SESSION ONE

EPHESIANS 6:10-17

Finally, my brethren be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

II Timothy 3:16 – All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness,

I. CONSIDER THE REALITY OF THE WARFARE

Finally, my brethren... .

- A. I remind you that the Greek word, which is translated as 'brethren', is the word which described brothers and sisters, who were born of the same _____.
- B. Every authentic follower of Jesus has been born into a spiritual _____.

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- C. You therefore must endure hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. No one engaged in warfare entangles himself with the affairs of this life, that he may please him who enlisted him as a _____. – II Timothy 2:3-4
- D. Every Christian soldier is summoned to a life of active _____ on the front lines of battle.
- E. The present teaching that 'the life of faith' is a life of health, wealth and prosperity is itself a message of fraud from the father of _____.

.... Endure (suffer) hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. – II Timothy 2:3b

1. God the Son is a mighty warrior who is leading His army into enemy territory, to gather in His bride and to establish His _____.

Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself. He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. And the armies in heaven clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. – Revelation 19:11-15

And I saw the beast, the kings of the earth and their armies, gathered together to make war against Him who sat on the horse and against His army. – Revelation 19:19

- F. When sinners come out of the darkness of sin and into the blazing light of the gospel sun, they will detest the fraudulent candles, which are being offered by the prosperity _____.
- G. You no longer belong to yourself. You belong to the Captain of the Army of the Lord of Hosts. You have been recruited to engage in spiritual _____ for your commander.

-
- H. There are many 'false prophets' who are not being honest recruiters of potential Christian soldiers. Instead, they are inviting people to believe on Jesus and to follow Jesus under false _____.

No one engaged in warfare entangles himself with the affairs of this life, that he may please him who enlisted him as a soldier. – II Timothy 2:4

I submit to you that the prosperity gospel is:

1) A misinterpretation of the Abrahamic Covenant,

2) A misinterpretation of II Corinthians 8:9,

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich. – II Corinthians 8:9

3) A misinterpretation of Mark 10:29-30,

So Jesus answered and said, "Assuredly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My sake and the gospel's who shall not receive a hundredfold now in this time—houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions—and in the age to come, eternal life. – Mark 10:29-30

4) A misinterpretation of the Nature of Biblical Faith, and

5) A misinterpretation of the purpose of Prayer!

- I. Biblical Christianity is not a life of affluent luxury. Biblical Christianity is a cosmic battleground in which the children of Light are in a continual conflict with the powers of _____.

- J. We are fighting an enemy who is sinister in his schemes and _____.

- K. We must learn to conduct God's war; God's way; for God's _____.

1. The Word of God is _____. – Psalm 19:7a

2. The Testimony of the Lord is _____. – Psalm 19:7b

3. The Statutes of the Lord are _____. – Psalm 19:8a

4. The commandment of the Lord is _____, enlightening the eyes. – Psalm 19:8b

-
5. The fear of the Lord is clean, enduing forever the judgments of the Lord are _____ and righteous altogether. – Psalm 19:9
- L. The Word of God is totally sufficient to gather all of the military intelligence, which is required to _____ wage this invisible war.
- M. The personal experiences, the human ingenuity or the mystical methods of a 'so-called' spiritual warfare expert, must _____ be the source of our military intelligence.
- N. Many 'well-intentioned' teachers have taught numerous _____ doctrines in relation to spiritual warfare.

II. WE MUST CONSIDER THE REASON FOR THIS WARFARE

- A. There are two powerful Kings who have been operating on earth since the fall of _____.
- The Kingdom of Sin and Death – King Satan
 - The Kingdom of Grace and Righteousness – King Jesus

Consider the Kingdom of Sin and Death.

... so that as sin reigned in death, - Romans 5:21a

And you He made alive who were dead in trespasses and sins, in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who no works in the sons of disobedience. – Ephesians 2:1-3

- B. The tyrannical Kingdom of Sin and Death is a _____ kingdom.

But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them. – II Corinthians 4:3-4

For you were once darkness, – Ephesians 5:8a

... having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart; – Ephesians 4:18

- C. The tyrannical Kingdom of Sin and Death is also a _____ kingdom.

... though you were slaves of sin,... . – Romans 6:17a

For when you were slaves of sin, ... - Romans 6:20a

Jesus answered them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin. – John 8:34

- D. The tyrannical Kingdom of Sin and Death is also a _____ kingdom.

The wages of sin is death, – Romans 6:23a

The soul who sins shall die. – Ezekiel 18:20a

- E. There is only one Sovereign and Omnipotent King who has defeated the _____ of Sin and the Kingdom of Sin and Death.

... even so grace might reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. – Romans 5:21

Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, - Hebrews 2:14

- F. When the King of Grace saves a lost sinner, He emancipates him from the bondage of the Kingdom of Sin; and He delivers him from the authoritarian imprisonment of the prince of _____.

... even so grace might reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. – Romans 5:21b

- G. This former slave of the devil has come under new _____.

...so that as sin reigned in death, even so grace might reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. – Romans 5:21

-
- H. The Empire of the Grace of King Jesus has established its throne on the ruins of the Empire that Satan and Sin had _____ in our lives.
- I. The mighty force of God's Grace is also God's Power towards us, to enable us to fight the good fight of _____.

But He gives more grace. Therefore He says: "God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble." Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. – James 4:6- 7

III. WE MUST CONSIDER THE ORIGINAL CONTEXT OF THIS ESSENTIAL PASSAGE – "FINALLY MY BRETHREN"

FINALLY

- A. There is a direct connection between what Paul has already taught and what he is about to teach concerning the _____ of God.

Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. – II Timothy 2:15

- B. Biblical 'Spiritual Warfare' is not a battle for territory; it is a battle for _____.

Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons, – I Timothy 4:1

For I know this, that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. Also from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves. Therefore watch, – Acts 20:29-31a

- C. Deceitful spirits inspire unsound teachers to teach doctrines that appear to be Biblical, but are subtle _____.
- D. Every word, every verse, and every passage has one _____ interpretation which was intended by God.

Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world. – I John 4:1

-
- E. The word of God is commanding us to refuse to be gullible; and instead, to examine every teaching _____.

Test all things; hold fast what is good. – I Thessalonians 5:21

And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in knowledge and all discernment, that you may approve the things that are excellent, that you may be sincere and without offense till the day of Christ, – Philipians 1:9-10

But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, – II Peter 2:1a

...as also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which untaught and unstable people twist to their own destruction, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures. – II Peter 3:16

- F. If you neglect this biblical principle of 'One Interpretation', then you are going to drift into an ocean of _____ and chaos.

For God is not the author of confusion but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints. – I Corinthians 14:33

- G. An accurate interpretation of this passage is the only safe bridge, which can take us to the correct destination, of a proper _____ of God's word in spiritual warfare.

Study (*be diligent*) to show yourself approved unto God, a workman that does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. – II Timothy 2:15

- H. This passage concerning the armor of God was originally written to:

- Some specific believers,
- Who were living in a specific location,
- Who were living in a specific situation and
- It was written for a specific _____.

- I. Most of the heresies that have troubled the church, throughout the centuries, have arisen from men and women who took a verse or a passage _____ of its context.

Consider the context of the passage!

-
- A. The city of Ephesus was a city that was thoroughly immersed in a complex system of _____ religion.
- B. It was here, in the midst of this corrupt paganism and demonic religion, that the apostle Paul planted a _____.
- C. The fortresses of demonic religion were collapsing in the minds and lives of _____ Ephesians.
- D. Those who were still children of the father the devil were infuriated about what was taking place in the lives of these _____.

And about that time there arose a great commotion about the Way. – Acts 19:23

- E. Demetrius stirred up the crowd by appealing to their religious _____ to this false goddess.

For a certain man named Demetrius, a silversmith, who made silver shrines of Diana, brought no small profit to the craftsmen. He called them together with the workers of similar occupation, and said: "Men, you know that we have our prosperity by this trade. Moreover you see and hear that not only at Ephesus, but throughout almost all Asia, this Paul has persuaded and turned away many people, saying that they are not gods which are made with hands. So not only is this trade of ours in danger of falling into disrepute, but also the temple of the great goddess Diana may be despised and her magnificence destroyed, whom all Asia and the world worship." – Acts 19:24-26

- F. The truth of the Gospel always infuriates self-righteous and idolatrous sinners, because it confronts them in their false religion and exposes their _____ lives.

"... So not only is this trade of ours in danger of falling into disrepute, but also the temple of the great goddess Diana may be despised and her magnificence destroyed, whom all Asia and the world worship." – Acts 19:27

...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. – II Corinthians 10:5

- G. It is nothing short of a supernatural miracle of the absolute authority of Jesus Christ that a Christian church was planted in the occult city of _____.

THE ARMOR OF GOD

SESSION TWO

IV. WE MUST CONSIDER THE STRENGTH OF OUR CONQUERING KING

Ephesians 6:10 - Finally my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.



- A. Our Lord and Savior has already made the 'winning move' on our _____.

I am He who lives, and was dead and behold, I am alive forevermore. Amen. And I have the keys of Hell and of Death. – Revelation 1:18

- B. The Right Hand of our Lord is not only the hand of favor, it is also the hand of power and _____.

- C. But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their _____.
Isaiah 40:31a

- D. I remind you that our adversary and his hoards of demons can do absolutely nothing in the life of the born again soldier, unless the Lord _____ them.

