

YOUR FEET SHOD WITH THE PREPARATION OF THE GOSPEL OF PEACE

Ephesians 6:10-18 (KJV)

- ¹⁰ Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.
¹¹ Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.
¹² For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high *places*.
¹³ Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.
¹⁴ Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;
¹⁵ And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;
¹⁶ Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.
¹⁷ And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:
¹⁸ Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

And I will continue this evening with our study on SPIRITUAL WARFARE, and more specifically, FEET SHOD WITH THE GOSPEL OF PEACE.

Spiritual warfare is a real thing. We are at war with our adversary and we must view this the way he does. We don't have time anymore for laid back, comfort based Christianity.

Remember a few things with this warfare:

- **WE ARE AT WAR** - it isn't a war of natural means or happening in this realm to take things or people from you, this war is about your faith and is going on for the purpose of you to give up on God
- **WE HAVE AN ENEMY** - the bible calls him the devil and the enemy of our soul. He hates us and desires to steal, kill, and destroy your faith with whatever means he can.
- **HE HAS A STRUCTURE** - found in this passage, it is a structure comprised of fallen angels and demon spirits and they do whatever they can to bring discouragement and stand in the way of the plan and will of God.
- **WE ARE EXPECTED TO PARTICIPATE** - we are to engage our enemy but the fight is the part that must be done correctly. We show up, God will show off.

So how is the particular piece mentioned in scripture applicable to our warring a good warfare?

Let me brush you up on the other pieces and then we will address this one:

- **The Helmet of Salvation** - this is the protection of the mind and the engagement of the thought life

- **The Breastplate of Righteousness** - this is the creation of protection of proper desires in the heart
- **The Loins Girt with Truth** - this is the replication of Christians and discipleship of them as well. As you help them fight their battles, yours are waged by God.

And then we get to tonight which is your FEET SHOD WITH THE PREPARATION OF THE GOSPEL OF PEACE.

Keep in mind that the things that God provides to us at salvation in these pieces of armor are defensive in action. **Defensive doesn't mean that we aren't doing anything but it does mean that we don't engage the battle head on but we set ourselves against the attacks of the enemy.**

Our feet are an interesting part of the equation to mention for many reasons.

- Without feet or legs, we have no way to stand. So, this becomes the part that connects us to everything in the battle.
- Feet are the means of transportation, so as defensively we are standing, we do it by making sure our WALKS are rightly carried out.

So, let's look tonight at the emphasis of having our feet prepared with the gospel of peace.

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As already stated, the feet are vital to the defensive stance but I want to address the description applied by the Holy Spirit to this part of the armor:

- **FEET** - this was not simply the feet and what was worn there because in the day this was written, sandals were worn and then a brass greave placed over the feet and up to the knee, covering the shin, to protect the feet and legs from attacks.
- **SHOD** - this is a word that we don't use in our language, but what it means in Greek is, **"to bind under one's feet"**. Where the sandal is what was the base beneath the foot for travel and protection, **the comparison is that the gospel of peace is what propels that action and resilience of the saint.**
- **PREPARATION** - this word makes us think that we are to get ready for something to take place, but the armor is that preparation in the context of the passage. So, in the Greek, this word means, **"a readiness"**. That makes this read that we are to have, **"a readiness of the gospel of peace"**. This means that it is already established. It is ready to do its part.

So, what this piece of the armor does for spiritual warfare is: **It enables the child of God to stand and walk with a readiness to display the gospel of peace.**

And the "gospel of peace" becomes the point of emphasis. **What does the bible say about the gospel of peace?**

Romans 10:15 (KJV)

¹⁵ And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!

Here is another reference to the gospel of peace and it is clear that the point is to see that this message travels with people that have been saved. It isn't their feet that are beautiful, it is what they are used for.

But what of this peace spoken of?

There are two kinds of peace the bible speaks of that are both produced by the gospel:

- Peace with God
- Peace with man

Romans 5:1 (KJV)

¹ Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: The Apostle Paul describes this perfectly. We have been justified by faith and now we have peace with God by Christ.

This peace is what a person finds through salvation. **They have peace within themselves and the wrath of God for them has been satisfied as they have accepted Christ as the only means of forgiveness from God.**

This makes you sleep good, this makes you focus on eternity and what is important, this makes you desire for others to find that peace as well.

Peace with God is everything and scripture speaks of it a lot.

Acts 10:36 (KJV)

³⁶ The word which *God* sent unto the children of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ: (he is Lord of all:)

Isaiah 9:6 (KJV)

⁶ For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

Isaiah 32:17 (KJV)

¹⁷ And the work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance for ever.

This is the result of the gospel of peace and it is clearly stated what it looks like without it:

Isaiah 48:22 (KJV)

²² *There is* no peace, saith the LORD, unto the wicked.

So, for those that are lost and to those that have known Christ and choose to continue to sin, there is no peace.

And the peace of God was so important to Paul, that he opened every letter with the words, "Grace and peace from our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ". So, peace with God is a great thing.

Peace with man is the other side of this. The thought is this: **Through peace with God one will live in peace with man and encourage them to come to the same peace.**

When it comes to peace with man, we should know that we are to be peaceful people once we are saved. **How would it possible for someone that has been given peace through God live this life without it?**

But the main point with this peace with man and connecting it to the armor of God is to let the gospel of peace be seen and heard from you.

This is what is meant by preparation or readiness to show the gospel of peace. Now think about what part of the body this is within the teaching. The feet.

So, let me put it together: **We continue to fight spiritual warfare when the enemy is attacking and we never stop sharing, shining, and showing the true gospel message through our walks daily.**

So, this part of the armor is solidified by one's effort to maintain their walk with God.

It is what scripture calls, "working out your own salvation".

And this is a powerful concept, because the enemy will continue his attack but we must keep the gospel of peace the central thing we stand on.

And with all the parts of the armor connecting and operating off another, the legs and feet are only carrying out the actions that the heart desires.

So, this part of the armor is to continue to be the witness that we are supposed to be, no matter the circumstances around us.

I will close with this:

Matthew 5:13-16 (KJV)

¹³ Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men.

¹⁴ Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.

¹⁵ Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.

¹⁶ Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

The way we walk or carry out this gospel of peace, is often the determining factor of someone else accepting the peace of God or rejecting it.

Live with a readiness to display the gospel of peace.

Live as a true spirit filled believer.