

More Protection

We can't ignore that we are living in a fatherless generation, with over 33% of kids not growing up with a father figure in the house!

Men you are called to lead your household, to be the protector!

-We need masculine men of God to lead their homes and people around them.

-Kids learn a lot by observing and being a part of an environment.

This generation is looking for father figures.....for Godly men

Psalm 78:5-8

For he issued his laws to Jacob; he gave his instructions to Israel. He commanded our ancestors to teach them to their children, 6 so the next generation might know them— even the children not yet born— and they in turn will teach their own children. 7 So each generation should set its hope anew on God, not forgetting his glorious miracles and obeying his commands. 8 Then they will not be like their ancestors— stubborn, rebellious, and unfaithful, refusing to give their hearts to God.

-Teaching them the Shema - Hear O Israel, Lord our God, the Lord is One

Fathers are called by God to teach and model the gospel to their children

To guide them in the ways of the Lord

To protect your house Spiritually more than even physically.

A father is called by God to teach his children about the ways of the Lord.

God's truth was to be taught down through the generations

Psalm 78:7-8

“so that they should set their hope in God and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments; and that they should not be like their fathers, a stubborn and rebellious generation, a generation whose heart was not steadfast, whose spirit was not faithful to God.”

What does this look like?

How do we become the protectors of our household?

Ephesians 6:10-18

10 A final word: Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. 11 Put on all of God's armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil. 12 For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places. 13 Therefore, put on every piece of God's armor so you will be able to resist the enemy in the time of evil. Then after the battle you will still be standing firm. 14 Stand your ground, putting on the belt of truth and the body armor of God's righteousness. 15 For shoes, put on the peace that comes from the Good News so that you will be fully prepared. 16 In addition to all of these, hold up the shield of faith to stop the fiery arrows of the devil. 17 Put on salvation as your helmet, and take the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. 18 Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere.

Know Your Enemy; Understand The Fight

"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."

Stand firm

-4 times in our passage the Scripture says that the armor of God is to STAND...not fight.

- Jesus has the victory, we just need to stand with Him
- "Meekness" which we think is weakness...it is strength in control!
- It means to stand against, to stand aggressively, to armor up with a "come at me bro" attitude

Armor Up

"Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes."

- Put it ALL on
- There is no purpose in partial armor, one gap, one patch of bear skin and it's all over.
- With a single gap making us vulnerable we need the full armor to experience victory.

The Armor of God

Belt of Truth

We store up the word of God in our hearts so as to be rooted in truth

- During times of universal deceit, telling the truth becomes a revolutionary act. - George Orwell
- When lies are commonplace, truth is unexpected and notable.
That is the culture and world we live in right now!
- MY TRUTH - That's true for you, but that's not my truth.
- My Truth - non-negotiable personal opinion.
- If anything can be true, nothing is really Truth

Breastplate of Righteousness

The bible says that our ability to stand firm is strongly tied to our righteousness.

Martin Luther explains the meaning "By the breastplate of righteousness the Apostle means a blameless, righteous life so as to deal fairly with all men, injuring or harming no one, but endeavoring to be of service and to help everyone, so that neither the devil nor anyone else may justly accuse the Christian or confront with any ungodliness in life

Notice the lack of back armor.... there is no turning your back and running when it comes to serving Jesus!
Turning away from Jesus and towards sin leaves you exposed and vulnerable.

Feet fitted with the gospel of peace

Roman soldiers wore sandals called caligae. These sandals provided protection and traction

Never mistake the gospel message as anything but a message of peace.

The Word says that God's peace transcends all understanding and that it will guard our hearts.

-How can you preach peace if you have no peace yourself?

Shield of faith

This is not the small round one which left most of the body unprotected... but the large shield carried by Roman soldiers, which covered the whole person!

-In the Old Testament the shield was used as an image of God's protection of his people

And we are talking about a shield of faith not fear, and it can extinguish the petty attacks of the evil one.

We may struggle to trust God with our lives and with our family members.

Faith is our shield against these fiery arrows!

-Provides protection from destructive fear, doubt, and despair.

God gives us these pieces of armor for our protection and defense.

-We acknowledge our need for protection and our vulnerability to attack when we turn to God in faith.

Helmet of salvation

Your salvation that brings protection to the most vital parts of your life.

The enemy would love to get in your mind!

-We must be so rooted in the salvation offered by Jesus and the gospel that we thwart every attempt.

Do you question eternity? Is your salvation unclear?

For Christians, salvation is part of the defensive armor that is essential for their safety in the fray.

-Our salvation is secure because of Jesus's life, death, and resurrection.

-In addition to his Spirit, God has given us these pieces of armor to protect us and to remind us of his love and our security in him

Sword of the spirit (Word of God)

Great Theologian Charles Spurgeon points out, "It is noteworthy that there is only one weapon of offense provided, although there are several pieces of armour."

But Paul, for excellent reasons, concentrates our offensive weapon in one, because it answers for all.

-We are to use the sword, and that only.

-If you are going to this fight, see well to your only weapon.

-Take care that you have this always in your hand!

Not your opinion, that your selfish reason, not what you think is right, not what the world says is right

-Scripture doesn't change, we change from hearing scripture!

All of the pieces of armor in the passage are useful for defense.

-Even the sword of the Spirit, the Word of God, can be a defensive weapon as well as an offensive one!

-Like Jesus did in the wilderness, we are to protect ourselves with God's Word.

Your sword is essential!

Jesus said it was better for us if he leaves because he was sending his spirit.

-Our primary objective is to stand for God with the full armor, we advance his kingdom by the power of the Holy Spirit, through our words and our prayers, Verse 18.

God's Word does not need protecting... God's word has not changed!

Our next Generation needs to be guided in the Truth of who Jesus is.

We have to protect our household from this world

We have no fear in Jesus!