... the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power. – Ephesians 1:18-19

- E. And what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power, which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, _____ all principality, and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come. Ephesians 1:19-21

- F. All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on _____. Matthew 28:18b

- G. Our Omniscience Lord God was not surprised or dismayed by the schemes and strategies of this rebellious _____.

- H. The Son of God was manifested, that He might _____ the works of the devil. – I John 3:8

... that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, – Hebrews 2:14b

The wages of sin is death... . – Romans 6:21a

- I. This essential teaching concerning 'The Armor of God' is intricately connected with the entire context of this _____.
- J. The first three chapters teach us some of the most profound truths that the human mind can _____.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,
Ephesians 1:3

Paul begins to expound on all of these glorious blessings!

- Chosen in Union with Christ – v 4
- Predestined to be adopted as Sons – v 5
- Accepted in the Beloved – v 6
- Pardoned from the penalty of sin – v 7

-
- Forgiven of all of our sin – v 7
 - Obtained an eternal inheritance – v 11
 - Sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise – v 13
 - Given the greatness of His Power – v 19

Then in Ephesians 2:

- Made alive together with Christ – v 1
- Saved by Grace through faith – v 8
- God's workmanship created unto good works – v 10

And we could go on and on, through these first 3 chapters counting these glorious blessings.

K. In the following two and a half chapters, God exhorts us to "walk worthy of the calling with which we have been _____." - Ephesians 4:1

- ❖ Walk in Humility
- ❖ Walk in Unity
- ❖ Walk in newness of Life
- ❖ Walk in the Light
- ❖ Walk in Love
- ❖ Walk in the Spirit
- ❖ Walk in mutual Submission both in your marriage and occupation

L. Every believer has been born into a colossal conflict, which is continually occurring in this same _____ realm, which is called 'The Heavenly Places'!



For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Ephesians 6:12

God has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places. – Ephesians 1:3b

God has seated Jesus at His right hand in the heavenly places. Ephesians 1:20

God has raised us up together and made us to sit together in heavenly places in Christ. – Ephesians 2:6

The manifold wisdom of God is being made known by the church to the holy angels and the angels of darkness in the heavenly places.
Ephesians 3:10

- M. Oftentimes, the place of our greatest spiritual blessings is also the place of our fiercest spiritual _____.
- N. Satan is consumed with a pre-eminent passion to obstruct God's holy _____ in your life.
- O. Your adversary hopes that you will be lured into 'receiving and believing' unbiblical concepts, concerning the realm of Satan's power and the _____ of his power.
- P. The Christian life can be compared to a 'soldier who is walking through a mine field', with demonic snipers firing at him from every possible _____.

**"BE STRONG IN THE LORD
AND THE POWER
OF HIS MIGHT"**

- A. The Spirit of God is given us a divine mandate to depend on the strength of the Lord God _____.
- ...who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, - II Timothy 1:9
- B. Watch, stand fast in the faith, be brave, be _____. - I Corinthians 16:13
- C. You must set a watch over your mind. For the main battleground involves the control and the use of your _____.

But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ. - II Corinthians 11:3

And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, - Romans 12:2a

D. For I know this, that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. Also from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves. Therefore _____... . – Acts 20:29-31a

E. However, the word of God does not command you to be strong in _____ own strength.

F. The strength of an earthly general lie in his troops. But the strength of the army of the Lord lies in their _____.

Blessed be the Lord my Rock, who trains my hands for war, and my fingers for battle— – Psalm 144:1

G. We must not only have the strength to fight the good fight, we must also have the _____ to fight the good fight.

H. The Lord will give you the strength and power, both to stand and to advance victoriously, as you recognize your own weakness and take refuge in the omnipotent _____ of the Lord.

... without Me you can do nothing. – John 15:5b

... and who is sufficient for these things? – II Corinthians 2:16b

Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think of anything as being from ourselves, but our sufficiency is from God, – II Corinthians 3:5

I. He gives power to the weak, and to those who have no might He increases _____. – Isaiah 40:29

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. – Psalm 46:1

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? – Psalm 27:1

J. I must not rely on the arm of the flesh; but on the authoritative strength of the _____ "I AM"!

... If God is for us, who can be against us? – Romans 8:31b

You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. – I John 4:4

“AND THE POWER OF HIS MIGHT

- A. **MIGHT** – The provision that has been given by God, which gives the believer the _____ for spiritual victory.

Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? – I Corinthians 6:19

- B. **POWER** – The practical manifestation of the “might” in the life of the soldier of the Lord, who is personally activating and practically _____ the spirit’s provision of might.

- 1) Be strong in the Lord, by activating and appropriating the spiritual ‘might’ which is within you, to successfully prevail against all of the spiritual _____.

... to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man,
Ephesians 3:16b

... but be filled with the Spirit, – Ephesians 5:18b

- C. The born-again believer must not attempt to fight this spiritual warfare with human ingenuity, worldly wisdom, carnal strength or fleshly _____.

For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God... . - II Corinthians 10:3-4a

- D. We are commanded to be strong in the _____ that is in Christ Jesus.

- E. The victory of our conquering King has accomplished the ultimate defeat of _____ and his evil host of fallen angels.

Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them triumphing over them in it. – Colossians 2:15

F. However, our enemies still stubbornly refuse to acknowledge their final _____.

G. Every soldier of the cross has been assigned to a 'Mop-Up' _____.

... I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.
Matthew 16:18b

H. The power of the Lord's might is totally sufficient to _____ us,
in this 'Mop-Up' operation.



PUT ON THE WHOLE ARMOR OF GOD

SESSION THREE

Ephesians 6:11a – Put on the whole armor of God,

Ephesians 6:13a – Therefore take up the whole armor of God... .

- A. Our commander has not only supplied us with His powerful strength for the warfare, He has also provided us with His almighty _____.
- B. We must learn how to fight the good fight of the faith, both in its strategy and its _____.

The Word of God declares the strategy:

To be strong in the Lord

and the power of

His Might!

- C. You must always begin with the General's strategy of the warfare, before you consider the particular tactics of the deployment of the _____.
- D. In order to take advantage of the strength of the Lord and the power of His might, you must put on the spiritual _____ which the Lord has supplied.

E. You must obey the marching orders from your commander, and clothe yourself with the tactical weaponry that He has _____ for you.

F. I remind you that the apostle is writing from a Roman prison, in which he was continually chained to a rotation of Roman _____.

But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts. – Romans 13:14

G. These are your marching orders; and these are your spiritual _____.

H. This concept, of a believer 'putting on' spiritual realities, is found in _____ places within the New Testament.

1) The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us _____ the armor of light. - Romans 13:12

2) But _____ the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts. – Romans 13:14

3) For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have _____ Christ. – Galatians 3:27

4) And be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and that you _____ the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness. - Ephesians 4:23-24

5) But let us who are of the day be sober, _____ the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet the hope of salvation. – I Thessalonians 5:8

a) They were clothed, at the moment that they believed on the Lord Jesus Christ; and the love of God was _____ into their hearts.

I. At the moment of our justification, there was a _____ 'putting off' and 'putting on'.

... since you have put off the old man with his deeds, and have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge – Colossians 3:9b-10a

J. There is an ongoing and conditional 'putting on' and 'putting off', which every believer is responsible to personally appropriate, throughout the _____ process.

1) Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, _____ tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering;
– Colossians 3:12

2) But above all things _____ love, – Colossians 3:14a

K. When the word of God commands us to "put on the whole armor of God", He is summoning us to stand and live on His Truth, His Righteousness, His Peace, His Faith, His Assurance of Salvation and the _____ of God.

L. This is the only spiritual armor that is capable and _____ for this tremendous battle.

1) We must not live our lives as if the adversary and his army do not _____.

2) We must not be among those who are craving after wealth, prosperity and temporary pleasures, instead of, facing the difficulties of _____.

3) You must not yield to his scheme to adopt an unhealthy _____ with the adversary and his army.

M. Do not believe every spirit, but _____ the spirits, to see whether they are of God. – I John 4:1a

N. There is nothing that is mystical in this text. Paul is using a military analogy to teach about practical Christian living and fighting the good fight of _____.

O. The master deceiver has a personal interest in deceiving, misleading and confusing the soldiers of the Lord in this _____ area.

A Command: TO STAND

- ❖ **THAT YOU MAY BE ABLE TO STAND – v 11b**
- ❖ **THAT YOU MAY BE ABLE TO WITHSTAND – v 13b**
- ❖ **AND HAVING DONE ALL TO STAND – v 13c**
- ❖ **STAND THEREFORE... - v 14a**

A. **“To Stand”** is the picture of a soldier who is firmly established in a fixed position, in order to _____ that position against his enemy.

B. Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we _____, – Romans 5:1-2a

Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, – I Corinthians 15:1

... for by faith you stand. – II Corinthians 1:24b

... this is the true grace of God in which you stand. – I Peter 5:12b

Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, Yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand. Isaiah 41:10

C. This word ‘stand’ pictures the direct opposite of fleeing or _____.

D. Have I not commanded You? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the Lord your God is _____ you wherever you go. – Joshua 1:9

E. Be sober, be vigilant, because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Resist him, _____ in the faith, – I Peter 5:8-9a

F. Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will _____ from you. – James 4:7

-
- G. Every born again soldier has been given access, by faith in the Lord Jesus, into the victorious power of grace in which we _____.
- H. Every soldier, who has been permanently planted into this position of conquering grace, is commanded to stand _____ in that position, while they are under the attack from the temptations of the enemy.
- I. Satan and his hoards of demons are primarily the enemies of my Lord and _____.
- J. God's exhortation to be sober is a command to be free from every form of mental or spiritual _____.
- K. God's exhortation to be vigilant is a command to live as a guard, who is executing his duty, by staying awake and alert on his _____.
- L. We are fighting a supernatural adversary who does _____ sleep.
- M. The Lord has given us His strength, His power and His armor to defend us while we are fighting not to protect us while we are _____.
- N. When you are tempted to act or speak wrongfully, you must flee as Joseph fled from Potiphar's wife! When you are attacked for acting or speaking righteously, you must stand your ground, as _____ did, before the decree of the king.
- O. You must live in a constant attitude of dependent prayerfulness on God's power and God's wisdom, if you are going to stand _____ against your spiritual adversaries.
- P. You must forget about your problems, your difficulties, and your weaknesses; and you must report for _____.



THE SCHEMES OF THE DEFEATED ADVERSARY

SESSION FOUR

Ephesians 6:11 – Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

V. WE MUST CONSIDER THE SCHEMES OF OUR DEFEATED ADVERSARY

- A. The fall of Lucifer is recorded in two pivotal _____ in the Old Testament.

“How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How you are cut down to the ground, you who weakened the nations! For you have said in your heart: ‘I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation on the farthest sides of the north; I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High.’ Yet you shall be brought down to Sheol, to the lowest depths of the Pit.” – Isaiah 14:12-15

- B. Lucifer was created as the _____ cherub.

“You were the anointed cherub who covers; I established you; you were on the holy mountain of God; you walked back and forth in the midst of fiery stone.”
Ezekiel 28:14

Above it stood seraphim; each one had six wings: with two he covered his face, with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. – Isaiah 6:2

And from the throne proceeded lightnings, thunderings, and voices. Seven lamps of fire were burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God. – Revelation 4:5

- C. Lucifer was created in a _____ condition.

You were perfect in your ways from the day you were created,
Ezekiel 28:15a

-
- D. Lucifer became poisoned with pride, so he began to sinfully desire the highest position of authority and _____, that was due to God alone.

"Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty; you corrupted your wisdom for the sake of your splendor;"– Ezekiel 28:17a

"... till iniquity was found in you". – Ezekiel 28:15b

- E. Sin had its origin in the heart of Lucifer, whose wicked pride and self-idolatry produced _____.

- **I WILL** ascend into heaven.
- **I WILL** exalt my throne above the stars of God
- **I WILL** also sit on the mount of the congregation
- **I WILL** ascend above the heights of the clouds.
- **I WILL** be like the Most High

1. When a human being seeks to live independently from God, their Creator and Sustainer, they are joining in with the _____ of Lucifer.

Recall what Melchizedek said to Abraham:

And he blessed him and said: "Blessed be Abram of God Most High, possessor of heaven and earth;" – Genesis 14:19

2. The wicked pride of the adversary incited him to invent a sinister scheme to replace God as the possessor of heaven and _____.

- F. I saw Satan fall like lightning from _____. – Luke 10:18b

- G. The self-idolatry of pride is both the essence of sin and the _____ of Hell.

... for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone. – James 1:13b

... God is light and in Him is no darkness at all. – I John 1:5b

For God is not the author of confusion – I Corinthians 14:33a

H. When God created angels, He gave them intelligence, reason and _____.

So that great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him. – Revelation 12:9

I. Even though Satan had failed in his attempt to steal the Throne of Heaven, he was now seeking to consolidate dominion over the earth, by deceiving God's greatest _____.

J. Satan subtly solicited Eve to commit that same rebellious sin of _____.

... He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it. – John 8:44b

... "Has God indeed said, 'You shall not eat of every tree of the garden'?" – Genesis 3:1

K. The deceiver approached Eve with what appeared to be an innocent question, from an interested observer, who was interested in her _____.

L. The Father of Lies proposed that man has the right to:

- Question the Word of God;
- Doubt the Word of God; and
- _____ the Word of God.

M. The deceiver focused on the one prohibition from God and enticed her to question both God's Character and God's _____.

N. Eve sinned against God at the very moment that she believed the lie of Satan that insisted that God was restricting her from something that was _____.

O. When you **do not** wholeheartedly trust in the wisdom and goodness of God, you are _____ against His Character and His commands.

"For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."– Genesis 3:5

-
- P. The passage **does not** suggest that Adam fell through the deception of Satan. For Adam sinned out of willful and wicked _____ against God.

And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived fell into transgression.
I Timothy 2:14

Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned— - Romans 5:12

- Q. It was wicked pride that caused Satan and the demons to become unredeemable. It was also wicked pride that has caused man to be in desperate need of _____.

For if God did not spare the angels who sinned, but cast them down to hell and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved for judgment; - II Peter 2:4

And the angels who did not keep their proper domain, but left their own abode, He has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of the great day; - Jude 6

- R. Neither Satan nor man wrote the first chapter of the history of this world. The Lord God permitted the first chapter of the fall of man. He will also write the last chapter of the final _____ of the adversary.

Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. - II Peter 3:13

- S. The Hebrew name 'Satan' actually means "The _____".

- T. The Adversary maintains a malevolent mission to oppose God's work of sanctification in _____ life.

SATAN HAS:

- NO CONSCIENCE
 - NO COMPASSION
 - NO MERCY
 - NO MORALS and
 - NO REMORSE

U. The Adversary cannot _____ the born-again believer to sin against his Lord and Savior.

V. We must no be ignorant of his _____. – II Corinthians 2:11b

WE MUST DEFEND OURSELVES AGAINST THE TECHNIQUES AND TACTICS OF OUR ADVERSARY!

EPHESIANS 6:11c - the wiles of the devil.

A. The word 'wiles' is the Greek word from which we derive the English word _____.

...that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the **cunning craftiness** of deceitful plotting. – Ephesians 4:14

B. Lucifer convinced one-third of the angels, who were living in the presence of their Creator, to commit treason against God and align themselves with _____.

C. His infernal army has organized many worldly strategies and wicked schemes for you _____.

D. You are no match for this supernatural enemy. We must be strong in the Lord and the power of His might. You must put on the whole armor of _____.

A ROARING LION SEEKING WHOM HE MAY DEVOUR



-
- E. Satan did not hesitate in his attempt to tempt the Son of _____.
- F. Our God has designed that, "part of our preparation for heaven, is to live a life of warfare with the forces of _____, while we are on this earth".
- G. The various names for Satan reveal his sinister schemes and his deceptive _____.

FOR EXAMPLE:

1. As the ***Father of Lies***, he deceives billions of people through false _____.

Rather, that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice they sacrifice to demons and not to God, and I do not want you to have fellowship with demons.
I Corinthians 10:20

... (for when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do the things in the law, these, although not having the law, are a law to themselves, who show the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and between themselves their thoughts accusing or else excusing them) in the day when God will judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ, according to my gospel. – Romans 2:14-16

- a) The moral Law of God has been placed within the conscience of every unconverted _____.
- b) As the Father of Lies, Satan attacks the Lord's church through false teachers and unbiblical _____.

Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons.
I Timothy 4:1

"Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves". – Matthew 7:15

For I know this, that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. Also from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves. – Acts 20:29-30

But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ. For if he who comes preaches another Jesus whom we have not preached, or if you receive a different spirit which you have not received, or a different gospel which you have not accepted—you may well put up with it! II Corinthians 11:3-4

Galatians 1 – Paul spoke of those who were perverting the Gospel.

Philippians 3 – Paul warns of those preaching a false message, saying, “Beware of the dogs”.

For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables. – II Timothy 4:3-4

- c) God uses extraordinary language to describe the schemes of the Devil in employing _____ teachers and their deceptive doctrines.

And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelist, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ. – Ephesians 4:11-15



... that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. Ephesians 6:11c

... tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, (*scheming*) – Ephesians 4:14c

-
- d) Every born-again believer begins this Christian race and this spiritual warfare as a new-born _____.
 - e) The spiritual baby is also susceptible to human manipulation, fleshly theatrics and impressive _____.
 - f) This is why it is so vital for this spiritual babe to have a mature pastor and teacher, who will feed them through the exposition of the word; and will lead them through the _____ of his life.
 - g) Any teaching that contradicts the word of God has its source in seducing spirits, who are teaching the doctrines of _____.



- h) These false teachers accomplish this trickery through their cunning _____.
- i) Doctrinal error is not only a teaching that is lacking the full Truth. Doctrinal error is an active, aggressive and deliberate attack of Satan against the objective Truth of the word of _____.
- j) False teachings are to be hated and _____ by the men and women of God.

Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world.
I John 4:1

-
- k) If you fail to publicly expose false teaching, then you are failing your ministry as a shepherd the _____.



- 1) The Father of Lies deceives billions of people through false religions.
- 2) The Father of Lies attacks the Lord's church through false teachers and unbiblical doctrine.

2. **Our Adversary** opposes believers by attempting to hinder effective _____.

