

The Whole Armor Of God

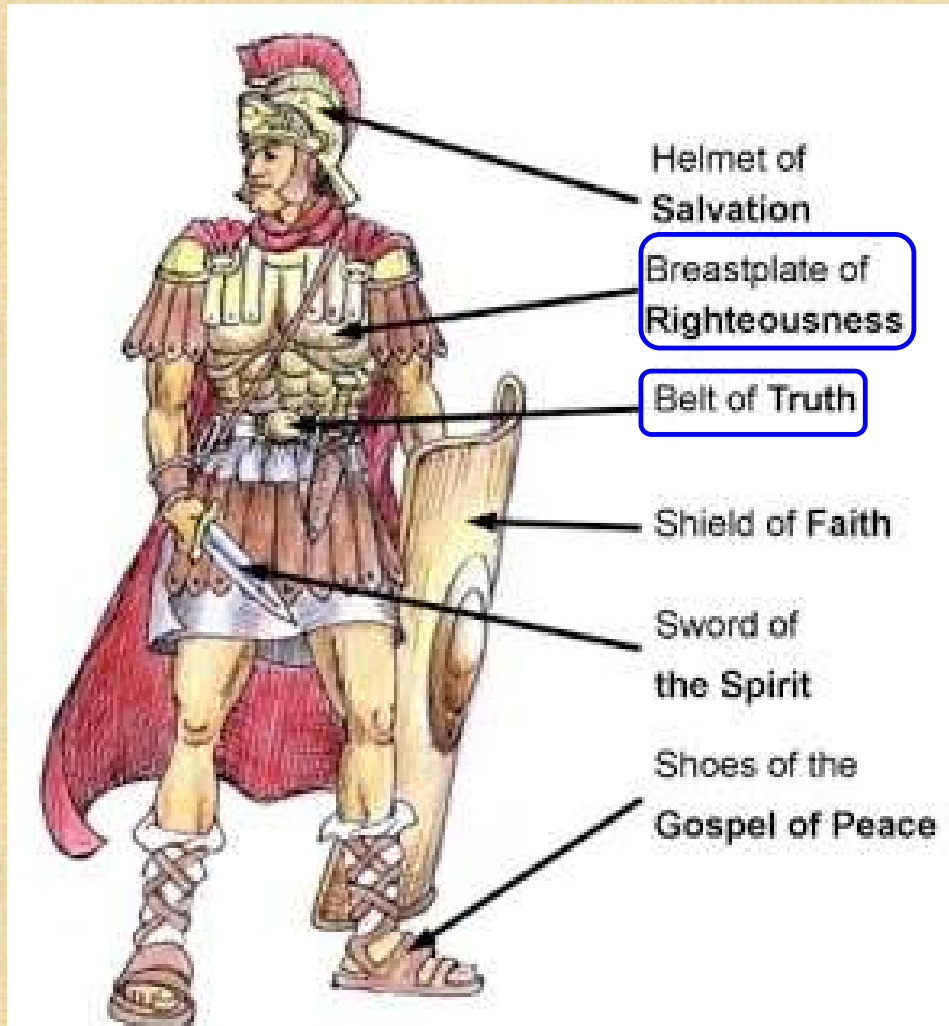
Eph 6:14

Eph 6:14 Stand therefore, having your loins
girt about with truth, and having on the
breastplate of righteousness;

Paul's commission was told to Ananias in Damascus...

Act 9:15 ...for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel:

Act 9:16 For I will show him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake.



God would supply...

The Whole Armor of God

For his entire walk









In Rome...

Act 28:16 When we entered Rome, Paul was allowed to stay by himself, with the soldier who was guarding him.



Roman Soldier Motto:

SPQR

“Senatus Populusque Romanus”

The Senate and People of Rome

Like the Marines:

“Semper Fidelis”

Always Faithful

Written from Rome...

Php 2:25 Yet I supposed it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus, my brother, and companion in labor, and **fellow soldier**, but your messenger, and he that ministered to my wants.

Phm 1:2 And to our beloved Apphia, and Archippus our **fellow soldier**, and to the church in thy house:

Written after leaving Rome...

2Ti_2:3 Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.

2Ti_2:4 No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.

Why is Armor necessary for a Roman soldier?

To prevent injury while fulfilling service.

