

# MOMENTUM

## Armor up!

Stop telling God how big your problems are.....start telling your problems how BIG your God is!

Ephesians 6:10-17 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. 11 Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. 12 For 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. 13 Therefore 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. 14 Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, 15 and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. 16 In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. 17 Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

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JESUS TAUGHT ABOUT HIS ENEMY!

John 10:10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

JESUS gives LIFE.....The DEVIL leads to DEATH

1 Peter 5:8-9 Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. 9 Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings.

THE EPIC BATTLE BETWEEN GOOD AND EVIL!

**Romans 7:18-25 I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. <sup>19</sup> For what I do is not the good I want to do; no, the evil I do not want to do—this I keep on doing. <sup>20</sup> Now if I do what I do not want to do, it is no longer I who do it, but it is sin living in me that does it.**

**<sup>21</sup> So I find this law at work: When I want to do good, evil is right there with me. <sup>22</sup> For in my inner being I delight in God's law; <sup>23</sup> but I see another law at work in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within my members. <sup>24</sup> What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? <sup>25</sup> Thanks be to God—through Jesus Christ our Lord!**

THIS IS LIFE!!!! IT IS A BATTLE!

-Anyone been SMACKED right after God did something GREAT??

**John 16:33 “I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.”**

-Life kicks our rear end no matter who we are

WE ARE ALL LIVING IN A SIN FILLED WORLD!

**2 Timothy 3:1-4 But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days. 2 People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, 3 without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good, 4 treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God**

THIS IS OUR WORLD WE LIVE IN!!!

**2 Timothy 1:7 For God hath not given us the spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.**

THAT IS WHERE WE ARE TO LIVE.....You are on the WINNING team!!

WHO PLAYED SPORTS??

-FULL CONTACT SPORTS!!! NEED PADS!

-Paul is saying LIFE is FULL CONTACT!

### HIS INSTRUCTIONS:

**Ephesians 6:13** Therefore 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.

“After you have done everything” STAND

-WHAT IS OUR PART???? ARMOR UP & STAND!!

**Ephesians 6:14** Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place,

**BELT OF TRUTH:** Belt holds it all together!!

**Ephesians 4:14-15** <sup>14</sup> Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming. <sup>15</sup> Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ.

-Guard the TRUTH

**2 Corinthians 11:14** And no wonder, for Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light.

-“I am the way, the truth and the life.....”

-You will know the TRUTH and the TRUTH will set you free!

-In the end times....even the ELITE will fall away!

**BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS:** Guards your heart!

**Proverbs 4:23 Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.**

\*Sometimes when a person or child makes a mistake.....

-“BUT THEY HAVE SUCH A GOOD HEART”

**Romans 3:21-27 But now apart from the law the righteousness of God has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify.<sup>22</sup> This righteousness is given through faith in<sup>in</sup> Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile,<sup>23</sup> for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, <sup>24</sup> and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. <sup>25</sup> God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement,<sup>in</sup> through the shedding of his blood—to be received by faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished— <sup>26</sup> he did it to demonstrate his righteousness at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus. <sup>27</sup> Where, then, is boasting? It is excluded.**

PROTECT OUR HEARTS FROM SPIRITUAL PRIDE!

SO: KEEP TRUTH IN THE CENTER & GUARD YOUR HEART!!!

NEXT: **SHOES OF PEACE!**

**Ephesians 6:15 and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace.**

-KEEP YOUR SHOES ON.....ALWAYS BE READY TO SPREAD PEACE!

**Matthew 5:9 Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.**

-Paul often talked about RUNNING THE RACE!

**1 Peter 3:15 But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.**

Belt of Truth, Breastplate of Righteousness, Shoes of Peace.....

THEN: **SHIELD OF FAITH**

**Ephesians 6:16 In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one.**

SHIELD IS TO PROTECT!

**Hebrews 11:1 Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.**

Devil's flaming arrows:      Doubt      "Did God really say that???"  
   Discouragement      "It will NEVER get any better??"  
   Delay      "Are you SURE this is going to happen??"  
   Difficulty      "Why is this so hard??"  
   Depression      "Why am I even trying....I want to give  
   up!!!"

**INTERESTING.....go back to verse 7:**

**1 Peter 5:7-8 Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.**

Cast your anxiety on HIM.....for he cares for you!

-Devil fills us with IN SECURITIES! HE IS GOOD!

**John 8:44 "When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies."**

Does what you are hearing line up with God's word & Character?

- I will never leave you or forsake you!
- I have plans to prosper, not to harm you, to give you a hope and a future!
- I am a friend that sticks closer than a brother!
- I have loved you with an everlasting love!
- Peace I leave with you.....my peace I give to you!
- With me, ALL things are possible!

-He who began a good work in you will be faithful to complete it!

**DEVIL TRIES TO GET IN OUR HEAD AND GET US TO TAKE OURSELVES OUT OF THE GAME!**

KEEP TRUTH IN THE CENTER & GUARD YOUR HEART!!!

-ALWAYS BE READY.....KEEP YOUR SHIELD UP!!

### **HELMET OF SALVATION**

**Ephesians 6:17 Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.**

HELMET: GUARDS OUR HEAD

-I already talked about the Shield of Faith protecting us from mind games!

-BUT WHAT ABOUT ANOTHER GUARD ON OUR SALVATION IN OUR MINDS!

**Romans 7:24 -8:1 What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? <sup>25</sup> Thanks be to God—through Jesus Christ our Lord! Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.**

**-EVER BEEN INSECURE IN A RELATIONSHIP??**

-Feel like you need to EARN it.....if you mess up you lose it??

**Ephesians 2:8-10 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— <sup>9</sup> not by works, so that no one can boast.**

-WORKS DON'T GET YOU IN TO HEAVEN AND THEY DON'T GET YOU OUT!

-Sin is a slow insulator that pulls us away.

-BUT IF YOU ARE WORRYING ABOUT YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD.....YOU ARE OKAY!!

**-Don't need to get saved every week!**

**Romans 8:38-39** For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons,[k] neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, 39 neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**HELMET OF SALVATION GAURDS OUR MIND!!!**

**Ephesians 6:17** Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

LASTLY: **SWORD OF THE SPIRIT**

PICK UP YOUR SWORD!

**Hebrews 4:12** For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

**Jesus used scripture to fight off the devil after 40 days of fasting.....**

You are hungry..... -turn these stones to bread.....

**Matthew 4:4** Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.’”

-throw yourself off the temple and have the angels catch you.....

**Matthew 4:7** Jesus answered him, “It is also written: ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’”

I will give you this whole earth if you bow down and worship me.....

**Matthew 4:10** Jesus said to him, “Away from me, Satan! For it is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.’”

**SO: KEEP TRUTH IN THE CENTER & GUARD YOUR HEART!!!**

-ALWAYS BE READY.....KEEP YOUR SHIELD UP!!  
-GUARD YOUR MIND.....ARM YOURSELF!

**Ephesians 6:13** Therefore 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.

**DON'T GIVE UP GROUND!**