Therefore we wanted to come to you—even I, Paul, time and again—**but Satan hindered** us. – I Thessalonians 2:18

Now when they had gone through Phrygia and the region of Galatia, they were **forbidden by the Holy Spirit** to preach the word in Asia. – Acts 16:6

After they had come to Mysia, they tried to go into Bithynia, but the **Spirit did not permit** them. – Acts 16:7

- a) There is a great and glorious importance, which is attached to the activities of every minister of the _____.
- b) It is the sinister ambition of the Adversary, wherever and whenever it is possible, to hinder the _____ of God.
- c) The Adversary seeks to hinder believers when they are seeking to be passionate and persistent in _____.
- d) The Adversary seeks to hinder believers when they are prompted to _____ the word of the Lord.
- e) I do not believe that the Adversary generally hinders people from becoming _____.

Not that I speak in regard to need, for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content: I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. – Philippians 4:11-13

-
- f) The Adversary's objective is to hinder us from glorifying God the Father, and magnifying God the _____.

"He beholds every high thing; he is king over all the children of pride".
Job 41:34

- g) The Adversary's objective is to hinder us from being _____ to our Master.

But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay, some for honor and some for dishonor. Therefore if anyone cleanses himself from the latter, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work. Flee also youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart. – II Timothy 2:20-22

- h) We must be careful that we do not place the blame on the _____ source.

- i) Above all other things, it is your duty to demonstrate, to the Adversary, that he is your enemy. When you are faithful to demonstrate this reality, then you can be certain that the enemy will demonstrate that he is _____ adversary.

- j) You must refuse to flee from the hindrances of the Adversary. Instead, you are commanded to submit to the victorious Lord; resist the enemy and cause him to _____ instead.

Resist him, steadfast in the faith, – I Peter 5:9

What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things? Who shall bring a charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who dies, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? – Romans 8:31-35a

**WE DO NOT WRESTLE AGAINST
FLESH AND BLOOD**

Ephesians 6:12 – For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.

A. Primarily, other people are not the adversary that we are _____ with.

At that time a great persecution arose against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles. – Acts 8:1b

B. The human opposition is merely a slave of Satan, as we once _____.

C. We are facing demonic opposition from the invisible powers of _____.

D. The Greek word for **“wrestle”** described a wrestling match in the ancient Olympic games, which would end in total defeat, devastation and possibly death for the _____.



... that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him,

the eyes of your understanding being enlightened;

that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints,

and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the which is to come. – Ephesians 1:17-21

- E. Every idea that goes through your mind can be ultimately traced to either the Lord God or to _____.

You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it. – John 8:44

For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, 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, – II Corinthians 10:3-5

- F. The forces of the demonic domain are obviously structured in varying _____.

...which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come. – Ephesians 1:20-21

- G. The Lord Jesus Christ has disarmed every one of them at the Cross. He made a public spectacle of them and _____ over them.

- H. This is not an Adversary who can overpower us. He can only deceive us with his methods of _____.

... nor give place to the devil. – Ephesians 4:27

THE BELT OF TRUTH

SESSION FIVE

EPHESIANS 6:14 – Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth,

I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.
Matthew 16:18b

All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, – John 6:37a

1. The Lord Jesus Christ has inaugurated His Kingdom; the Lord Jesus is building His Church; but He has not yet _____ His Kingdom.

Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years; and he cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal on him, so that he should deceive the nations no more till the thousand years were finished. But after these things he must be released for a little while. – Revelation 20:1-3

Now when the thousand years have expired, Satan will be released from his prison and will go out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle, whose number is as the sand of the sea. They went up on the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city. And fire came down from God out of heaven and devoured them. The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet are. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever. – Revelation 20:7-10

2. We are marching toward the ultimate triumph moment, in the Lord's redemption plan, when the demonic armies and their commander will be fully and finally _____ in the eternal lake of fire.

**WE MUST BE ALERT
TO THESE TRUTHS:**



- While living in this world, we will be in a battle with the god of this world and his followers.
- Our adversaries maintain a powerful arsenal of schemes & strategies and they never rest.
- But remember, we have been given the mighty **resurrection** Power of Grace to fight the good fight of faith.
- We have been supplied with the perfect Armor and we must purpose to use it day and night.

3. The chief manner by which our adversary operates is by _____.

So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; – Revelation 12:9a

" ... for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down". – Revelation 12:10b

4. The primary strategy of the adversary, in the life of a soldier of the Lord, is to _____ him on earth and then accuses him in heaven.

5. Our primary weapon against the Father of Lies is the _____ truth of the word of God.

I. THE HISTORICAL EXPLANATION OF THE METAPHOR OF THE ROMAN SOLDIER'S BELT

EPHESIANS 6:14B - ...having girded your waist with truth,

A. When an Imperial Roman Soldier heard the trumpet call to battle, it was vital for him to tuck His robe into his belt to prepare him for _____.



- B. If a soldier's robe was properly girded, he would have confidence and freedom to fight the battle without any _____.

II. THE SPIRITUAL APPLICATION OF THE CHRISTIAN SOLDIER'S BELT OF TRUTH

- A. We must first discover the authoritative answer to this question, "What is **(TRUTH)**?"

Pilate therefore said to Him, "Are You a king then?" Jesus answered, "You say rightly that I am a king. For this cause I was born, and for this cause I have come into the world, that I should bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice." – John 18:37

- B. Pilate responded with the skeptical attitude of a heart that was in _____ to the Father of Lies.

1. In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of _____, the gospel of your salvation... . – Ephesians 1:13a

Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, right dividing the word of truth. – II Timothy 2:15

Of His own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, James 1:18a

... but, speaking the truth in love, – Ephesians 4:15a

2. If indeed you have heard Him and have been taught by Him, as the _____ is in Jesus: . - Ephesians 4:21

3. For the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness and _____. – Ephesians 5:9

4. And that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness of _____.
Ephesians 4:24 (This is the way the original Greek language is written.)

C. The infallible and inerrant written word of God is our only _____ standard of truth.

Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth. – John 17:17

D. 'The Belt of Truth' involves the body of the doctrines of salvation, which are taught in the _____.

E. However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into _____ truth. – John 16:13

Example: Matthew 16 – Read Peter's attempt to rebuke Jesus, concerning the truth about Jesus' soon coming crucifixion. Yet, Jesus rebukes Peter.

However, in Acts 2, notice how Peter is now girded with the belt of truth and boldly preaches truth.

1. There is no truth so deeply important as the truth of Jesus atoning death on the _____.

So What Is This Belt Of Truth?

Jude 3 – declares it is **THE FAITH**, which was once for all delivered to the saints.

II Timothy 3:8 – Now as Jannes and Jambres resisted Moses, so do these also resist the truth: men of corrupt minds, disapproved concerning the faith.

“THE TRUTH” AND “THE FAITH”

ARE THE SAME

CONCEPT!

Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. – I Peter 5:8

Resist him, steadfast in the faith, – I Peter 5:9a

- F. It is our mind and heart, which must be girded with the belt of the _____ truth of the doctrines of God.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved.

In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace which He made to abound toward us in all wisdom and prudence, having made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself, that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth—in Him. In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will, that we who first trusted in Christ should be to the praise of His glory.

In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory. – Ephesians 1:3-14

- G. The ‘truth’ that I am part of the eternal purpose of my victorious Commander is a solid foundation that can never be shaken, no matter the _____ of the warfare!

JUSTIFICATION

For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. – II Corinthians 5:21

Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, – Romans 5:1

For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. – Romans 8:38-39

- H. You must gird the loins of your mind with the objective truths of the Word of God, which contain His glorious promises to His soldiers, from eternity past into eternity _____.

Indicative - A Divine statement concerning God's Truth of your positional condition of Christ.

Imperative – An Exhortation to obey your Commander in light of the indicatives that you have been given.

Indicatives - A declaration of what the Lord Jesus has done and who you are in union with the conquering Captain.

Imperatives - The commands from God to you, in light of what the Lord has already accomplished.

- I. It is only a life that is being controlled by the Objective Truth that can expose, resist and defeat the subtle deceptions of the Father of _____.
- J. The 'Belt of Truth' must be the final authority of everything that we believe, preach and _____.
- K. If your belt is compromised by the traditions of men, the speculations of the flesh, or the dead orthodoxy of cold religion, you will be wearing an armor of _____.

-
- L. The Word of God is commanding every soldier to 'master the Truth' and 'be _____' by the Truth.

WHY WE MUST

MASTER THE TRUTH!

1. You must master the truth to protect yourself from the deadly nature of false _____ from **outside** of the flock.

For I know this, that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. – Acts 20:29

But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Lord who bought them, and bring on themselves swift destruction. And many will follow their destructive ways, because of whom the way of truth will be blasphemed. – II Peter 2:1-2

2. You must master the truth to protect yourself from the deceiving nature of fraudulent _____ from **inside** the flock.

Also from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves. – Acts 20:30

3. If you do not treasure the beauty of the objective truth of the word of God, you will manifest a lack of _____ in this spiritual battle.

But you have carefully followed my doctrine, – II Timothy 3:10a

... that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ— – Ephesians 4:14-15

- M. You must be anchored in the truth, so that you will not be deceived by the waves and winds of the



latest religious _____.