PPE – Personal Protecting Equipment

Protection – while doing a job

- hard hats,
- self-rescuers,
- hearing protectors,
- safety glasses,
- face shields
- heavy boots,
- steel toed shoes,
- heavy gloves,
- leather aprons
- coats

More PPE – Personal Protecting Equipment





Firemen -

They don't just grab a bucket of water and run into a burning building!



Firemen - PPE

love their jobs and are willing to put themselves a risk to help others

This reminds me of my wedding night !

The Whole Armor of God...

Eph 6:13 Wherefore take unto you the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

So we can do the Job we love...

Being ambassadors for Christ

Paul's experiences with the Ephesians...

Act 19:3 ...Unto what then were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism.

Act 19:4 Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus.

Act 19:5 When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

Paul's teaching at Ephesus...

Taught in Synagogue **3 months**

Act 19:8 And he entered the synagogue and continued speaking out boldly for three months, reasoning and persuading them about the kingdom of God.

Act 19:9 But when some were becoming hardened and disobedient, speaking evil of the Way before the people, he withdrew from them and took away the disciples,

Taught in the School of Tyrannus - **2 years**

Act 19:9 ...reasoning daily in the school of Tyrannus.

Act 19:10 This took place for two years, so that all who lived in Asia heard the word of the Lord, both Jews and Greeks.

Paul's influence and works...

Subduing evil spirits

Act 19:11 God was performing extraordinary miracles by the hands of Paul,

Magic and idolatry

Act 19:19 ...those who practiced magic brought their books together and began burning them in the sight of everyone; and they counted up the price of them and found it fifty thousand pieces of silver.

Riot in Ephesus instigated by Demetrius the silversmith

Act 19:26 "...not only in Ephesus, but in almost all of Asia, this Paul has persuaded and turned away a considerable number of people, saying that gods made with hands are no gods at all.

Act 19:28 And when they heard these sayings, they were full of wrath, and cried out, saying, "Great is Diana of the Ephesians."

Paul's Journey to Jerusalem...

Act 20:17 From Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called to him the elders of the church.

Act 20:18 ...Ye know, from the first day that I came into Asia, after what manner I have been with you at all seasons,

Act 20:19 Serving the Lord with all humility of mind, and with many tears, and temptations, which befell me by the lying in wait of the Jews:

Act 20:20 And how I kept back nothing that was profitable unto you, but have showed you, and have taught you publicly, and from house to house,

Act 20:27 For I have not shunned to **declare unto you all the counsel of God.**

Act_20:31 Therefore watch, and remember, that **by the space of three years** I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears.

Act 20:37 And they all wept sore, and fell on Paul's neck, and kissed him,

While in Rome, Paul wrote four epistles....

1. Philippians
2. Philemon
3. Colossians
4. Ephesians

Paul was in Philippi only three months...

Php 1:3 I thank my God upon every remembrance of you

Php 4:1 Therefore, my brethren dearly beloved and longed for, my joy and crown, so stand fast in the Lord, my dearly beloved.

Paul sent personal greetings to Euodias, Syntyche, and Clement.

Paul had never been to Colosse, so he said to them...

Col 1:4 Since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus, and of the love which ye have to all the saints.

Epaphras was in Rome with Paul and shared the faith of the brethren in Colosse. (Onesimus was also from Colosse.)

Paul showed his concern... even for brethren he had never met...

Col 2:1 For I would that ye knew what great conflict I have for you, and for them at Laodicea, and for as many as have not seen my face in the flesh;

Paul wanted them to share his epistles with each other...

Col 4:16 And when this epistle is read among you, cause that it be read also in the church of the Laodiceans; and that ye likewise read the epistle from Laodicea.



Paul...

Had never visited
Colosse or Laodicea

He had visited
Ephesus at least three
times In his travels.

Is Paul's Epistle to the Laodiceans Lost?

It may seem that way...

Note how Paul addressed theses brethren...

Col 1:4 Since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus, and of the love which ye have to all the saints.

Eph 1:15 Wherefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus, and love unto all the saints,

Also

Eph 3:2 (ESV) assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for you

So... this would be incongruous...

Paul knew the Ephesians intimately and had been with them for three years.

Saying that he had “heard of your faith” would be impersonal and unreasonable.

THE
LIFE AND EPISTLES
OF
ST. PAUL.

