

"THE ARMOR OF LIGHT"

1.0 Introduction: Apostle Paul discusses the Christian armor in Romans 13 and Ephesians 6.

- As noted on the convention program for this hour, the topic is "The Armor of Light" referred to in Ro.13:12.

2.0 Paul's letter to the Romans - intended to help both Jewish and Gentile brethren

- Romans is a guidebook covering a wide variety of every day duties of consecrated Christian life.

- Ro.1:7,16, 11-13; 15:24,28; Barclay pp. 299,300,376; R3830:2,3

2.1 **Ro.13:11** - Immediate context of Ro.13:12 suggests a sense of urgency to be awake, active. **Prov 6:10**

- Don't be overcharged, lukewarm. **Lk. 21:34**; Rev.3:16; Fight. Run. 1 Tim.6:12; 1 Cor 9:24; R3830:5

2.2 **Ro.13:12** - discourse text - night & works of darkness; day and armor of light.

2.2.1 Night - losing sight of God; Gen.2:17;3:17; Rom.8:22; **Isa. 60:2**; Acts 17:23;

2.2.2 Day - millennial day beginning in 1874; Dan.12:12; "day" also applies to entire Gospel Age

- **Isa.9:2**; Matt.4:16; **Jo.8:12**; R5097:3; Matt.28:20;

2.2.3 Cast off the works of darkness - the effects and influences of the night of sin.

- Obscurity 1 Cor.4:5; spiritual blindness Ps.82:5; Jo.1:5; Acts 26:17,18 misunderstanding Jo.11:10

- Wrong expectations; poor judgment; Isa.28:7; failure to see Jesus' presence Isa.8:14; 1 Pet.2:8

2.2.3.1 Origin of the darkness - not God; not Jesus. Jo.8:12; **1 Jo.1:5**

- Rather, Satan is the origin. He obscures truth. Eph.6:12; **2 Cor.4:4**; Jo.8:44; 1 Tim.4:1

2.2.3.2 **Rom.13:13** - works of darkness the saints must strive to repel.

- May be corrupt fleshly influences or tendencies; but more pointedly, spiritual dangers R3031:2,4

- Verse 13 outlines three "pairs" of "do not's" (dangers).

- Do not walk in rioting & drunkenness - undisciplined thinking can lead to mental intoxication. **Eph.5:18**

- Do not walk in chambering and wantonness - unfaithfulness to our bridegroom Jesus 2 Cor. 11:2

- Sectarianism - replacing Jesus as our head. 1 Cor. chapters 1-4; R868; R1571:6

- Do not walk in strife and envying - contention based on pride Prov.28:25; Ro.12:3; Phil.1:15

- Contention can lead to jealousy - intense resentment; malice, hatred Songs 8:6; R4789:1

- Generally, works of darkness include anything Satan promotes and God disapproves.

2.2.4 Light - natural visible light spectrum; spiritual light spectrum - Bible is a spiritual prism

2.2.4.1 God is light - his attributes, his life-sustaining influence, enlightenment. **1 Jo.1:5**; Gen.1:3

- God's favor, his countenance, his face. **Psa.4:6**;

- Light represents God's righteousness. It represents his love, his wisdom, his power.

- Light not only represents what God is, it also represents the holy influence he exerts.

- God's influence is life-initiating and God's influence is life-sustaining. Isaiah 60:19,20

2.2.4.2 Jesus is light. **Jo.8:12** He reflects God's light, God's character Jo.12:45; 14:9

2.2.5 Ro.13:14. Why Paul uses the armor analogy - he and brethren familiar with Roman Army. Acts 23:23

- "Armor" implies a battle; the need for protection - must not only have it, but must put & keep it on

- **Rom.13:14** put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ - requires purpose, focus, energy - be a true disciple.

- 1 Pet 2:21 (follow); 2 Tim.2:3 (endure); Heb.12:1-12 (don't fade); 1 Tim.4:12 (be an example)

- 2 Cor. 5:20 (be an ambassador); Matt.5:16; Eph.5:8 (live our professions) Ps.89:15 (walk with God)

3.0 Summary

- Our protection as new creatures rests in how completely we align ourselves and God and Jesus

- **Phil.2:5** - "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus."