

Feet Shod with Gospel of Peace

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Ephesians / Ephesians 6:10–20

Scripture Reading

[Ephesians 6:14–20](#)

“Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; 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. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints; And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel, For which I am an ambassador in bonds: that therein I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.”

Introduction

1. **Feet Shod**
2. **Preparation**
3. **Gospel of Peace**
4. **Its’ Use and Protection Against Wiles**

Sermon

1. **Feet Shod**

- The importance of Roman soldiers' feet being shod was multifaceted and critical to their military success. The military boots, called caligae, were considered one of the most important parts of a Roman soldier's equipment, and the attention given to soldiers' boots was even considered the secret of Roman conquest.
- These shoes were essential for providing stability during combat, with hobnails at the bottom that dug into the ground to give firm footing. This was particularly crucial when traversing challenging terrain that could be wet, slick, or muddy, where soldiers needed to maintain their balance and traction. The shoes were also vital for comfort during long marches, with soldiers often traveling 25 miles a day while carrying 60-70 lb packs, and remarkably doing so without getting blisters.
- Additionally, the sandals protected soldiers from rugged terrain, sharp objects, and enemy traps, and could even be used as a weapon by kicking or stomping with the hobnailed soles. Historically, armies have been defeated due to inadequate footwear, underscoring how critical proper shoes were - they were essential for stability, and without firm ground, a soldier's entire effectiveness could be immediately compromised.
- If the soldier's foot got cut they would be exposed to infection and such damage to the feet not only kept them out of the fight, off the field of battle, but they would become susceptible to fevers and fevers were just a legitimate threat to death as enemy fire was.
- Spiritual Feet - The will of the soul
 - The peace with God has freed the will, the peace of God empowers the will

1. Stand

- Stedfastness, stand fast
 - [1 Corinthians 7:37](#) - Nevertheless he that standeth stedfast in his heart, having no necessity, but hath power over his own will, and hath so decreed in his heart that he will keep his virgin, doeth well.
 - [1 Corinthians 15:58](#) - Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.
 - [1 Corinthians 16:13](#) “Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong.”
 - [Galatians 5:1](#) “Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.”
 - [Philippians 1:27](#) “Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ: that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel;”
 - [Philippians 4:1](#) “Therefore, my brethren dearly beloved and longed for, my joy and crown, so stand fast in the Lord, my dearly beloved.”
 - [2 Thessalonians 2:15](#) “Therefore, brethren, stand fast, and hold the traditions which ye have been taught, whether by word, or our epistle.”
 - [Ephesians 4:14](#) “That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;”

2. Mobility

- Walk
- Faint
 - [2 Corinthians 4:1](#) “Therefore seeing we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we faint not;”
 - [2 Corinthians 4:16](#) “For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day.”
 - [Galatians 6:9](#) “And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.”
 - [Ephesians 3:13](#) “Wherefore I desire that ye faint not at my tribulations for you, which is your glory.”
- Not slow, heavy footed, dragging feet, not faint nor sluggish, not asleep or dull
 - Rather, urged, pressed to it, we run to it
 - Zeal - [Titus 2:14](#) “Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.”
 - [Psalm 57:7](#) “My heart is fixed, O God, my heart is fixed: I will sing and give praise.”
 - [2 Corinthians 7:11](#) “For behold this selfsame thing, that ye sorrowed after a godly sort, what carefulness it wrought in you, yea, what clearing of yourselves, yea, what indignation, yea, what fear, yea, what vehement desire, yea, what zeal, yea, what revenge! In all things ye have approved yourselves to be clear in this matter.”
- Mindful to be weighed down only by God’s armor not by the world
 - Not weighed down by the news of this world

- Not weighed down by traditions
- Not weighed down by formalities - girdle, and breastplate, helmet

2. Preparation

- readiness
 - [Titus 3:1](#) “Put them in mind to be subject to principalities and powers, to obey magistrates, to be ready to every good work,”
 - [2 Timothy 2:21](#) “If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master’s use, and prepared unto every good work.”
- marching orders
- purpose
 - [1 Samuel 17:48](#) “And it came to pass, when the Philistine arose, and came and drew nigh to meet David, that David hasted, and ran toward the army to meet the Philistine.”

3. Gospel of Peace

- Contrast to God’s armor in Isaiah
 - [Isaiah 59:16–17](#) “And he saw that there was no man, And wondered that there was no intercessor: Therefore his arm brought salvation unto him; And his righteousness, it sustained him. For he put on righteousness as a breastplate, And an helmet of salvation upon his head; And he put on the garments of vengeance for clothing, And was clad with zeal as a cloke.”

1. Peace with God

- [Romans 5:1](#) “Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.”
- If not settled you will be constantly struggling with yourself instead of the enemy
 - [Rom. 8](#)
- If you doubt your salvation the enemy is fighting you, but you are not fighting the enemy
- [1 Thessalonians 5:23](#) “And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

2. Peace within

- [Romans 8:28](#) “And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.”
- [Romans 8:6](#) “For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.”
- [Philippians 4:6–7](#) “Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.”

3. Peace with others

- Peace with brethren, peace with others as a witness to others

- [Romans 12:18](#) “If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men.”
- [Philippians 2:1](#) “If there be therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies,”
- [Ephesians 4:1–2](#) “I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love;”
- The Lord hates discord - [Proverbs 6:16–19](#) “These six things doth the Lord hate: Yea, seven are an abomination unto him: A proud look, a lying tongue, And hands that shed innocent blood, An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, Feet that be swift in running to mischief, A false witness that speaketh lies, And he that soweth discord among brethren.”
- [Ephesians 2:14](#) “For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us;”
- [Colossians 3:13](#) “Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye.”
- [Colossians 3:15](#) “And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.”
- Mutual - oneness - likeness

4. It's Use and Protection Against Wiles

- When all is lost - so goes the peace of many

- Elevate the cares of this life above that which one already possess
- [2 Timothy 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.”
- The gospel of peace strengthens you again the wiles of the devil when persecution and afflictions arise
 - [2 Corinthians 1:3](#) “Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort;”
 - [Romans 15:33](#) “Now the God of peace be with you all. Amen.”
 - [Romans 16:20](#) “And the God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen.”
 - [Romans 5:3](#) “And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience;”

Conclusion

Those shod can walk and run where others are not able

Not trapped by fear of penalty, not fear of consequence, not fear of man, nor fear of the enemy

We have explored the significance of having our "feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace" as described in [Ephesians 6:15](#). Just as Roman soldiers relied on their sturdy, hobnailed boots for stability, protection, and mobility in battle, believers are called to stand firm in the peace of God, which empowers and steadies the will of the soul. This peace begins with reconciliation to God through faith in Christ, granting us freedom from internal struggles and enabling us to focus on the true spiritual battle. It extends to peace within, as we trust in

God's supply and promises, and peace with others, as we live as witnesses of Christ's love and unity. The gospel of peace equips us to face life's challenges, resist the wiles of the devil, and persevere with courage and confidence.

Let us be reminded that the gospel of peace is not just a defensive tool but a source of strength and readiness to move forward in faith and haste to the enemy to not be overcome, but to overcome with good. It transforms fear into fierceness, cowardice into confidence, and fainting into fighting. Therefore, stand fast in the liberty and steadfastness that Christ has given you, and walk boldly in His peace, unshaken by the trials of this world. Let the peace of God rule in your hearts, empowering you to live courageously, love deeply, and serve faithfully. As ambassadors of Christ, may we boldly proclaim the mystery of the gospel and glorify God in all that we do.