



# THE ARMOR OF GOD PART 1

The Christian life inevitably involves spiritual warfare, where believers become targets for the enemy upon committing to Christ. This battle isn't physical but spiritual—against principalities, powers, and rulers of darkness. Satan's primary weapons aren't brute force but deceptive schemes that exploit weaknesses, twist doctrine, and sow doubt. As the accuser, he makes believers feel simultaneously inadequate and overwhelmed. The good news is that Christ has already won this battle. Believers don't fight for victory but from victory, simply holding ground by standing firm. The armor of God has no provision for retreat—we face the enemy head-on through daily spiritual preparation. The belt of truth forms our foundation, representing both Jesus as personified truth and Scripture as propositional truth. The breastplate of righteousness protects our spiritual core through both Christ's imputed righteousness and our practical daily obedience. The shoes of the gospel of peace provide stability in a shaking world and mobility to advance with the good news. To effectively stand against spiritual attacks, believers must make God's Word their ultimate authority, live with integrity, guard their hearts against compromise, and find emotional stability in the unshakable ground of the gospel.

## Study Questions:

1. The Roman soldier's belt is described the "most important piece" of the uniform. How does Psalm 19 describe the supreme value of God's Word, and why is this "truth" the necessary foundation for all other pieces of spiritual armor? (Psalm 19, Ephesians 6:14)
2. Satan's first attack on humanity began with the question, "Did God really say...?". How does this strategy of casting doubt underscore the importance of a "systematic study of the major doctrines of Scripture" to keep our "Belt of Truth" secure? (Genesis 3, 2 Timothy 2:15)
3. The sermon explains that the Roman breastplate protects the "vital organs". How does living a life of practical righteousness guard our hearts and affections from being corrupted by the world? (Psalm 19:13-14, Psalm 119:161, Ephesians 6:14)
4. Distinguish between "imputed righteousness" (our legal standing in Christ) and "practical righteousness" (our daily obedience) as explained in the sermon. Why are both concepts essential for a believer? What implications does this have for our testimony? (Psalm 19:13, 2 Corinthians 5:21, 1st Corinthians 9:24-27)
5. The Roman soldier's sandals (caliga) had metal spikes for a "sure footing". How does the gospel of Christ's death and resurrection provide the "solid rock" for a Christian to stand firm in a chaotic world? (Psalm 19:14, Ephesians 6:15)
6. Warren Wiersbe is quoted as saying, "A victorious Christian is a witnessing Christian". How does this statement link having internal peace from the gospel with the external mandate to "Go forth and make disciples"? (Psalm 19:14, Romans 1:16, Matthew 28:19-20)