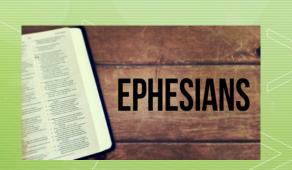
The Book of EPHESIANS

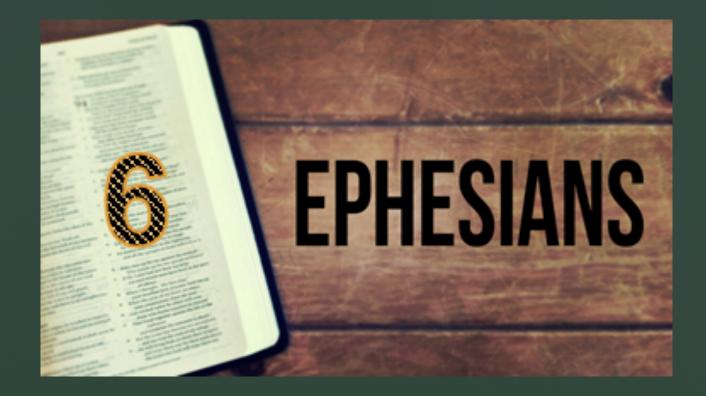
Adult Bible Study

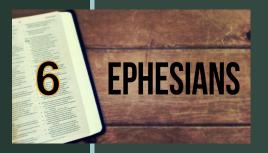


Led by Dan Schuch

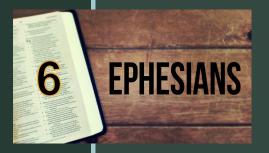






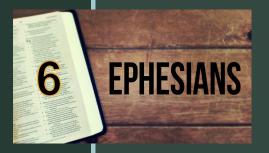


¹Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. ²"Honor your father and mother"—which is the first commandment with a promise— ³"so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.

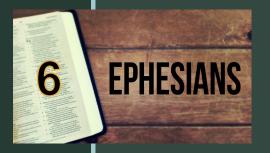


⁴Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

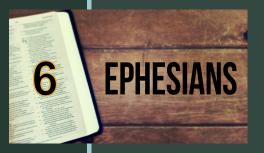
⁵Slaves, obey your earthly masters with respect and fear, and with sincerity of heart, just as you would obey Christ.



⁶Obey them not only to win their favor when their eye is on you, but as slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from your heart. ⁷Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not people, ⁸because you know that the Lord will reward each one for whatever good they do, whether they are slave or free.

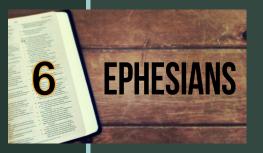


⁹And masters, treat your slaves in the same way. Do not threaten them, since you know that he who is both their Master and yours is in heaven, and there is no favoritism with him.



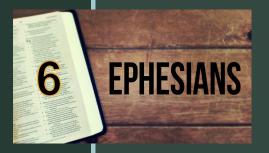
The Armor of God

¹⁰Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. ¹¹Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.

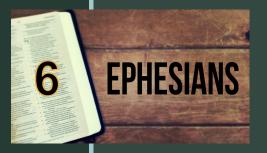


The Armor of God

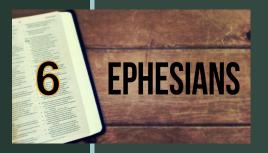
¹²For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.



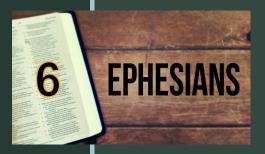
¹³Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. ¹⁴Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place,



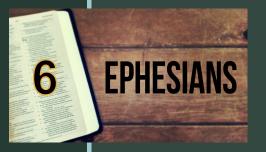
¹⁵and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. ¹⁶In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.



¹⁸And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. ¹⁹Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel,

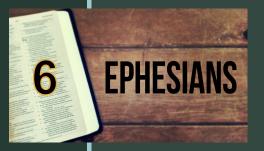


²⁰for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.



Final Greetings

²¹Tychicus, the dear brother and faithful servant in the Lord, will tell you everything, so that you also may know how I am and what I am doing. ²²I am sending him to you for this very purpose, that you may know how we are, and that he may encourage you.



Final Greetings

²³Peace to the brothers and sisters, and love with faith from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴Grace to all who love our Lord Jesus Christ with an undying love.

Let's dig in!