BY
THE REV. W. J. CONYBEARE, M.A.
LATE FELLOW OF TRINITY COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE,

AND
THE REV. J. S. HOWSON M.A.
PRINCIPAL OF THE COLLEGIATE INSTITUTION, LIVERPOOL.

"It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty that we should at all times and in all places give thanks unto Thee, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, according to whose most true promise the Holy Ghost came down from heaven, lighting upon the Apostles, to teach them, and to lead them to all truth; giving them boldness with fervent zeal constantly to preach the Gospel to all nations; whereby we have been brought out of darkness and error, into the clear light and true knowledge of thee, and of thy Son Jesus Christ."—*Proper Preface to the Trisagium for Whitsunday.*

"Ἀφέντες τοῦς ἄλλους ἅπαντας, Παῦλον προστηρώμεθα μόνον τοῦ λόγου ἀντίστοιχα, καὶ τούτῳ θεωρήσωμεν ὅλον ἐστὶ ψυχῶν ἐπιμέλεια. Ὡς ἂν δὲ βέβαια τοῦτο γινώσκωμεν, ὅτι Παῦλος αὐτὸς περὶ Παύλου φησὶν ἡκούσαμεν. . . . Νομοθετεῖ δούλοις καὶ δεσπόταις, ἄρχουσι καὶ ἀρχομένοις, ἀνδράσι καὶ γυναιξίν, σοφίᾳ καὶ ἀμαθίᾳ· πάντων ὑπερμαχεῖ, πάντων ὑπερέχεται . . . κήρυξ ἐθνῶν, Ἰουδαίων προστάτης."—GREG. NAZ. *Oratio Apologetica.*

IN TWO VOLUMES.

VOL. II.

NEW YORK:
CHARLES SCRIBNER, 145 NASSAU STREET.
1854.

Conybeare & Howson, in The Life and Epistles of Saint Paul in 1854 tell us that the **names of ecclesia's are not found in the earliest copies of these epistles.** The Authors quote several sources to verify this.

Their assertion is that **what we recognize as the Epistle to the Ephesians** is actually the Epistle to the **Laodiceans** which Paul talks about in Col 4:16.

Why am I mentioning this?

What we typically recognize as “Ephesians” is doctrinally sound in every way.

But this shows us the **intended audience**.

Paul was trying to **warn** these **NEW Laodicean brethren**, and prepare them for the **trials** and **experiences** in the narrow way... things that **they** had never experienced, **but** the **Ephesian brethren had seen** and **experienced** these things **first hand**.

This Armor is for the health and safety of the **new mind**, **the creature**.

2Co 4:7 ...we have this treasure [new creature] in earthen vessels, that the excellency of **the power may be of God**, and not of us.

2Co 4:8 We are troubled on every side, yet **not distressed**; we are perplexed, but **not in despair**;

2Co 4:9 Persecuted, but **not forsaken**; cast down, but **not destroyed**;

Paul shows their source of strength, as well as their powerful enemies....

Eph 6:10 **Finally**, my brethren, be strong in the **Lord**, and in the power of **his might**. (not your own)

Eph 6:11 **Put on** the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to **stand** against the wiles of the **devil**.

Eph 6:12 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**.

In 2 Corinthians...

2Co 11:14 And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.

2Co 11:15 Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers **[diakonos - deacons]** also be transformed as the ministers **[diakonos - deacons]** of righteousness...

Satan has many willing deacons (men and fallen angels) to help him.

Jesus thwarted Satan using the whole armor of God with... “it is written.”

Jesus told his disciples...

Mat 10:16 Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves.

Mat 10:17 But beware of men: for they will deliver you up to the councils, and they will scourge you in their synagogues;

This happened to Paul in his journeys.

