

Get Dressed 21 Day Devotional — Dress for Battle — Day 17

1 Thessalonians 5:8 (TPT)

“But since we belong to the day, we must stay alert and clearheaded by placing the breastplate of faith and love over our hearts, and a helmet of the hope of salvation over our thoughts.”

Introduction:

We're diving into a powerful message from 1 Thessalonians 5:8, where the apostle Paul encourages us to prepare for the spiritual battle we face as believers. Just as soldiers put on armor for physical battles, we are called to "get dressed" for the spiritual battles we encounter each day.

Reflection:

- Understanding the Battle:
 - Paul reminds us that as children of the day (children of God's light), we are not exempt from spiritual battles.
 - In fact, we often find ourselves on the front lines of these battles.
- The Armor of God:
 - Paul's metaphor here draws from the concept of the armor of God (Ephesians 6:10-18).
 - He encourages us to put on our spiritual armor for the battle:
 - Faith as a Breastplate:
 - Just as a breastplate protects a soldier's vital organs, faith guards our hearts.
 - It shields us from doubt and discouragement.
 - Love as a Breastplate:
 - Love, like a breastplate, covers us.
 - It protects us from the attacks of bitterness, anger, and hatred.
 - It helps us maintain our witness as children of God.
 - Hope of as a Helmet:
 - A helmet guards a soldier's head, where their thoughts and beliefs reside.

- The hope of salvation protects our minds from despair, filling us with optimism and purpose.

- The Battlefield of Life
 - Our battles are often spiritual, involving temptations, doubts, and the cares of this world.
 - To face them effectively, we must "get dressed" with the armor of faith, love, and hope.

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, thank You for the spiritual armor You provide. Help us to "get dressed" for the battles we face each day, with faith, love, and the hope of salvation. May Your armor protect us and guide us in the path of righteousness. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Take A Way:

As you go about your day, remember that you are in a spiritual battle. Just as a soldier prepares for combat, "get dressed" with your spiritual armor. May your faith, love, and hope be a source of strength as you navigate the challenges of life and stand firm in your identity as a child of God.