

The Armour of God

Today is Sunday, January 27. Of course, by the time I get this finished and out, it will be the middle of the week. What does it matter? Because as I sit and write, I celebrate 63 years on this earth. As part of BibleGateway.com, I receive a daily scripture. This is what I received today, my birthday:

Ephesians 6:12-13...For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

Do you know how many times as a children's church teacher I have taught this? More than once I can tell you that. But, oh my, is it ever important in today's world! The armour of God, as listed in Ephesians 6:14-17, describes how to put it on thusly:

- Your loins girt about with truth
- Having on the breastplate of righteousness;
- Your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;
- Taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.
- Take the helmet of salvation
- The sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:



It seems as if truth and righteousness are none existent. Peace, well that's being illusive as well. The shield of faith, in many ways, seems to be the most important of all in the world we face today. Faith is believing what you can't see. And, right now, it's hard to see anything beyond the turmoil in the world, in our country and in each of our lives.

When teaching the children's lesson, we often use a visual tool of an ancient soldier and we add the pieces of "armour" to as we discuss each thing. As adults, our visual aids can look differently. Smoke and mirrors come to mind as we navigate through our "politically correct" world.

Now more than ever, the truth of our salvation is mocked. Christian values are scorned, and we are labeled as some kind of radicals. Crosses that are displayed as part of our country's historic past are being called offensive. The ten commandments have been removed from court rooms, bibles removed from schools, prayer is unscientific, and immorality is now the new "normal".

When Paul wrote the letter to the Ephesians millennia ago, he was telling them how to combat the non-believers of the era. The directive is just as valid, if not more so, today. Truth and righteousness, to keep our hearts pure. Peace, not necessarily within the world, but within ourselves and others. The "Shield of Faith" to protect us and remind us that God is our protector always. Part of that shield and of faith is prayer. The "Helmet of Salvation" protects our minds and reminds us that we have eternal life through Jesus. We are His, no matter what.

The word of God is our sword. Our defense tool. Studying and reading the Bible is our way to defend against every bad thing that happens. But, not just reading and studying, believing that God is our refuge.

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

This may all seem rather simplistic, but it's what has gotten me through these 63 years on this earth. Years of overcoming and surviving when faced with adversities on all sides. Even when I had turned my back to God, He had not turned his back on me. When I was unable to "take up" my armour, He dressed me with it anyway.

Is your armour in your closet? If it is, take it out, dust it off and be ready to soldier on!
(Read all of Ephesians 6 [Here](#))

A soldier in God's army,



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