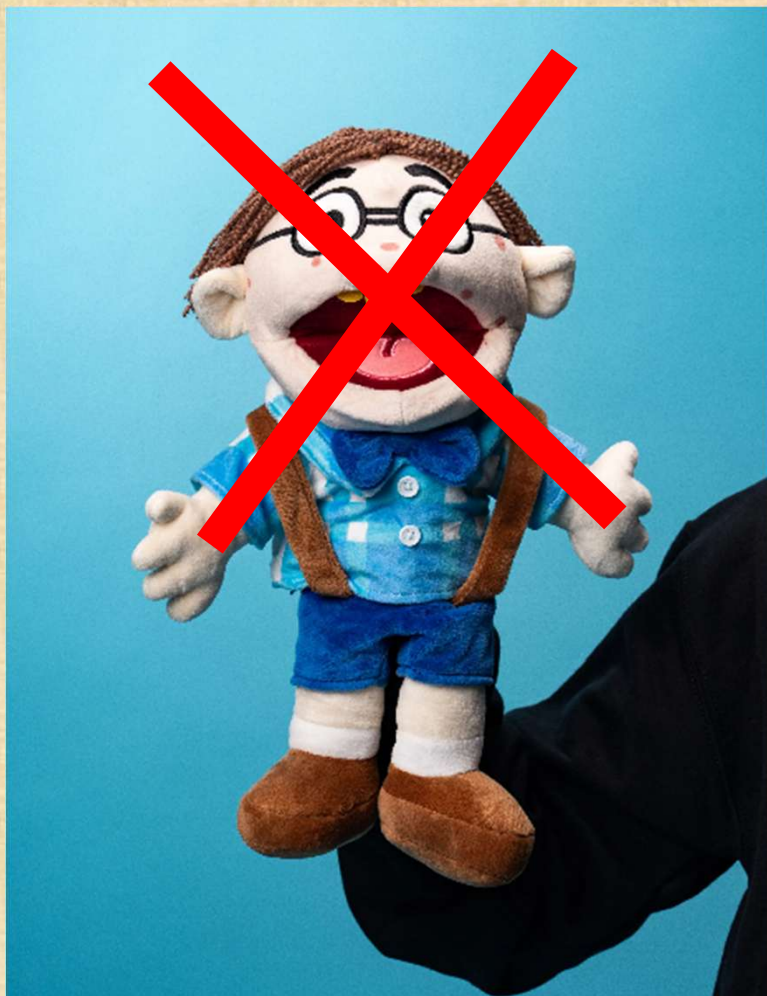
Mat 10:18 And ye shall be brought before governors and kings for my sake, for a testimony against them and the Gentiles.

This happened to Paul as well.

Mat 10:19 But when they deliver you up, take no thought how or what ye shall speak: for it shall be given you in that same hour what ye shall speak.

Mat 10:20 For it is not ye that speak, but the Spirit of your Father which speaketh in you.

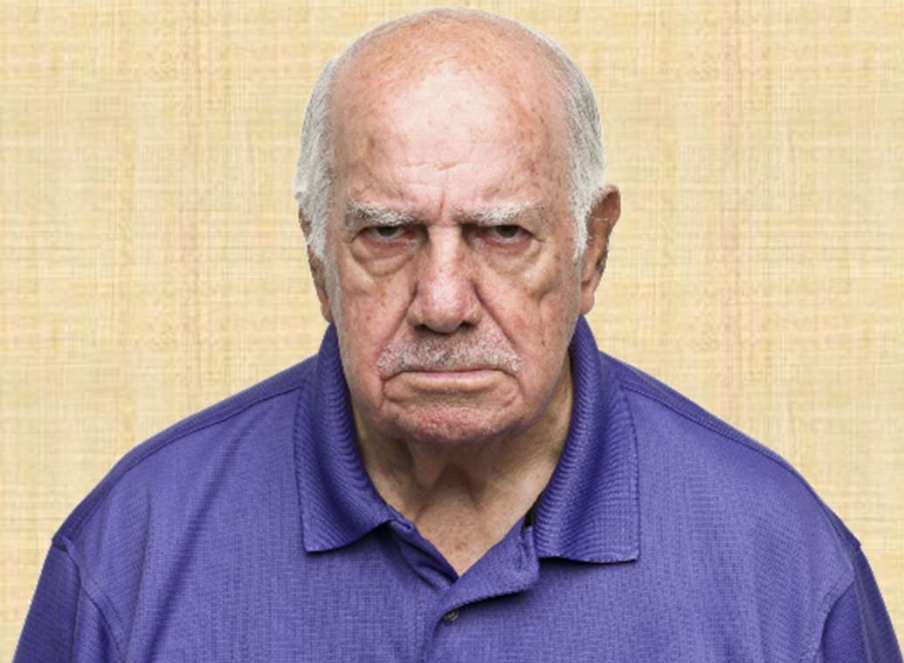
Paul lived **this** as well.