Some warnings
of the schemes and craftiness
of false teachers can be found in:

II Corinthians 11
II Thessalonians
II Peter 2
I John

Galatians 1
I and II Timothy
Jude
Revelations

- N. All false teaching has the signature of the _____ inscribed on it.
- O. These winds of false doctrines are being propagated by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of _____ plotting.
- P. You must understand that false doctrine is very active and _____.

O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you that you should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed among you as crucified?
Galatians 3:1

- Q. The adversary may deceitfully whisper to you, "You do not have to study to show yourself approved to God, you do not have to grow in Sanctifying grace. All you need is an ecstatic experience and you will be instantly _____".
- R. We must know the truth and speak the _____ in love.
- S. Those who have girded their minds with the objective truth of the word of God, are the only _____ for the church in this present

generation.

"For I am the Lord, I do not change; ...". – Malachi 3:6a

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. – Hebrews 13:8

Buy the truth, and do not sell it, - Proverbs 23:23a

O Timothy! Guard what was committed to your trust, - I Timothy 6:20a

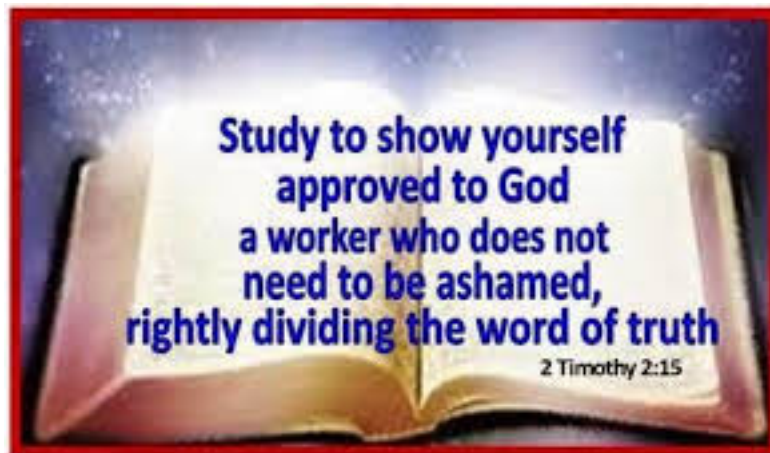
- T. The United States has an atomic clock, which is the official standard, which measures the _____ time of day.
- U. You must live by the official standard of the Objective Truth of the word of God; and not by the subjective standards of fleshly feelings, religious fads and doctrinal _____.

The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God stands forever. – Isaiah 40:8

Forever, O Lord, Your word is settled in heaven. – Psalm 119:89

Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away. Matthew 24:35

- V. Would you ask the Spirit of Truth to expose any beliefs or behaviors in your life that are _____ in harmony with the official standard of the objective truth?



Are you girded with the

Belt of Truth?

THE BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

SESSION SIX

Ephesians 6:14b - ...having put on the breastplate of righteousness, .

I. THE EXAMINATION OF A ROMAN SOLDIER'S BREASTPLATE

- A. The breastplate of a Roman soldier would have been an extremely _____ sight to everyone in the Roman Empire.

The Breastplate was known as the
'HEART GUARD'

- B. The word of God uses the term 'HEART' to describe the mind, the will, the emotions and the _____.

Who can say, "I have made my heart clean, I am pure from my sin"? – Proverbs 20:9

Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it spring the issues of life. - Proverbs 4:23

For as he thinks in his heart, so is he. – Proverbs 23:7a

... For the Lord does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart. – I Samuel 16:7

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight, O Lord, my strength and my Redeemer. – Psalm 19:14

“For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies. These are the things which defile a man, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile a man.” – Matthew 15:19-20

C. When the Apostle Paul exhorts us to ‘put on the breastplate of righteousness’, he is describing the need for the vital protection of the inner _____ of our being.

D. One of Satan’s most malicious attacks is his accusations against the believer’s _____.

... for when Gentiles who do not have the law, by nature do the things in the law, these, although not having the law, are a law to themselves, who show the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and between themselves their thoughts accusing or else excusing them, Romans 2:14-15

EXAMPLE: JOHN 8 – Woman caught in adultery

E. Our conscience is our soul’s _____ system.

F. One of the great challenges of this life is for a person to _____ with their conscience.

... speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron, I Timothy 4:2

G. Gifts and sacrifices are offered which cannot make him who performed the service _____ in regard to the conscience. – Hebrews 9:9b

... how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? – Hebrews 9:14

H. Oh, what a tremendous blessing to have the assurance that the conscience is cleansed, because of the substitutionary sacrifice of the _____ of God.

... let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. – Hebrews 10:22

II. THE EXPLANATION OF THE CHRISTIAN SOLDIER'S RIGHTEOUSNESS

- A. It is obvious that the breastplate of righteousness is not describing _____ righteousness.

Also He spoke this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others: – Luke 18:9

For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and seeking to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted to the righteousness of God. – Romans 10:3

- B. It is also obvious that the breastplate of righteousness is not a certain level of moral _____ to the life of the authentic believer.

Behold, You desire truth in the inward parts, and in the hidden part You will make me to know wisdom. – Psalm 51:6

- C. The soldier of the Lord needs a righteousness that is infinitely beyond any level of human integrity, if he is going to be _____ over the adversary.

- D. The self-deception of the imagined breastplate of human integrity is a _____ breastplate against the accusations of the accuser of the brethren.

But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ. Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith; – Philippians 3:7-9

- E. But we are all like an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are like _____ rags. – Isaiah 64:6b

- F. For I say to you, that unless your righteousness exceeds the righteousness of the scribes and the Pharisees, you will by no means enter the kingdom of _____. – Matthew 5:20

G. The Lord Jesus Christ condemned those who, 'trusted in themselves', considering themselves to be righteous, and treated others with _____.

As it is written: "There is none righteous, no, not one; – Romans 3:10

... for in Your sight no one living is righteous. – Psalm 143:2b

H. Every soldier in the army of the Lord obviously needs a righteousness which has its _____ in God.

Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, – Romans 5:1

But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe. – Romans 3:21-22b

For I say to you, that unless your righteousness exceeds the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven. – Matthew 5:20

IMPUTED RIGHTEOUSNESS

I. The believer is given a breastplate of righteousness that has God the Son, the Mighty Conqueror of Satan, as its _____.

J. For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of _____ in Him. – II Corinthians 5:21

K. God imputed all of my sins to Jesus' account; God imputed Jesus' perfect righteousness to my _____.

... for He has clothed me with the garments of salvation, He has covered me with the robe of righteousness, – Isaiah 61:10b

L. The imputed righteousness of Jesus Christ is the only reality that can cleanse our conscience; give us joy in this life; give us victory over the adversary; and gives us _____ in death.

There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, Romans 8:1a

M. You are now clothed in the perfect righteousness of God the Son, before both the eye of God's justice and the accusations of the _____.

For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified. – Romans 8:29-30

N. But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God—and righteousness and _____ and redemption—... .
I Corinthians 1:30

IMPARTED RIGHTEOUSNESS

... and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness. – Ephesians 4:23-24

O. We have not only been clothed with the 'imputed righteousness' of God the Son; we have also been given a completely new nature and endued with an 'imparted righteousness', by God the _____.

P. The word of God is calling on you to 'be what you _____'!

III. THE APPLICATION OF THE BREASTPLATE OF IMPUTED RIGHTEOUSNESS

For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "The just shall live by faith." – Romans 1:16-17

But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ,
Romans 3:21-22

... being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,
Romans 3:24

For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man's obedience many will be made righteous. – Romans 5:19

A. God's gracious gift of imputed righteousness guarantees:

1. Our assurance of Justification,
2. Our access into God's throne room in prayer, and
3. A solid foundation from which we can triumphantly _____ against our adversary.

B. You need the confident assurance that you have been graced with the breastplate of the imputed righteousness of your _____ General.

"... for the joy of the Lord is your strength." – Nehemiah 8:10b

Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice! – Philippians 4:4

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, – Galatians 5:22a

1. As we appropriate the breastplate of the imputed righteousness of the Lord Jesus, through faith in His person and in His work, then the joy of this faith in the Lord is our _____ for the battle.

Remember:

... for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down. And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony... . – Revelation 12:10b-11a

C. The breastplate of imputed righteousness is an essential defense against the _____ of our adversary.

D. Paul is using the military picture of a breastplate to urge you to face the accusations of the enemy, by preaching the glorious truth of 'imputed righteousness' to _____.

E. You must remind yourself that you have an advocate with the Father, and Jesus Christ the _____ One.

F. My Advocate meets the adversary's accusation of my unrighteousness with _____ perfect righteousness.

G. We have a breastplate that even the holy angels do not possess. For they may be clothed with the perfect righteousness of a creature; but, we have been covered with the perfect righteousness of God the _____.

Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence toward God. – I John 3:21

H. Our relationship with God is not only a love relationship; it is also a _____ relationship.

I. The presence of our advocate answers all of the accusations of the adversary, both fully and _____.

The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light. Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lust. – Romans 13:12-14

J. The command, to walk in practical righteousness and make no provision for the flesh, is rooted in the promise of _____ righteousness.

The negative side of the battle is:

K. Do not present your members as _____ of unrighteousness to sin. – Romans 6:13a

The positive side of the battle is:

- L. But present yourselves to God, as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of _____ unto holiness.
Romans 6:13b
- M. This spiritual battle is daily won or lost, in direct relationship to the decision that you make to personally _____ the breastplate of righteousness.
- N. We must put on the breastplate of 'imparted righteousness' by focusing on the King of Righteousness, who has comprehensively _____ the adversary.



