

Spiritual Warfare

1st - 3rd Grade
Lesson 11

The Armor of God

When Jesus lived on the earth, most of the world was ruled by the Romans. Soldiers were everywhere. When Paul wrote the letter to the Ephesians, he was in prison in Rome. Soldiers guarded him night and day. Nero was the Roman Emperor at this time. Nero hated Christians. He searched for them and killed many of them.

Since he was in prison, Paul saw soldiers every day. Each piece of armor the soldiers wore reminded Paul about the armor that Christians must wear. In Ephesians 6, Paul tells us to put on our armor.

Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

—Ephesians 6:11

We have an enemy, the devil. He wants to destroy us. No soldier should fight the enemy without his armor on. And no Christian is ready to fight the devil without putting on his spiritual armor.

Why Wear Armor?

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.

—Ephesians 6:13

The armor helps the soldier be strong in battle. It also helps him when the enemy attacks him. The spiritual armor that Paul tells us about helps us do right. It also keeps us from falling when the devil attacks us.

What Does Armor Do?

Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness.

—Ephesians 6:14

Soldiers today have bulletproof armor. This is much stronger than the armor the Roman soldiers wore. The first piece of armor Paul tells us to put on is truth and righteousness. God's Word is truth. When we get saved, God gives us His righteousness—His goodness. We must start the day by reading God's Word. It will help us fight our enemy, the devil.

How Should We Use Our Armor?

And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.

—Ephesians 6:15-16

Christian soldiers must stand strong against the devil. But we must also go into battle. God has given us our orders: we must go tell the world about Jesus. We must take the Gospel—the good news of salvation—everywhere we go. As we do this, we trust Jesus to help us.

Where Do We Get the Armor?

And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

—Ephesians 6:17

To be a soldier in God's army, you must be saved. You must believe that you are a sinner and that Jesus died to pay for your sins. You must take His free gift of eternal life. This makes you a child of God. When you see how much He loves you, it is only natural that you would want to live for Him and be one of His soldiers.

A Roman soldier had two weapons: a sword and a spear. A Christian needs only one weapon: God's Word. The Bible is stronger than any weapon on earth. It is a super weapon.

For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword.

—Hebrews 4:12

Conclusion

A Roman soldier had to have help putting on his armor. A servant or two helped him put it on. We have help putting on our armor too. We put on our armor with prayer and the Holy Spirit.

Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints.

—Ephesians 6:18

We must have God's help to fight our enemy, the devil. We must pray and trust in the Lord. And His Spirit is always with us. With His help, we will be able to "withstand in the evil day" (Ephesians 6:13). We will have victory over the devil.