Jesus did not mean that God would use you as a mere puppet and animate your mouth.

He meant that since you know the truth, do not be fearful about how to express the truth when the time comes.

Indiana State Fair... I was asked...



What's your message?

I replied... Just what the angels said to the shepherds in **Luke 2:10...**

Fear Not... God is not a God to be **feared!**

Behold... Pay **attention**

I bring you **good tidings** of **great joy** which shall be to **all people!**

Roman Soldier Girdle, Belt , Cingulum...

Eph 6:14 **Stand** therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;



...gave stability and foundation to the entire outfit.

By law, **only** Roman Soldiers were entitled to wear one..

As soldiers of Christ, have our loins girt with the truth.

We are set apart **by God** through his truth.

Joh 17:17 **Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.**

Rom 8:14 For as many as are led by the **Spirit of God**, they are the **sons of God**.

This shows our **family resemblance** to **God himself** as we are transformed more and more by his influence on us.

Peter tells us...

1Pe 1:13 Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober

F91 - It is the new mind, the new will, that is the “New Creature” accepted of God and called, and it alone is being dealt with.

We will begin to see and appreciate the...

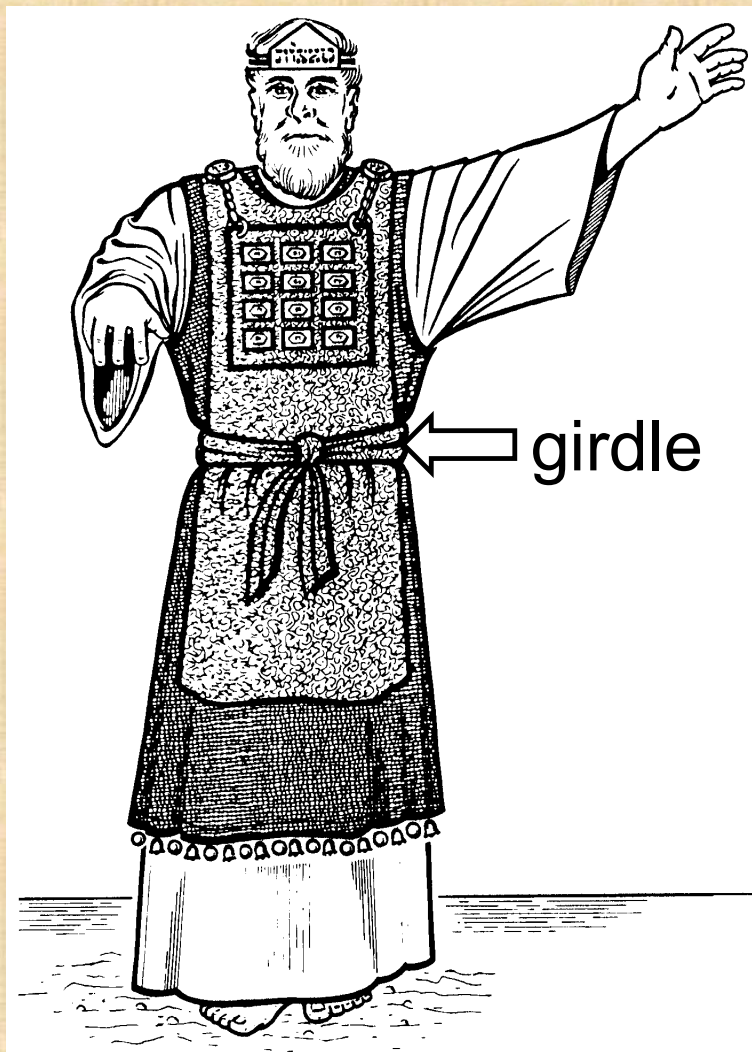
2Pe 1:4 ...exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

Because of this truth, Jesus could prospectively say...

Joh_14:27 Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

We gain and live this peace from the...

...renewing of our minds, that we may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God



The girdle indicates servitude, service.

As the high priest and under priests wore girdles indicating servitude.