Do not be vulnerable to
the enemy's schemes.

Always be clothed with
the

**BREASTPLATE OF
RIGHTEOUSNESS!**

THE BOOTS OF THE GOSPEL OF PEACE

SESSION SEVEN

Ephesians 6:15 - ... and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace;

1. The involvement of our feet reminds us that _____ compartment of the life of a believer is involved in this Christian warfare.

We have as our ambition, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him.
II Corinthians 5:9

And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men,
Colossians 3:23

I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, – Ephesians 4:1

2. This is a call from our Commander to walk in a manner that is consistent with our heavenly _____ in union with Christ.

I. THE HISTORICAL ANALOGY OF THE ROMAN SOLDIER'S BOOTS

- A. One of the most important pieces of a Roman soldier's equipment was his _____.

-
- B. If a Roman soldier was going to be properly equipped to travel swiftly to the battlefield and stand strong in the battle, it was essential that he was fitted with the proper _____ boots.

I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, , – Ephesians 4:1a

- C. We must return almost 2,000 years to the ancient battlefield, to fully comprehend the description of the military _____ that were provided to the Roman soldiers.
- D. The soles of a soldier's boots were also equipped with sharp spikes, which dug into the ground to give him the appropriate _____ to move swiftly to the battlefield, as well as, the stability to stand firmly in battle.

II. THE SPIRITUAL APPLICATION OF THE CHRISTIAN SOLDIER'S BOOTS

- A. One interpretation for the word 'preparation', teaches every Christian soldier that 'the gospel of peace' gives us spiritual _____, strength and security.

STABILITY

- B. The boots of 'the gospel of peace' provide the only firm foundation, from which you can fight the good fight of _____.
- C. The adversary will employ every strategy within his arsenal, to debilitate your:
- Worship of the Lord;
 - Hinder your walk with the Lord;
 - Oppose your work with the Lord; and
 - Spoil your _____ for the Lord.

-
- D. The phrase, 'the gospel of peace', declares that our victorious Commander has constructed these 'spiritual boots' with the most _____ material.

There, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. – Romans 5:1

1. "There is _____ peace," says the Lord, "for the wicked." – Isaiah 48:22

- E. The Prince of Peace came to negotiate peace between Holy God and the wicked rebels, who had justly earned God's righteous _____.

But He was wounded (pierced) for our transgressions, He was bruised (crushed) for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was (fell) upon Him. – Isaiah 53:5

The work of righteousness will be peace, – Isaiah 32:7a

... righteousness and peace have kissed. – Psalm 85:10b

- F. Only the gift of God's imputed righteousness could produce reconciliation between holy God and a _____, such as you and I.

... having made peace through the blood of His cross. And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled... . Colossians 1:20b-21

- G. Paul is describing the precious peace, which flows from entering into a saving knowledge of Jesus and a personal reception of His glorious gospel of _____.

Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; – John 14:27a

- H. The soldier, who has peace with God through the gospel, has been graced with spiritual security and stability. This causes him to be prepared to stand in the confident assurance of the Lord's astounding _____ for him.

The Lord God is my strength; He will make my feet like deer's feet, and He will make me walk on my high hills. – Habakkuk 3:19

-
- I. The gospel of peace gives this soldier a sense of having a _____ footing in his 'hand to hand' combat with the enemy.
- J. You must be resolute in your stand on the blessed truth that, "you have _____ with God, through the blood of the Cross".
1. For I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to _____ what I have committed to Him until that Day. – II Timothy 1:12
 2. "Here I _____! I can do no other"! – (A Quote by the Reformer - Martin Luther)
 3. Are your feet firmly planted on the stability, security and safety that is both experienced and enjoyed in the gospel of _____?
 4. Is there anything, for which you're prepared to courageously and persistently _____?
 5. The Christian soldier, can only walk and war in stability, as he walks and wars in unconditional submission to the _____ of Jesus Christ.

Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. – I Peter 5:8

- K. We are confronted by an adversary who is ceaseless in his _____.
- L. You must equip your feet with the stability, security and _____ of the gospel of peace.

...they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint. – Isaiah 40:31b

The Lord is ordering the steps of a Faithful Soldier.

They are steps of:

STABILITY, STRENGTH AND SECURITY!

III. THE BOOTS OF THE GOSPEL OF PEACE GIVES THE CHRISTIAN SOLDIER A SPIRITUAL MOBILITY TO ADVANCE AGAINST THE ENEMY.

MOBILITY

- A. The word 'preparation' also gives the idea of the mobility to _____ into enemy territory with the gospel of peace.

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who proclaims peace who brings glad tidings of good things, who proclaims salvation,
Isaiah 52:7a

How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written:

"How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, who bring glad tidings of good things!" – Romans 10:14-15

- B. Remember that the Greek word, which is translated 'preparation', can also be translated _____.

In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; – Ephesians 1:13a

... that the Gentiles should be fellow heirs, of the same body, and partakers of His promise in Christ through the gospel, of which I became a minister according to the gift of the grace of God given to me by the effective working of His power.
Ephesians 3:6-7

... and for me, that utterance may be given to me, that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains; that in it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak. – Ephesians 6:19-20

- C. As soldiers in the army of the Lord, we should truthfully testify with the prophet that, "His word was in my heart like a burning _____ shut up in my bones". (Jeremiah 20:9)

Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, – II Corinthians 5:18

... and has committed to us the word of reconciliation. – II Corinthians 5:19b

D. Our Lord has graced us with the supreme privilege to announce the gospel of peace and plead for its acceptance by _____.

Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God. – II Corinthians 5:20

I am a debtor both to Greeks and to barbarians, both to wise and to unwise.
Romans 1:14

E. Certainly, you don't want to exit this world with a mountain of _____.

O Zion, you who bring good tidings, get up into the high mountain; O Jerusalem, you who bring good tidings, lift up your voice with strength, lift it up, be not afraid; say to the cities of Judah, "Behold your God!" – Isaiah 40:9

F. We must advance into enemy territory by speaking the message of reconciliation as a trustworthy _____ of the Prince of Peace.

THE CHRISTIAN SOLDIER'S DEFENSE SHIELD

SESSION 8

Ephesians 6:16 - ... above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one.

1. I remind you that every born-again Christian is born to be a _____.

I. THE HISTORICAL EXPLANATION OF THE METAPHOR OF THE ROMAN SOLDIER'S SHIELD

- A. You will notice that we have arrived at a point of _____.

First 3 Parts of the Armor

- ❖ **Having** girded your waist with Truth
- ❖ **Having** put on the breastplate of Righteousness
- ❖ **Having** shod your feet with the Gospel

Second 3 Parts of the Armor

- ❖ **Taking** the shield of Faith
- ❖ **Taking** the helmet of Salvation
- ❖ **Taking** the Sword of the Spirit

- B. There is an important difference between the word, '**having**', and the word '**taking**'. The first three pieces are fixed to the soldier's body, but the second three pieces are taken up when it is time for _____.

-
- C. The Roman Soldier's shield was a very large shield, which was similar to the size of a small _____.



**THE SHIELD FOR A
ROMAN SOLDIER!**

- D. This wall of shields was a powerful protection against the flaming arrows that the _____ soldiers were shooting at the Roman army.

FIERY DARTS

- A. The better translation of the words 'the fiery darts' would be the flaming _____.
- B. The shield was crucial for the soldier's security and safety against the _____ of these flaming arrows.
- C. The unified shields, of the 'front-line' soldiers, were a powerful defensive protection, as the soldiers _____ on the field of battle.

AS THE ARMY ADVANCES – THESE SHIELDS WOULD GIVE THEM DEFENSIVE PROTECTION!

II. THE SPIRITUAL APPLICATION OF THE MEANING OF THE CHRISTIAN SOLDIER'S SHIELD

- A. These flaming arrows are being fired from the _____ of the Wicked One.
- B. These flaming arrows are temptations, from the bow of your adversary, to either doubt the Lord; distrust the Lord; or _____ the Lord.
- C. These temptations to sin against the Lord are not _____ coming to you.
- D. When Satan fires his flaming arrow of temptation at your unredeemed flesh, it will land like a blazing torch in a grassy field if you _____ to hold up 'the Shield of Faith'.

For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh) nothing good dwells; for to will is present with me, but how to perform what is good I do not find. For the good that I will to do, I do not do; but the evil I will not to do, that I practice. Now if I do what I will not to do, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells in me. - Romans 7:18-20

For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. - Romans 8:13

Therefore, let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall. - I Corinthians 10:12

- E. These flaming missiles include all forms of temptation that are _____ to every soldier of the Lord.

No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; ...
I Corinthians 10:13a

- F. The adversary seeks to pervert your natural desires into sinful _____.

Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone. But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. - James 1:13-14

...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, ...
II Corinthians 10:5

G. I remind you, that these flaming arrows, which are launched by our enemy, are _____ sin within themselves.

TAKING THE SHIELD OF FAITH

A. We could actually define this shield as, '**the shield which is Faith**' in the _____ who is our shield and our strength!

Therefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, – Ephesians 1:15

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, – Ephesians 2:8a

... in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through faith in Him. Ephesians 3:12

... that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, – Ephesians 3:17

B. It is our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, Who is our shield, which protects us from the flaming arrows of the _____.

1. The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer; My God, my strength, in whom I will _____; my _____ and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold. – Psalm 18:2

I will call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised; so shall I be saved from my enemies. – Psalm 18:3

2. The Lord is my strength and my _____; my heart _____ in Him, and I am helped; therefore my heart greatly rejoices, and with my song I will praise Him. – Psalm 28:7

3. Our soul waits for the Lord; He is our help and our _____. Psalm 33:20

4. For the Lord God is a sun and _____; the Lord will give grace and glory; no good thing will He withhold from those who walk uprightly. – Psalm 84:11

C. There is not a more important piece of the heavenly armor than the Shield of _____.

Be sober, be vigilant, because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. – I Peter 5:8

D. Resist him, steadfast in the _____ – I Peter 5:9a

E. You are not called to place your faith in _____ faith! You are commanded to place a 'living and active' faith in the Lord, and to quickly apply the truth that you _____.

... He is a shield to all who trust in Him. – Psalm 18:30

F. To take up the shield of faith is to fix the focus of your 'eyes of faith' on the _____ Jesus Christ as your shield.

But You, O Lord, are a shield for me, My glory and the One who lifts up my head.
Psalm 3:3



EYES OF FAITH MUST STAY ON THE
LORD JESUS CHRIST, WHO IS YOUR
SHIELD!

G. It is the Lord, who is our shield:

1. Who strips away the disguises of the deceptions of sin,
2. Who brings all of Satan's sinister schemes into the light;
3. Who enables you to recognize the temporary nature of the empty delights of sin;
4. Who empowers you to resist the enemy, so that he will _____ from you.

You who fear the Lord, trust in the Lord; He is their help and their shield. – Psalm 115:11

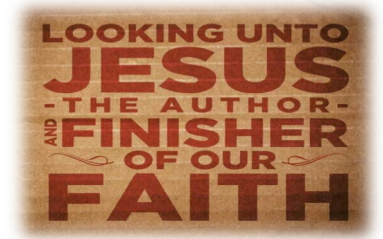
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- H. The Lord God himself is a shield for His people. But at the same time, it your personal responsibility to trust in the Lord as _____ shield, so that the flaming arrows will be quenched.

Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. – James 4:7

- I. You successfully resist the flaming arrows of the enemy by yielding yourself to the _____, who is your shield.
- J. You resist the Devil, steadfast in the faith, by humbly placing the totality of your life under the _____ and government of the Lord.

...“God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble..” – I Peter 5:5b

- K. This humble and submissive yielding to the Lord greatly antagonizes the adversary; for it triumphs over Satan’s original sin of _____.
- L. Your enemy has shot his arrow of temptation into your mind. So respond, by shooting your own arrows of ‘submission to your Lord and _____ to your Lord’.



- M. ‘The Lord our Shield’ has promised to be a faithful King to all of His subjects. So, it is not presumptuous for His subjects to expect _____ from the Lord.

Every word of God is pure; He is a shield to those who put their trust in Him. Proverbs 30:5

- N. The enemy cannot force a Christian soldier to sin against the Lord. The soldier sins against his commander, when he chooses to give an _____ to the devil.

- O. Sin is no longer able to exert a controlling influence in the life of a soldier of the Lord, unless that soldier foolishly _____ it to.

Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts. – Romans 6:12

Do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God. – Romans 6:13

P. When a soldier fails to hold up the shield of faith, he is acting in a manner that is in total contradiction to the new realm of _____, in which he now resides.

Q. Some soldiers are failing to take responsibility for their sin of giving place to the Devil. Instead, they are attempting to bind the devil, when they should be _____ of their sin against the Lord.

R. When a believer is being tempted with the flaming arrows of the enemy, he is commanded to trust in the Lord, as His shield. However, when a believer has given place to the adversary, he is commanded to _____.

S. When a soldier of the Lord is tempted to commit an immoral act, he is ordered to hold up the shield of faith, by trusting in the Lord; and then to _____ from that immorality.

Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's. – I Corinthians 6:18-20

For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, while we do not look at things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal. – II Corinthians 4:17-18

T. If you would seek to fight the 'good fight' successfully, then you must pray for a continual _____ of faith in the Lord, as your shield.

Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. I Timothy 6:12

LORD JESUS CHRIST

1. Our fight is a 'Good Fight of Faith' because we are fighting under the banner of the _____ of our salvation.
2. Our fight is a 'Good Fight of Faith' because we are fighting with His great power and on His glorious _____.

"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." – Joshua 1:9

"Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand". – Isaiah 41:10

3. Our fight is a 'Good Fight of Faith' because we are fighting toward a glorious _____.
4. Every flaming arrow of temptation is an opportunity to flee to the Lord Jesus in submission and _____.

REMEMBER CHRISTIAN SOLDIER,

WE ARE FIGHTING UNDER
HIS
VICTORIOUS BANNER!

THE WARRIOR'S CONFIDENCE IN THE GLORY TO COME

SESSION 9

EPHESIANS 6:17a - ... and take the helmet of salvation,

1. Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on _____, to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. – I Timothy 6:12
2. Your ancient foe never celebrates a holiday: and he never takes a _____.
3. This wicked world longs to see a soldier of the Lord stumble into sin, so that they can publish it and _____ it.

I. THE HISTORICAL EXPLANATION OF THE METAPHOR OF THE ROMAN SOLDIER'S HELMET

- A. The helmet of a Roman soldier was a leather cap, which had been strengthen with plates of _____.
- B. The helmet of a Roman soldier was the difference between life and _____.

II. THE SPIRITUAL APPLICATION OF THE CHRISTIAN SOLDIER'S HELMET OF SALVATION

PROTECTION FOR THE MIND

THE UNDERSTANDING AND THINKING PROCESS

- A. The 'Helmet of Salvation' is drawing attention to the believer's apprehension, application and assurance concerning his eternal _____ in union with his victorious Commander.

For He put on righteousness as a breastplate, and a helmet of salvation on His head;
... - Isaiah 59:17a

- B. The 'Helmet of Salvation' is God's protection in connection with the adversary's tactics to tempt you to become weary, and _____ in the battle.

- C. Our wicked enemy is seeking to lure you to drop the baton, quit running the race and fighting the good _____.

- D. Let us not grow weary in doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not _____ heart. – Galatians 6:9

- E. You can be tempted to develop the same attitude of discouragement about the present condition of the _____.

1. The adversary suggests to your mind that, "If Christianity were real, wouldn't the church be in a healthier condition after all of these _____"?

2. You are also tempted to be discouraged because your evangelistic prayers for your loved ones have not been _____.

- F. This was the 'crisis of faith' that many were facing, within the church in which the epistle to the _____ was written.

- G. This was the same 'crisis of faith' that the Psalmist faced in Psalm ____.

1. The Devil had tempted the Psalmist to question the value of holiness; for it's present wages of godliness were being temporarily paid in the currency of _____.

H. Our vile accuser attempts to provoke and us to conclude that our commitment to holiness, humbleness, and prayerfulness, is all hopeless and _____.

I. The adversary seeks to persuade you to become so preoccupied with the temporary details of this Christian warfare, that you forget about the blessed hope of the _____ that is coming for every soldier of the Lord.

In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory. – Ephesians 1:13-14

❖ **SALVATION**

❖ **GUARANTEE**

❖ **REDEMPTION**

J. But let us who are of the day be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet the _____ of salvation. For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain _____ through our Lord Jesus Christ. – I Thessalonians 5:8-9

... looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, – Titus 2:13

And do this, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed. – Romans 13:11

... being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ; – Philippians 1:6

K. When you are tempted by the enemy to quit the fight, put on the helmet of the certain and confident assurance of _____ to come.

Therefore, we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day. – II Corinthians 4:16

For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal. – II Corinthians 4:17-18

- L. When the warfare is fierce and the advancement is difficult, you must put on the helmet of the blessed hope of _____.

AGAIN NOTICE: ... and as a helmet the hope of salvation. – I Thessalonians 5:8b

- M. The word 'hope' portrays a certain confidence and joyful _____ of the eternal glorification, which is soon to come.

REMINDER: ... the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, – Ephesians 1:18a

THE HOPE OF HIS CALLING

... has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, – I Peter 1:3b

- N. Every soldier in the army of the Lord has been given the helmet of a living hope, because its foundation is the _____ of the Lord Jesus Christ from the dead.

... to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, – I Peter 3:4

- O. Because of the hope which is laid up for you in _____
Colossians 1:5a

1. Since I already have heaven in my heart, while I live; I possess the guarantee of the glory of heaven to come, when I _____.

- P. Through whom also we have access by faith in this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in the _____ of the glory of God. – Romans 5:2

Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure. I John 3:2-4

“Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me; for You loved Me before the foundation of the world”. – John 17:24

Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints. – Psalm 116:15

Q. This helmet of 'the steadfast confidence in glorification to come' is the cornerstone for our continual _____, as we fight these spiritual battles.

... Christ will be magnified in my body, whether by life or by death. – Philippians 1:20

R. The focal point of heaven will be the glory of God, as it is specifically revealed in the _____ of Jesus Christ.

... which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. – Colossians 1:27

CHRIST IN YOU - is experiencing Jesus in all of His Majestic Power!