Chapter 6 is divided into three sections:

- Second part of Instructions for Christian Households (vs 1-9)
- Armor of God (vs 10-20)
- Final Greetings (vs 21-24)



Second part of Instructions for Christian Households (vs 1-9)





How do you honor your mother and father?





How do you exasperate your children?





What does it mean to serve wholeheartedly?





Do you believe that the bible is approving of slavery?



You cannot do right if you are not strong. Unless you have the backbone of principle — unless you have spiritual muscle and sinew by the indwelling of the Holy Ghost in you, you cannot continue to do that which is right. "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord."



Charles Spurgeon (1834-1892)





He will attack you sometimes by force and sometimes by fraud. By might or by sleight he will seek to overcome you, and no unarmed man can stand against him. Never go out without all your armor on, for you can never tell where you may meet the devil.



Charles Spurgeon (1834-1892)





The Armor of God (vs 10-20)





When Paul wrote Ephesians, he was a prisoner of the Roman government. He was literally chained by the wrist to a Roman soldier to ensure that he wouldn't escape.





As Paul reflected upon the soldier he was tied to, he realized that Christians also had armor to protect themselves just as the armor protected the Roman soldier.





In this passage, Paul uses the metaphor of the Roman armor to symbolize the Christian's armor used for protection against the forces of evil.





This was important because Paul saw life as a constant spiritual battle against the forces of those who were against God.



Now let's meet our Roman gladiator!



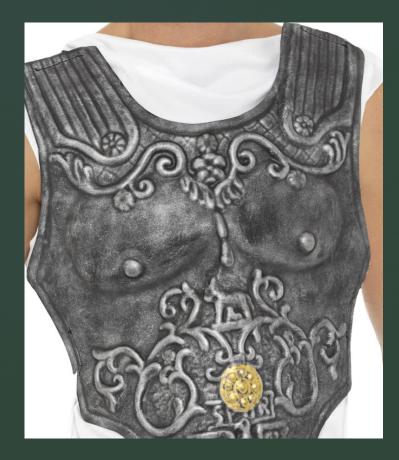




The Belt of Truth

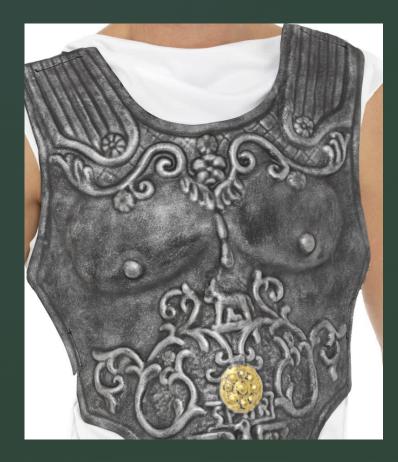
The belt of truth holds the sword and gives freedom of movement. While others may guess, the Christian moves freely and quickly because of the truth he/she knows.



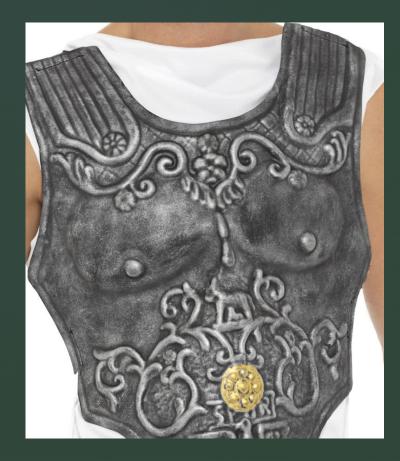


When a person is clothed in righteousness he/she is impregnable. Words are no defense against allegations but a good life is.



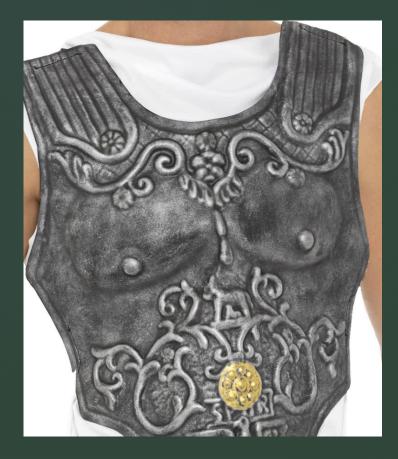


Jesus, who was righteous, took on and bore every form of sin and darkness that belonged to us, and in exchange, placed on us His righteousness, making us (you and me) the righteousness of God! **EPHESIAN**



What is righteousness? It simply means, "Right standing before God." Or in legal terms it means being found innocent. Just as "justification" is the act of being acquitted





In 2 Cor 6:7 Paul first refers to righteousness as "armor" which most likely came from the book of Isaiah.



