

Belt of Truth Living and Knowing Truth as a Defense

I. Introduction

Ephesians 6:10 ...be strong in the Lord and in the **power of His might**. 11 Put on the **whole armor of God**, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. 12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. 13 Therefore take up the **whole armor of God**, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. 14 Stand therefore, **having girded your waist with truth**, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, 15 and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; 16 above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. 17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God...

- **Stand:** 4X

God's Armor Enables Us to Stand Against the Wiles of the Devil
meth-od-I'-ah: Methods, Cunning arts, Deceit, Craft, Trickery of Satan

Armor of God	Satan's Attack	Satan's Lies
1. Breastplate of Righteousness	Our standing before God	Not good enough
2. Helmet of Salvation	Our position in God	Not saved enough
3. Shoes of Gospel/Witness	Our work for God	Not doing enough
4. Shield of Faith	Our confidence in God	Not open enough
5. Sword of the Spirit	Our offense against Satan	Closely tied to...
6. Belt of Truth	Our defense against his deception	

Living and Knowing Truth Protects us Against Deception

- **Truth:** 217X OT/NT

1. **OT:** heb. *eh'-meth* Firm. Faithful. Stable. Reliable. Established. rt. Foster father
2. **NT:** gr. *al-ay'-thi-a* Reality. Certainty. Fact.

- **True:** 89X OT/NT

1. **OT:** gr. *Kane*. Right, just, honest, correct. rt. Firm. Stable. Fixed
2. **NT:** heb. *al-ay-thace*. Loving/Speaking Truth. rt. Not hidden. **Obvious.**



Belt of Truth or Roman Cingulum: A thick, heavy leather and metal band with a five protective leather pieces hanging down from the front of it [protecting area of procreation, IOWs the next generation]. The belt held the soldier's sword and other weapons. The belt of truth of the spiritual armor holds the sword of the Spirit, **linking Truth and the Word of God...our defense and offence against the deception of Satan...**

John 8:44b ... [Satan] was a murderer from the beginning, and **does not stand in the truth**, because there is **no truth in him**. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for **he is a liar and the father of it.**

Satan prowls like a lion looking for a chink in our armor

- **Belt of Truth:** Defense against the wiles of the devil two fold
 1. *Living* Truth as a Defense
 2. *Knowing* Truth as a Defense

II. Living Truth as a Defense

A believer whose life is filled with truth will withstand the devil. The belt held the other parts of armor together, and **truth is the integrating force in the life of the victorious Christian**, A man/woman of integrity and a clear conscience can face the enemy without fear. The belt also held the sword. Unless we **practice the truth**, we cannot use the Word of truth. Once a lie gets into the life of a believer [chink], everything begins to fall apart. [e.g., David concealing his sin with Bathsheba] [Wiersbe]

The belt held in place every other part of the uniform. It was essential. If the belt was lost you lost everything. The garments would fly open and the pants would fall down...what we need is to have our loins girt about with truth so that we can give a testimony that glorifies Christ. Christ is the Truth. Truth alone can meet error. [JV McGee]

A Life Lived in Truth is a Life lived in Light
No secret sins for Satan to hold over us...

1 John 1:5b ...God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.

1 John 1:7 ...if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

Ephesians 4:25 [We are new creations] Therefore, **put away lying**, "Let each one of you **speak truth with his neighbor**," for we are members of one another.

Colossians 3:9 Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds...

Being real is a defense against the Methods of Satan
Pretenders/Posers are Defenseless from the Methods of Satan

A dishonest Christian cannot hope to withstand Satan the father of lies. ...The truth referred to here is integrity, a life of practical truthfulness and honesty. [Nelson]

Living Truth as a Defense against Satan?

Be Real. Be Genuine. Be Vulnerable. Be True.

- **I'm a mess.** Good start...

Matthew 5:25 Agree with your adversary quickly, while you are on the way with him, lest your adversary deliver you to the judge, the judge hand you over to the officer, and you be thrown into prison.

1 John 1:8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, He is **faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.** 10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make [God] a liar, and His word is not in us.