CHRIST IN YOU - is Jesus reigning in you as Lord!

CHRIST IN YOU - is Jesus teaching you as your Master-Teacher!

CHRIST IN YOU - is Jesus Christ interceding for you as your Great High Priest!

CHRIST IN YOU - is Jesus filling you with His Spirit!

CHRIST IN YOU - is Jesus leading you down paths of righteousness for His Name Sake!

CHRIST IN YOU - is Jesus transforming you until you finally become like Him!

CHRIST IN YOU - is Jesus being the certain assurance of the Glory to come!

Lift up your heads, O you gates! And be lifted up, you everlasting doors! And the King of glory shall come in. – Psalm 24:7

S. Who is the King of glory? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in _____. – Psalm 24:8

Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy. – Jude 24

And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one: – John 17:22

T. "The Lord is my portion," says my soul, "therefore I _____ in Him!"
Lamentations 3:24

And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose. For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; who He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.
Romans 8:28-30

1. All of those whom God has foreknown, have not only been fully forgiven; they have also been predestined to final _____.
2. When it pleased God, He called me with a heavenly calling that contained the supernatural and miraculous power to call me out of darkness and into the kingdom of His dear _____.
3. When God called me with His mighty call of grace, He also justified me, by grace alone; through saving faith alone; in the Lord Jesus Christ _____.
4. Whom He justified, these He also _____.

U. The Lord could never condemn a justified soldier, for He would cease to be Just. Moreover, He will never condemn a justified soldier, for He would cease to be _____.

He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things? – Romans 8:32

V. The Christian soldier has been implanted into an irreversible union with the triumphant Commander who has already been _____.

For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. – Romans 8:38-39

W. God raised us up together, and made us sit together in the _____ places in Christ Jesus. – Ephesians 2:6

**SOLDIER OF THE LORD,
PUT ON
THE HELMET
OF THE CERTAIN ASSURANCE
OF THE
GLORY TO COME!**

THE CHRISTIAN SOLDIER'S OFFENSIVE WEAPON

SESSION 10

EPHESIANS 6:17b - ... the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God... .

1. We must seek to gain a more intimate knowledge of this mighty sword, as well as, the spiritual skill to _____ it.

"Do not think that I came to bring peace on earth. I did not come to bring peace but a sword. – Matthew 10:34

But Jesus said to him, "Put your sword in its place, for all who take the sword will perish by the sword". – Matthew 26:52

2. The sword of the Spirit is both a defensive and an _____ weapon.
3. Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will **(FLEE)** from you. James 4:7
4. When the believer humbles himself before the majesty of the Lord; submits himself to the will of the Lord; and wields the sword of the Lord; He will be empowered to successfully _____ the enemy.
5. We must never forget that the sinister enemies who are at war against us are armed with supernatural _____.

...They are not afraid to speak evil of dignitaries, whereas angels, who are greater in power and might, do not bring a reviling accusation against them, before the Lord. II Peter 2:10b-11

Yet Michael the archangel, in contending with the devil when he disputed about the body of Moses, dared not bring against him a reviling accusation, but said, "The Lords rebuke you!" – Jude 1:9

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6. These false teachers made the foolish presumption that they were greater than these fallen angels; they absurdly assumed that they were able to control Satan and his demonic forces; and thus, they were speaking arrogantly against _____.
 7. They recklessly presume that they have power to command and control the supernatural powers of darkness, when they cannot even get their children to _____ them all the time.
 8. If the 'Father of Lies' can mislead you with false doctrine, in this area of spiritual warfare, then he can neutralize your true effectiveness as a Christian _____.

I. THE HISTORICAL EXPLANATION OF THE ROMAN SOLDIER'S SWORD

- A. There are two different Greek words that are translated as the word **(SWORD)**, in the pages of the scriptures.



Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations.
Revelation 19:15a

- B. This sword was a much shorter and smaller sword. It would be compared to a large _____ in today's terminology.

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- C. For just as the Roman soldier's sword was taken from his belt, the 'Sword of the Spirit' is taken from the 'belt of the Objective _____' of the word.

II. THE SPIRITUAL APPLICATION OF THE CHRISTIAN SOLDIER'S SWORD

- A. Why is the _____ of God called the 'Sword of the Spirit' in this verse?

1. The Holy Spirit is the _____ of the word of God.

All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work. – II Timothy 3:16-17

- a. There are some dangerously _____ interpretations of this phrase, 'which is the word of God'.
- b. The apostle is exhorting every Christ soldier to take up the sword of the Spirit, which will always be a _____ verse or passage, which is taken from the belt of the Objective Truth of the word of God.

... knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit. – II Peter 1:20-21

- c. The Lord Jesus _____ a specific dagger that applied to this specific satanic assault. It was taken from the belt of the Objective Truth of the word of God that had already been inspired by the Spirit of God, hundreds of years before!

But He answered and said, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.'" " Matthew 4:4

Jesus said to him, "It is written again, 'You shall not tempt the Lord your God.'" – Matthew 4:7

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- d. Even the Living Word knew that He must employ a specific dagger from the written word to _____ the adversary.

Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only you shall serve.' "

Matthew 4:10

- e. You and I must battle the adversary and all of his forces with the same _____.

2. The Holy Spirit is the only _____ of the word of God.

But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. – I Corinthians 2:14

Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God.

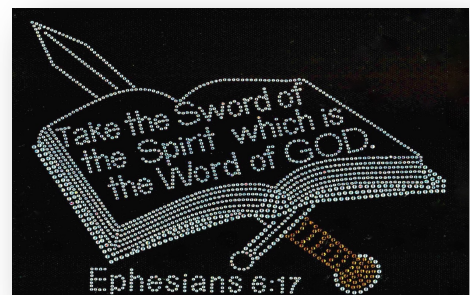
I Corinthians 2:12

3. The Holy Spirit is the only One who can enable the soldier to use the 'Sword of the Spirit' _____ and powerfully.

- B. We need both the Spirit and His sword to _____ fight every battle against the forces of Darkness.

- C. I remind you, that you have already been commanded in this same epistle, to be _____ with the Spirit.

- D. The Spirit of God will only fight for you, when you take up the _____, that He has inspired and supplied.



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- E. If you attempt to exchange God's ordained weapon for some other carnal weapon, you have committed an act of _____ against your Commander.
- F. A soldier is not allowed to choose his own weapon. He must use the weapon that his Commander _____.
- G. There have been no new orders that have been issued by the Captain of the army of the _____ of Hosts.

So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. – Romans 10:17

III. THE SPECIFIC DECLARATION OF THE SWORD OF THE SPIRIT

- A. The Greek word, which is used in this phrase, 'the word of God', is not the Greek word 'Logos'; it is the Greek word '_____ '.

In the beginning was the word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. John 1:1

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, – John 1:14a

God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, – Hebrews 1:1-2a

He who does not love Me does not keep My words; and the word which you hear is not Mine but the Father's who sent Me. – John 14:24

Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth. – John 17:17

- B. The Greek word, 'Rhema', refers to a specific portion of god's written word, which the soldier wields for a specific use of that verse or passage, for either offensive or defensive _____.

Therefore, putting away lying, "Let each one of you speak truth with this neighbor," – Ephesians 4:25

Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers. – Ephesians 4:29

And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you. – Ephesians 4:32

I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering bearing with one another in love, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. – Ephesians 4:1-3

- C. The Holy Spirit takes a verse from the vast inventory of the Scriptures, which you have studied, memorized and mediated on; and He brings the dagger that you specifically need to the forefront of your _____.

Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved. – Acts 4:12

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me". – John 14:6

For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time, – I Timothy 2:5-6

- D. This specific dagger contains infinitely more power and authority than any sinister weapon in the _____ of our enemies.

For the word of God is living and power, and sharper than any two-edged sword, Hebrews 4:12a

- E. However, the word of God will not be your sword simply because you own a bible and it sits in your _____.

- F. The Spirit of God will wield no other sword, except a "Rhema" from the "Logos" that He has _____.

- G. The Sword of the Spirit is not a super magical ring that you place on your finger. It is the mighty weapon by which a Christian soldier may _____ all of his enemies.

Unless Your law had been my delight, I would then have perished in my affliction. Psalm 119:92

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- H. Preacher, if the Holy Spirit is going to mightily use your sermon, it will be in direct proportion to the amount of _____ that are properly and precisely contained within that sermon.

Of His own will He brought us forth by the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures. – James 1:18

... having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever. – I Peter 1:23

The entrance of Your words give light; it gives understanding to the simple.
Psalm 119:130

- I. The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ is, in itself, a _____ word.

So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. – Romans 10:17

- J. Many foolish people imagine that the 'Sword of the Spirit' is _____ today.

- K. The Holy Spirit will do nothing for a soldier of the Lord without the Sword; and a soldier of the Lord can do nothing of any eternal value without the _____ of the Spirit.

... out of His mouth went a sharp two-edged sword, – Revelation 1:16

Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations.
Revelation 19:15a

In that day the Lord with His severe sword, great and strong, will punish Leviathan the fleeing serpent, Leviathan that twisted serpent; and He will slay the reptile that is in the sea. – Isaiah 27:1

- L. When the adversary attempts to confront an armed soldier of the Lord, who knows how to employ that sword, and is proficient with His sword, the enemy has met His _____.