Also, the devil will try to talk you out of your breastplate. He will 'tell' you that you are not righteous, not worthy. He will throw the sins of your past right into your face. The very sins that you have been acquitted of, the very sins that God has removed as if never existing.





This is a sign that one is equipped and ready to move. The Shoes or sandals of the Roman soldier were no normal footwear. Great care was taken by Rome to supply the soldiers with appropriate footwear for their assignment.





Many a warrior has fainted on the march and dropped from the ranks exhausted, but no weariness of the way can happen to the man who is upheld by the Eternal God, for his strength shall daily be renewed.





I may add that these shoes are such, as will last all our journey. Here our joy is great to find that they fit perfectly... ...and need no tugging or straining to get them on.





The person who has peace with God and relies upon the Most High, shall never be moved, for the Lord upholds him. His shoes have driven themselves into eternal certainties and hold like anchors.



Helmet of Salvation



This salvation forgives our past sins and provides us the ability and hope to overcome any future ones.

The helmet was the most noticeable piece of armor; it protects the mind.



Helmet of Salvation



Protects from attacks of skepticism and doubts that come from every possible angle, that are aimed straight at our brain

It is a helmet that will not come off.





Sword of the Spirit

"the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God".

The sword is a weapon of defense against sin and also a weapon of attack against the sins of the world.



Sword of the Spirit



So then, to properly wield the sword, you must be knowledgeable of what the **Bible says (particularly the** promises and statements of fact) and receive that word into your heart.





The shield of faith is movable to deflect attacks no mater from which direction they come. For if the devil cannot get to you directly (from the front) he will attack from another direction.





"For thou, LORD, wilt bless the righteous; with favor wilt thou compass him as with a shield" (Ps.5:12)

Not only does faith protect the whole man, but the apostle Paul suggests that faith also protects the man's armor

Some people, instead of using the shield of faith to bear the blow, sneak away to the place of cowards. Ashamed of Christ, they make no profession of Him; or having professed Christ, they hide themselves by conformity to the world.





Shield was an emblem of the warrior's honor. Faith catches the dart; it not only receives it, out of all the pieces of armor, but also takes away its sting and quenches its fire: Faith protects from all attacks.



Fiery Darts

One of the most dangerous weapons at this time was the fiery dart. It was a long dart dipped in tar and set on fire before throwing at the enemy.











