

Put on the Full Armor of God

By Jedidiah Jones

Hello precious family of faith.

During this time of corporate fasting to draw closer into the Spirit of God, we are meditating on Ephesians chapter 6.

After Paul addresses honoring mothers, fathers, employers, and employees he concludes the book of Ephesians with some powerful and practical instruction for all of us in chapter 6. He says to be strong in the Lord and the power of His might and then gives us important positioning and practical instruction to live. He tells us to put on the whole armor of God so we can stand against the trickery and deceptions of the devil and clarifies that we do not wrestle against flesh and blood. So, that means our weapons are not carnal but mighty in God to the pulling down of spiritual strongholds.

Second Corinthians 10:4 affirms that we wrestle against spiritual hosts of wickedness, principalities and powers, and darkness in heavenly places. Ephesians 6:13–14 tells us to take up the whole armor of God and stand and be girded first with truth (author's paraphrase). The belt of truth holds everything in balance as we're in a battle of truth and lies, revelation and deception, and contradictions. We must know the truth of His word and be living it and come to the place where the truth is part of our being.

We stand girded with truth that holds our tools and weapons in place, balanced and ready for implementation. Once we have truth girded on the right way, notice the first priority is that the breastplate of righteousness be added, and then our feet be protected by the gospel of peace.

When Ephesians 6 was written, Roman military sandals were designed with steel spikes on the soles that would not only grip the ground to keep them stable and unmovable, but also, as the soldiers marched in unison they trampled over enemies who fell under their feet. This gospel of peace is not a wishy-washy, flaky type of fake kindness to please everyone, as some compromised leaders have become corrupted into their own image. Rather, the gospel of peace is a conquering weapon as well. As Paul affirms in Romans 16:20, "The God of peace will crush Satan under your feet" (NKJV). It's important to see that our equipment, tools, and armor of the Spirit are for advancement and offense and not for defense.

We read next that overall, we take the shield of faith that's able to neutralize the fiery darts of the wicked one, and then the helmet of salvation—the mind of Christ—to conform our every thought to Christ and take captive all imaginations to the obedience of Christ.

We take next, the sword of the Spirit, the armor that changes atmospheres, cuts through and stops the airwaves spiritually and physically, and is the discerner of the thoughts and intents of all hearts.

Although there is a lot of precious meat and truth we could touch on, I feel the Spirit of the Lord wants to highlight Ephesians 6:18, which shows us the whole purpose and END result of equipping and advancing us in the Kingdom. Here Paul says, "Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints" (NKJV).

Paul not only touches on multiple areas of prayer, supplication, and endurance, but he also specifies something that could be easy to overlook. He says this is the complete END purpose: Through prayer, all the armor of the Spirit is implemented effectively. It is bathed in personal prayer in communion with Holy Spirit. These weapons are put into practice by continually bathing situations in personal prayer and prayer-drenching supplications and requests for all the saints, for ourselves, and for our families.

Paul says this is the full END purpose for spiritual offense advancement. As we exercise faith in prayer, we become accustomed to our weapons of warfare in the secret place. We join in cooperation with the Spirit of God, and we are taken with Him into places of intercession and effective prayer for future eternal results and for measurable present results.

Let's pray.

Father, I ask You to open for each one listening a new access of grace to flow with You in prayer, to lose themselves in glorious intercession that pleases You in the secret place, to find effective prayer in the Spirit, and that all things be subject to Christ in them and around them. In the name of Jesus. Amen.