Battle Ready

Ephesians 6

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. 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.

When a soldier of the apostle Paul's day suited up for battle, the helmet was the last piece to be put in place. In fact, without the helmet, a soldier would be so vulnerable that the rest of the armor would be of little use.

Salvation means being saved and receiving deliverance. *For Believers, salvation means receiving deliverance from the penalty of sin*.

Romans 5

<u>6</u>You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. <u>7</u>Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. <u>8</u>But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

9Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! **10**For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! **11**Not only is this so, but we also boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

What is the wrath we are saved from? It is the wrath of God against sin. Since we have all sinned, the penalty we would all face without the sacrifice of Jesus Christ is eternal death.

Romans 6:23

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord

Salvation and eternal life are gifts God greatly desires to give to everyone!

1 Timothy 2

3This is good, and pleases God our Savior, **4**who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. **5**For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus, **6**who gave himself as a ransom for all people. This has now been witnessed to at the proper time.

<u>Acts 2</u>

<u>38</u>Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. <u>39</u>The promise is for you and your

children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call."

We also need to live a life according to his word

<u>James 1</u>

<u>21</u>Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you.

A helmet protects a soldier against damaging and deadly blows to the head. *Spiritually speaking, the helmet of salvation provides hope and protects the mind against anything that would disorient or destroy us.*

_such as discouragement or deceit.

The helmet of salvation gives us hope

Hebrews 6

17 God also bound himself with an oath, so that those who received the promise could be perfectly sure that he would never change his mind. 18 So God has given both his promise and his oath. These two things are unchangeable because it is impossible for God to lie. Therefore, we who have fled to him for refuge can have great confidence as we hold to the hope that lies before us. 19 This hope is a strong and trustworthy anchor for our souls. It leads us through the curtain into God's inner sanctuary.

<u>God's promise to do His part in bringing salvation to us cannot be</u> <u>broken!</u>

<u>1 Peter 1</u>

<u>3</u>Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, <u>4</u>and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you,

In a world where nothing is permanent, the promise of salvation made possible by the sacrifice of Jesus Christ never fades away. It represents stability in an unstable world.

Repentance is more than a 1 time encounter.

God cant redeem or change what we wont allow him to.

Romans 12

1Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. **2**Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Romans 12 (NLT)

1And so, dear brothers and sisters, *a* I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him. *b* **2**Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.

There is joy and peace when my thoughts are centered on Christ.