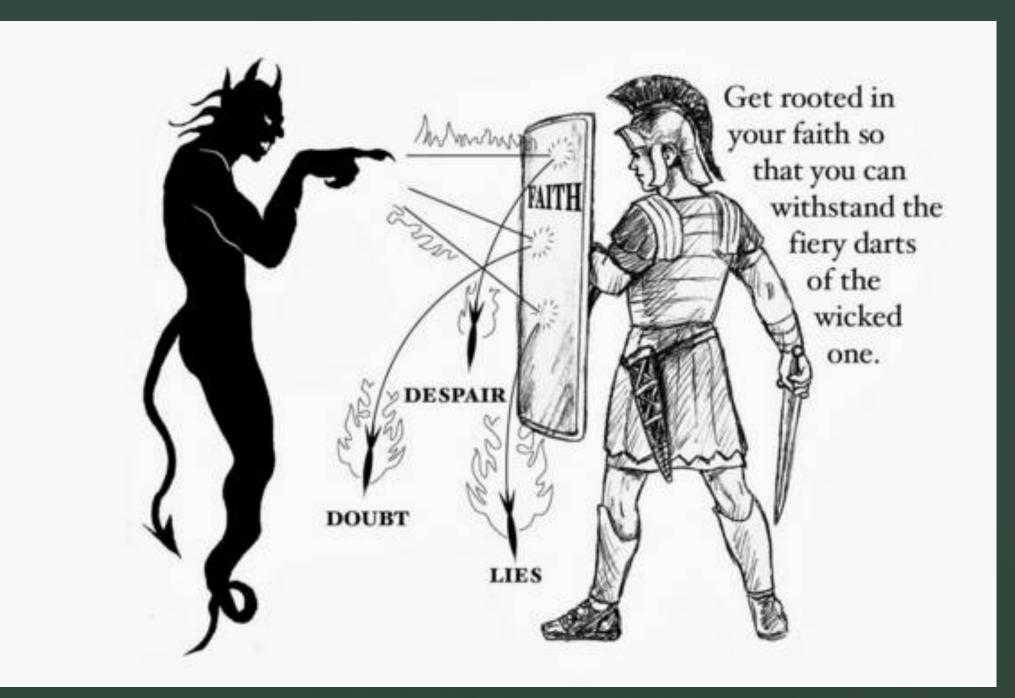


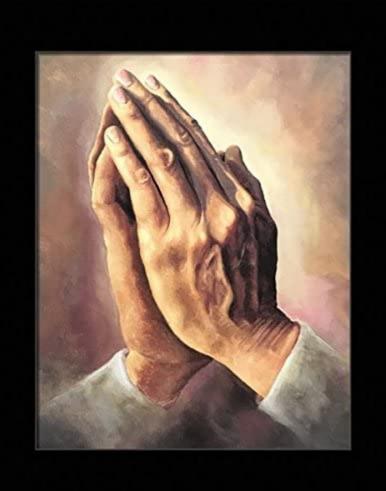






It is this faith, the complete trust in Christ, that protects us. The shield is not the small round type. It is the great shield that completely covers the body.



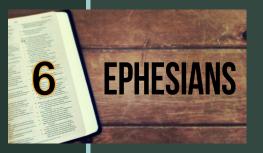


Prayer

The greatest weapon of all.

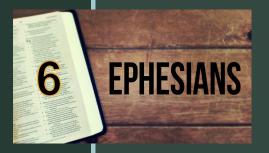
Three things about prayer:
1) we must pray in our daily lives and not only in times of crisis;
2) intense and not limp;
3) unselfish.



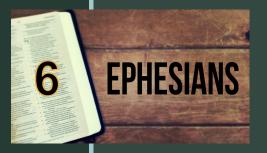


The Armor of God

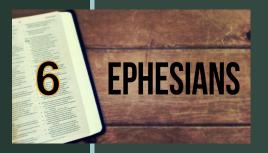
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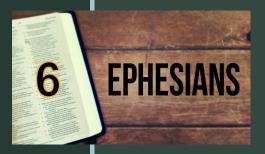
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²⁰for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.

But will prayer for other people help us? Yes, very much. You will sometimes find that, when you cannot pray for yourself, it is a good plan to pray for somebody else.



Charles Spurgeon (1834-1892)





Think of some child of God, and pray for him, and then the fire of supplication will soon burn up in your heart. The Lord turned the captivity of Job when he prayed for his friends, and he will do the same for you.

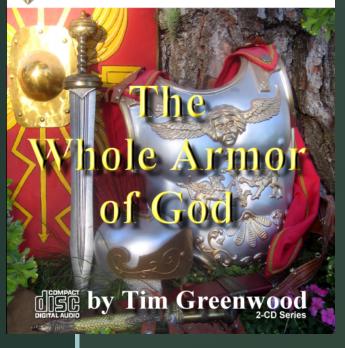


Charles Spurgeon (1834-1892)



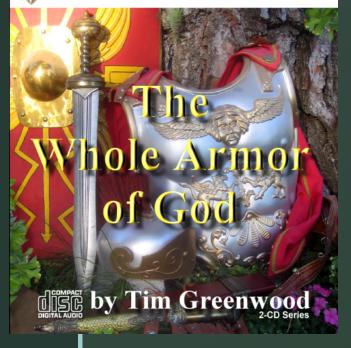






Unfortunately, the first thing some new believers do is to put on the armor and begin to do battle with unbelievers. Just as bad are the believers that do battle with other believers. But this is not what the armor of God is for.



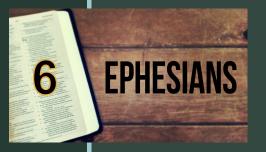


We are to stand in resistance against all the works of the devil. James 4:7 says resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

I want to point out that this is the armor of an intercessor, and that intercession is much more than prayer! This is Jesus' armor!

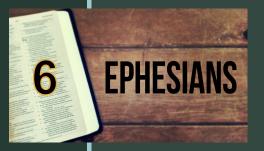
Final Greetings (vs 21-24)





Final Greetings

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Final Greetings

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In the final greetings at the end of the chapter, notice how Paul once again brings up "grace" and "peace"

Be strong in the Lord, and be of good courage;

Linda Lee Johnson wrote the words to "Be Strong in the Lord" on a plane flight to her grandfather's funeral in 1978. Tom Fetke wrote the music.