Ground is level at the foot of the Cross:

We are all sinners in desperate need of a Savior. That is where God can work

- 1) Living Truth as a Defense: The devil can't get you in the Light
- 2) **Knowing Truth** as a Defense: The devil can't deceive you if you know Truth

III. Knowing Truth as a Defense

Knowing God is Knowing Truth

Deuteronomy 32:4 [God the **Father** is]... **A God of truth** and without injustice; Righteous and upright is He.

John 14:17 [God the **Spirit**] ...the **Spirit of truth**... dwells with you and will be in you.

John 14:6 [God the **Son**] I am the way, **the truth**, and the life.

Satan's Attack: Truth is

Adjustable/Adaptable/Flexible/Alterable/Malleable/Changing/Relative

Biblical Response: Truth is Unchanging/Fixed/Immutable/Inflexible/Established/**Absolute**

Truth is consistent with the mind, will, character, glory and being of God. Even more to the point: Truth is the self-expression of God. That is the Biblical meaning of truth. Because the definition of truth flows from God, truth is theological.

Truth cannot be separated from God: Even the most fundamental moral distinctions—good and evil, right, and wrong, beauty and ugliness or honor and dishonor—cannot possibly have any true or constant meaning *apart from God*. That is because truth and knowledge themselves simply have no coherent significance apart from a fixed source, namely, God.

Truth demands a Response: How each person responds to the truth God has revealed is an issue of eternal significance. To reject and rebel against the truth of God results in darkness, folly, sin, judgment, and the never-ending wrath of God. To accept and submit to the truth of God is to see clearly, **to know with certainty and to find life everlasting.** [MacArthur]

Knowing God is Knowing Truth

The Knowledge of God is found in God's Word and Revealed by His Spirit

- Truth annihilates Deception...

Matthew 4:1 [Jesus baptized] Then Jesus was **led up by the Spirit** into the wilderness to be **tempted by the devil**. 2 And when He had fasted forty days and forty nights, afterward He was hungry.

3 Now when the tempter came to Him, he said, "If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread." 4 But He answered and said, "**It is written**, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.'" "

5 Then the devil took Him up into the holy city, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, 6 and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down. For it is

written: 'He shall give His angels charge over you,' and, 'In their hands they shall bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone.' " 7 Jesus said to him, "**It is written again, 'You shall not tempt the Lord your God.'** "

8 Again, the devil took Him up on an exceedingly high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. 9 And he said to Him, "All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me." 10 Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! For **it is written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only you shall serve.'** " 11 Then the devil left Him, and behold, angels came and ministered to Him.

We need to Know the Truth in God's Word as a Defense To Combat the Devil's barrage of Lies

- Evolution is a scientific fact. **It is written...**

Genesis 1:1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

- Same sex marriage is acceptable to a Holy God. **It is written...**

Ephesians 5:31 "... man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." 32 This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church.

- Gender transition is to be accepted/promoted. **It is written...**

Genesis 1:27 ...God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; **male and female** He created them.

- All Religions are the same. **It is written...**

John 14:6 Jesus said..."I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father **except through Me.**

- The devil is equal to God. **It is written...**

1 John 4:4 [We] are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in [us] is **greater than he who is in the world.**

- Truth for as defensive armor against Satan's lies are found in God's Word
- God's Word is Revealed/**Illuminated by God's Spirit**

John 16:13 ...when He, **the Spirit of truth**, has come, He will guide you into all truth...14 He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you. 15 All things that the Father has are Mine. Therefore I said that He will take of Mine and declare it to you.

1 John 2:27 ...the anointing which you have received from Him **abides in you**, and you do not need that anyone teach you; but as the **same anointing teaches you** concerning all things, and **is true**, and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you will abide in Him.

Knowing God is Knowing Truth
We know God by God's Word revealed by God's Spirit

- **Belt of Truth:** We have sure victory over the deception of Satan by...
 1. **Living Truth** as a defense against the devil. Be real. Live in the Light
 2. **Knowing Truth** as a defense: IOWs Be able to say "It is written" to any lie

Psalm 119:11 Your word I have **hidden in my heart,** That I might not sin against You.

Belt of Truth is a Defense against the wiles of the devil for us and the next generation

Live the Truth. Know the Truth. Watch Satan hightail it out `a here