

The Sword... Take the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God.

REVIEW

The Belt of TRUTH

The Belt of Truth is Jesus Christ and what He says! Jesus Christ is to wrap around us and He holds everything together.

- You and I as Christians are in the spiritual battlefield on a daily basis. We need to put on a daily basis, the Belt of Truth, who is Jesus Christ, and allow Him to hold everything in your life!
- **The Breastplate to protect the heart**
- Breastplate of RIGHTEOUSNESS...This is Positional righteousness Righteousness Imputed... Romans 4:3 For what does the Scripture say? Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness.
- Practical righteousness...That is the daily Practice of our life.
- Proverbs 4:23 tells us:"Above all else guard your heart; for out of it are the issues of life"
- 1 John 3:21 "Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God."
- **Your Feet shod with the gospel of peace**

Two Kinds of Peace First, there is peace with God. Peace with God is what a person experiences when he or she first comes to the Lord for salvation.

Romans "And, having made peace through the blood of his cross...you, that were sometimes alienated and enemies in your minds by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled."

Second, in addition to this peace with God that is the birthright of all believers, there is also the peace of God.

Colossians 3:15 And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful.



The Belt of Truth

Breastplate of Righteousness

Your Feet with Peace

We are to “TAKE UP the shield of faith



Paul is reminding us that the shield of faith is used WITH the Belt of the truth of Christ, The Breastplate of Righteousness and the Shoes of being prepared to give Good News of Peace. “In Addition to All This,” TAKE up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one.” The shield, the helmet and the sword are our responsibility to pick up.

So the shield of faith -- this is not saving faith. This is the faith in God, God’s promises, it’s claiming God’s promises, trusting God’s character, and applying God’s truth, and holding it up to deflect the lies and the darts, whether they be fear, accusation, condemnation, or whatever.

The Roman Soldiers Sword for the most part a Common Gladius



The Roman sword that really conquered all was the short sword. The short sword had a 20" double edged blade with a diamond tip and became known as "the sword that conquered the world". This shorter length allowed a soldier to step inside an enemies guard and thrust the sword in any direction at a deadly pace, this would not be possible with a longer sword and that is where it held the upper hand.

Common gladius measurements: Weight: 2.6–3.5 lb Blade length: 2.0–2.23 ft Width: 1.6–3.1 in

The skills of these men and the advances in sword making techniques made this sword a deadly weapon and were one of the major factors behind a long and successful military reign. To identify a person's sword the name was often etched into the blade.

Take the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God. Remember this is our responsibility to TAKE the Sword... 'Take the SWORD of the SPIRIT which are the SAYINGS of GOD.'

Christian soldiers must always mix a good defense with a great offense when dealing with Satan, the world and our own sinful flesh. Martin Luther wrote: "For it is not enough to have defended ourselves against the enemy, and to be able to stand against him when he attacks us, so that we are not defeated; that is called defense. We must also be able to take the offensive--that is, to pursue the enemy, and put him to flight. Similarly, here it is not enough to ward off the devil with faith and hope as our shield and helmet, but we must draw the sword, hit back at him, and make him flee.

James 4:7 So humble yourselves before God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

If training is necessary for fighting human wars how much more is it necessary in fighting against the kingdom of darkness if we are going to successfully fight this spiritual war we are in we will have to understand the tactics of our enemy and know how to equip ourselves and use the weapons God supplies us with.

Notice that most of our weapons are defensive weapons the belt of truth, the breastplate of righteousness, the shield of faith, the helmet of salvation, with our only offensive weapons being the sword of the spirit - which is the word of God and prayer.

Someone has said: the best defense is a good offense the offensive weapons God gives us are his word and prayer three times - when Jesus is tempted by Satan in the wilderness he says: it is written and uses Gods word to silence Satan's temptations

The Temptation of Jesus... Matthew 4:1—11 Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry.

And the tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.” But he answered, “It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’

Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, ‘He will command his angels concerning you,’ and ‘On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.’ Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.’

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. And he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” Then Jesus said to him, “Be gone, Satan! For it is written, ‘You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve.’ Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and were ministering to him.

We are to **“Take... the sword of the Spirit,** which is the word of God.” We are to live OBEDIENT lives. This is the only weapon we have. It was an 18-inch precision sword for hand to hand combat. It is for offensive. The rest are for defensive. We are “To strike back with truth when we are personally tempted to evil. We fight back when we obey the word of God.

Hebrews 4:12 God’s word is living and active. It is sharper than any two-edged sword and cuts as deep as the place where soul and spirit meet, the place where joints and marrow meet.

God’s word judges a person’s thoughts and intentions. Remember that the God gave Bible not to increase our knowledge but to change our lives. If you really listened and if you really learned, you would obey.

Illustration Laser Surgery it is used in medicine for laser surgery and various skin treatments, it cuts and the same time heals.



It is used in industry for cutting and welding materials. They are used in military and law enforcement devices for marking targets and measuring range and speed. Laser lighting displays use laser light as an entertainment medium.

Then pick up the sword of the spirit, which is the Word of God." And this isn't the big, long, heavy sword; this is the two-foot sword that you see in those movies that the Roman soldiers use, because this is for close, hand-to-hand combat. Jesus modeled this for us in His temptation..

Psalm 119:105 : "God's Word is a lamp into our feet and a light into our path." Psalm 119:9—11 "How can a young man keep his way pure? By guarding it according to thy word. Thy word I've hid in my heart, that I might not sin against thee."

Memorize The Scriptures.

When you read the Scriptures, do so with the purpose of retaining what you read. Don't be a "forgetful hearer" or reader...What you do not retain, you cannot apply to your life.

When you remember Scriptures you will have a better chance of re-calling them to mind during an occasion of need.

Remembering what you read one day will provide a stepping-stone to understanding another passage tomorrow...By doing this, you are basically programming your mind with God's word...Romans 12:2 "Be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect."

Meditate On The Scriptures...What does it mean to meditate? It means to think deeply about something. It is to reflect on something It is to roll something over in your mind. It is one thing to know what a passage says; it's another thing to know what it means in a practical way.



It is what the cow does as it chews its cud...

Practice God's Scriptures... The Roman soldier would have never thought about going into battle without spending many hours practicing with his sword. The very best soldiers would try all different types of thrusts from different positions in order to determine what would work best in various situations.

The same thing is true with the sword of the Spirit. If we want to be able to effectively use God's Word in the heat of the battle, then we need to practice with it over and over. It's not enough to just read the Bible, or even study it. It is only effective if we put it into practice...It's not enough to hold sword in hand we must use the sword.



II Timothy 3:16—17 All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work.

AN ESKIMO FISHERMAN CAME to town every Saturday afternoon. He always brought his two dogs with him. He had taught them to fight on command. Every Saturday afternoon in the town square the people would gather and wage bets on which of these two dogs would win in the weekly fight. On one Saturday the black dog would win; another Saturday, the white dog would win—but the fisherman who owned the dogs always won the bets! His friend began to ask him how he did it. He said, "I starve one and feed the other. The one I feed always wins because he stronger."

Questions and Comments