Before 1878... Satan's Methods: physical destruction

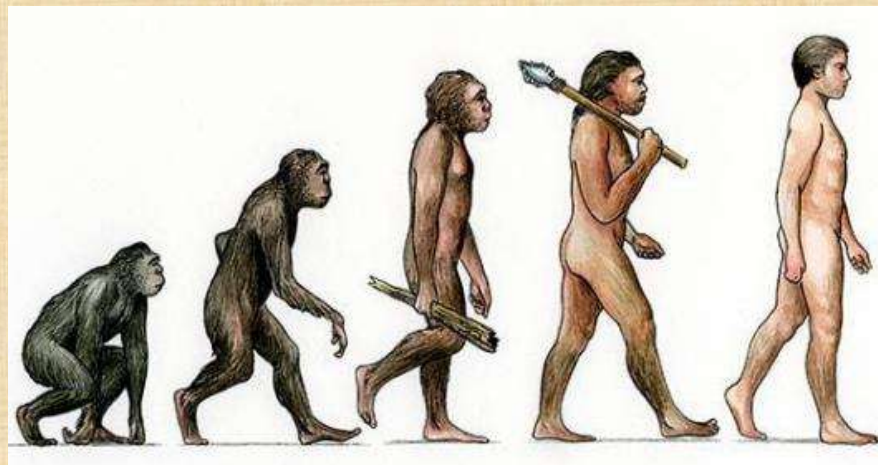


But, **after** the resurrection of the sleeping saints in 1878, Satan realized his error concerning...

Rev 2:10 be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life

his former methods served only to strengthen the **resolve** of the saints

Satan's Methods Change... New Tactics



- Spiritism
- Evolution
- Atheism
- Rapture
- Etc...



Paul warned Timothy that in the last days perilous times would come...

2Ti 3:2 For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,

2Ti 3:4 Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;

2Ti_3:5 Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.

We must **put on** the armor by **making the truth our own**... as in Isa 28

Isa 28:9 **Whom** shall he teach **knowledge**? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? them that are weaned from the milk, and drawn from the breasts.

Isa 28:10 For **precept** must be upon **precept**, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; **here a little, and there a little**:

Isa 28:11 For with stammering lips and another tongue will he **speak to this people**.

As in...

Pro 2:3 Yea, if thou criest after knowledge, and liftest up thy voice for understanding;

Pro 2:4 If thou seekest her as silver, and searchest for her as for hid treasures;

Pro 2:5 Then shalt thou understand the fear [reverence] of the LORD, and find the knowledge of God.

Silver illustrates the purity of the truth at the Lord's return (T115 – Reality Truth Verity)

Mal 3:2 But who may abide the day of his presence? and who shall **stand** when he appeareth? for he is like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap:

Mal 3:3 And he shall sit as a refiner and **purifier of silver** **[truth]**: and he shall purify the **sons of Levi**, and purge them as **gold** and **silver**, that they may **offer** unto the LORD an offering in righteousness.

2Ti 4:6 For I am now ready to be **offered**, and the time of my departure is at hand.

The Heart's Desire for the Truth

R4345 THE HEART MORE IMPORTANT THAN THE HEAD

We are not competent to keep our heads. We are competent and responsible for the keeping of our hearts. If we diligently keep, watch, guard our hearts from evil, and in full harmony with the Divine Word and its spirit of the Truth, righteousness, love, God will do the rest. He will guide our imperfect reasoning faculties, and we shall know his doctrines.

We must use the truth to **bless** and not injure.

2Co 10:3 For though we walk in the flesh, **we do not war after the flesh**:

2Co 10:4 (For **the weapons of our warfare are not carnal**, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds;)

2Co 10:5 Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that **exalteth itself** against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity **every thought to the obedience of Christ**;

What the Armor is for...

F375p1 –

The New Creature will put on the armor of God, that it may be able to fight a good warfare against the weaknesses of the flesh.

As Paul said...

1Co 9:27 But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.

F599 - CHIEF amongst the foes of the New Creation is "the old man"--the old will.

Breastplate of Righteousness



The breast plate of the high priest was a symbol of the Law in letter and spirit.

The breastplate was over Aaron's heart showing that this righteousness, defined by God, was precious to him.

Justification at and after Consecration

We seek to know God

Jas 4:8 Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you.

God brings us to Christ – to learn of him, the Ransom

Joh 6:44 No man can come to me [Jesus], except the Father which hath sent me draw him

With faith in the ransom, Jesus says...

Joh 14:6 ...I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father [in consecration], but by me.

