



Sermon Guide: The Belt of Truth - 07/05/26

Text(s): Ephesians 6:10-14a

Big Idea: *We stand firm because we are clothed in the righteousness of Jesus Christ.*

Summary of the Sermon - The breastplate of righteousness is the perfect righteousness of Jesus Christ graciously given to all who trust in Him. Because we are clothed in Christ and declared righteous before God, we no longer stand in our own goodness or shame, but with confidence, knowing that every accusation of Satan has already been answered at the cross. As we learn to believe and live in this gospel reality, we are able to stand firm in the spiritual battle, trusting Christ's finished work rather than our own performance.

Discussion Questions

1. The sermon described two common ways people respond to their unrighteousness: **pushing it down** or **patching over it**. Which of those tendencies do you most naturally fall into, and why?
2. Why is it important to understand that our acceptance before God is based on Christ's righteousness rather than our own performance? How does that differ from the way most people think about religion?
3. The sermon said, *"Satan tells the truth, but never the whole truth."* How have you experienced accusations that focused on your failures while ignoring the finished work of Christ?
4. Which of the "Satan says... God says..." examples connected most deeply with you (guilt after sin, temptation, discouragement, prayer, weakness, condemnation, etc.)? Why?
5. Read Romans 5:1-2 together. According to these verses, what does being justified by faith give us, and how should that affect our confidence before God?
6. What does it practically look like to "put on the breastplate of righteousness" each day instead of simply knowing the doctrine of justification?
7. Read Hebrews 4:14-16 or Hebrews 10:19-22. How does Christ's righteousness change the way we approach God when we pray, have failed, are struggling with temptation, and feel unworthy?
8. As you reflect on this week's message, where is God inviting you to trust Him more deeply? Is there an accusation, fear, insecurity, or burden that you need to answer with the truth of how God sees us clothed in the righteousness of Christ rather than your own feelings or performance?