



The Armor of God

Week 4 – SHIELD & HELMET

Every day in the Christian life, we are engaged in a battle that is not fought with physical weapons, but with spiritual ones. The enemy is not aiming for our body first, he is aiming for our faith and our mind. If he can weaken what we trust and corrupt how we think, he can begin to control how we live. That is why God has given us both the shield of faith and the helmet of salvation. One protects what we believe, and the other guards how we think. If we neglect either one, we leave ourselves exposed in the very areas the enemy attacks the most.

I. THE SHIELD OF FAITH - Eph. 6:16

A. FAITHS OBJECT - Must be in the Lord alone. Heb. 11:6

- Our shield is our first level of _____.
- i. Shield 1st mention - Gen. 15:1: “Fear not, Abram: I am thy shield...”
- ii. Our faith needs to be in God and not...
 - In man. Ps. 118:8; Ps. 62:9; Pro. 25:19.
 - In the world/government. Ps. 118:9; Ps. 146:3-5; Is. 30:1-5; 31:1-3.
 - In our own understanding. Pro. 3:5-6.
 - In money. Pro. 11:28; 23:5.

B. FIERY DARTS

- Objective is to demoralize, injure, and weaken our faith. To cause fear, doubt, worry, etc.
- i. Why fiery darts? Ps. 11:2
 - The purpose of a fiery dart is NOT to make an arrow deadlier to a person.
 - It was to burn the structures, and defenses around you.
 - It was for the psychological impact (causes panic, forces them to split attention)
- ii. _____ /embrace faith’s trials. Jam. 1:2-8; 1 Pet. 1:6-9, 4:12
 - It doesn’t say the arrows will stop coming at you!
- iii. Paul reminds us of some darts thrown at him. 2 Cor. 11:23-27

C. FAITH IN ACTION - Heb. 11:32-34. “Quenched the violence of fire”

- i. _____ is not in avoiding battle but enduring it. Dan. 3:24-28
- ii. Faith is trusting God and not worrying about your surroundings. Mt. 14:22-23
- iii. When everything around you is falling apart, what is your faith in? Job 1:13-22

D. FAITH IN ACTION OR FAITH IN WAITING?

- i. David was God’s _____, and still waited and trusted God’s timing. 1 Sam. 16:12-13, 21, 18:10-11, 24:6, 26:9
- ii. Abraham moved forward with his plan on his timing with Hagar.
 - It’s better to be two steps behind God, than one step ahead of him. Ps. 27:14

II. THE HELMET OF SALVATION - Eph. 6:17

A. The Helmet secures the _____ and the hope of a believer. 1 Thes. 5:8

- i. We have hope because of the promises of our salvation. Eph. 1:14; 1 Jn. 2:25
 - Hope isn’t just “I’m saved,” it’s:
 - Security (I am His)
 - Future (He will finish what He started)
 - Identity (I am no longer who I was)
- ii. God has given all who believe a sound mind. 2 Tim. 1:7
- iii. The mind of the lost is distorted. Titus 1:15; Col. 1:21

B. A saved man can still _____ like a lost man. Rom. 8:5-6, 12:1

- i. We can think like an enemy of God. Mt. 6:23
- ii. We can be deceived in our minds. 2 Cor. 11:3

C. One voice can completely change our thinking. 1 Kings 19:21-11

D. This is why we must constantly guard and protect our minds. Rom. 12:1-2; Phi. 4:7; Is. 26:3; Rom. 8:6; 2 Cor. 10:5

E. We have the mind of Christ. 1 Cor. 2:16

- i. The mind of Christ is humility. Phi. 2:3-8; Mt. 11:29; Jn. 13:14-15
 - Even under injustice, he did not defend himself in pride. 1 Pet. 2:23