Breastplate of Righteousness - Our dart deflector

Satan wants us to doubt our relationship with God, especially when we fail...

But...

1Jn 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1Jn 2:1 ...And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:

Because of our heart intentions...

Rom 8:4 ...the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

Ethics Lecture...

What is Ethics? Knowing the difference between right and wrong. I asked the students...

How many of you are “ethical?” All hands up.

How many of you are “un-ethical?” No hands up.

You should raise your hands to BOTH questions.

Ethics must be taught and learned. (One lecture in four years!)

But in the future, there will be a thorough training program for all mankind...

Isa 26:9 ...when thy judgments are in the earth, the inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness.

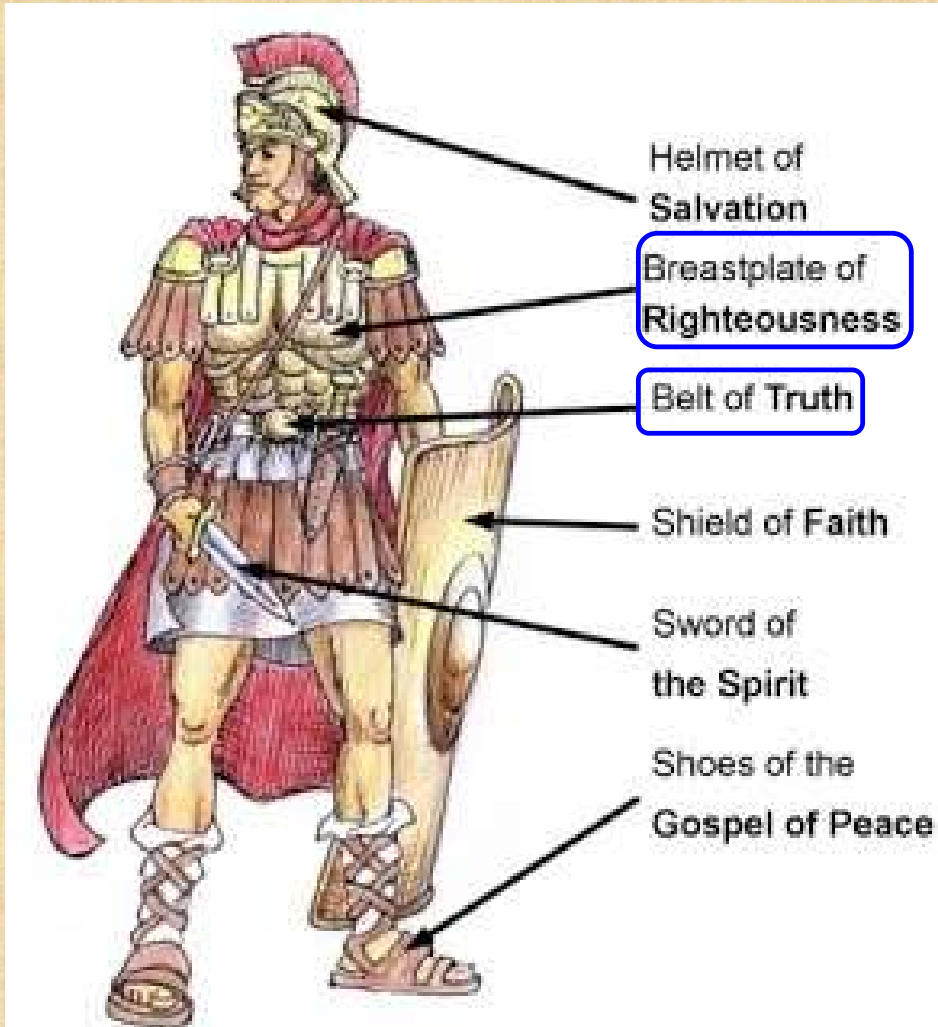
Our training program is **now**.

We must learn these things **now** so we can **stand** and **withstand** in this evil day.

Psa 106:3 Blessed are they that keep judgment, and he that doeth righteousness **at all times**.

Rev 14:12 Here is the **patience** of the saints: that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.

Heb 10:36 For ye have need of **patience**, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise.



We look forward to the following talks as we continue our study of the Whole Armor of God.

Close:

Hymn 44 vs 4-6
“The Warfare”

