



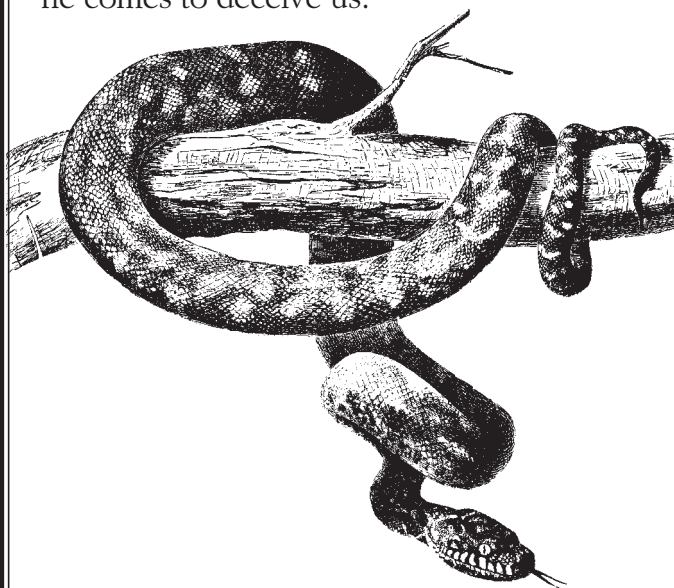
An Eagle's View!

The Whole Armor of God

When dealing with Satan and the power of darkness we must not only be faithful soldiers of Christ, we must be soldiers who are properly equipped to do warfare against our enemy (**Eph. 6:10,11**).

Ephesians 6:10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. 11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

The word "wiles" in the Greek literally means that the devil comes and travels along side of us with an intent to trick us. In other words, he doesn't just pop up in our face and say, "Hi, I'm the devil! Shoot me!" He gets along side of us and says, "I'm the voice of the Lord. I'm here to give you instruction." We must be properly fit with the armor of God in order to stand against the devil when he comes to deceive us.



It is very important that we find our strength and our source of power in the Lord (Eph. 6:10). In 2Corinthians 10:4 it says that our weapons of warfare are mighty in Christ Jesus. They are mighty in Him for the pulling down of strongholds. It's not that we reach into Him, get a mighty weapon, and then tear down the strongholds. It's only when we are in God, through Christ, that we have mighty weapons. We must find our strength and our working power of action through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. If you are in an active relationship with God through Jesus Christ, then we are seated with Him today in heavenly places.

Since we wrestle against those things which are not flesh and blood, it is essential that we take up the whole armor of God (Eph. 6:12,13) in order to be able to stand strong in the day of battle.

Ephesians 6:12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. 13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

We are instructed to put on the "whole" armor of God. Not just part of it, but all of it, so that we may be able to withstand these forces of darkness. That's not to just stand still, but to literally oppose them in the day of evil!

In Ephesians 6:14 we see that our waist



An Eagle's View!

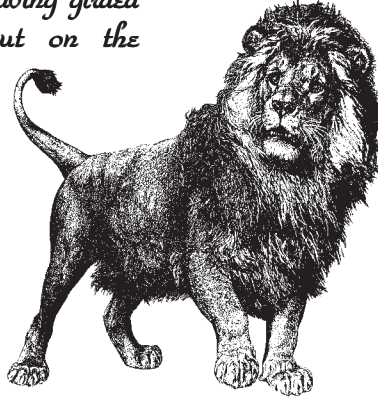
must be girded with the belt of truth.

Ephesians 6:14 Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness,

The Greek word for "waist" here is "osphus" and it means "loin; procreative power". This belt of truth is found in the area of the fruitfulness of our body. It's in this area that we have the ability to procreate. It's not insignificant that when this Scripture deals with the truth that it talks about our area of procreative power. That is our ability to be fruitful. The scripture says in **John 8:31** that we will know the truth and the truth will make us free. He said that if we abide in His word that we will be His disciples and we will know the truth, and the truth will make us free. He didn't say that if we abide in what our eyes see, or if we abide in what our ears hear, that we would be free. He said if we abide in His word then we are His disciples and then we will know the truth and the truth will make us free. The truth is different than what we see with our eyes. It's different than what we hear with our ears. The truth is in His word. It's in His word that we will find our ability to be fruitful when we are confronted with the demonic powers of darkness that seek to hinder us.

Obedience to the truth will purify our soul (**1Pet. 1:22**). We need to study to show ourselves approved, a workman who need not be ashamed (**2Tim. 2:15**). We need to get into God's word and find out what He has to say. It is not what tradition says, but

what the word of God says. We need to find out what the word says and then we need to believe to be able to change. The enemy has power over us when we don't know the truth, it's not when he doesn't know the truth. If our soul can prosper in the truth then we can prosper in that truth.



Notice that the second piece of spiritual armor is the breastplate of righteousness (Eph. 6:14).

Ephesians 6:14 Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness,

I find it very interesting that it is not the belt of righteousness, but it's the breastplate of righteousness. Righteousness is a right relationship with God through Jesus Christ. The breastplate of righteousness is over the area of our heart. The only way that we can have that righteousness in our life is to establish a continual and consistent relationship with God through the Spirit of Jesus in your heart. Our lives need to declare "the Lord our righteousness"!

We know that our righteousness is through faith in Christ Jesus but the book of James says that faith without works is dead. In order for our righteousness to be true righteousness by faith we are going to have to produce works of that righteousness. To do that we must have our breastplate of righteousness on. That's a right relationship with God through Jesus Christ. As a part of the right relationship we have to believe in our heart



An Eagle's View!

and confess with our mouth that Jesus is Lord. Now there are many ways of confessing with the mouth. If we are going to confess with our mouth that Jesus is Lord, we're going to have to make a manifested confession of what we believe in our heart.

We can take this principal and apply it in any area of our life. Our life actions will declare our heart's belief. When our actions fail to confess a righteousness according to God's word, the source is our breastplate of righteousness. If our life's action refuses to confess His Lordship we don't really believe in our heart that Jesus is Lord. Our righteousness is not based upon the obedient work, but it is based upon us allowing Jesus to be Lord of our life.

Next we see the piece of the armor known as the "preparation of the gospel of peace" (Eph. 6:15).

Ephesians 6:15 and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace;

This word "peace" is the same word that is used in **Isaiah 53:5**, when it says that the chastisement for our peace was on Jesus. The Hebrew word for peace found in Isaiah 53:5 means that this peace is a place of rest. It's a place of abundance and prosperity. It's a place of happiness. It's a place of being well off. The Greek word found here in Ephesians 6:15 means a place of prosperity with a special implication of being "set at one again." Peace is where there is no separation between us and God. When there is no separation between us and God there is no wrath of God upon us either. If there is

no separation between us and the Creator anymore, what should that do to any fear of any created thing? If God is for us, who can be against us (**Rom. 8:31**)?

Romans 8:31 What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?



Peace is not the absence of conflict. It is the presence of God in every situation. It is the presence of God and everything good. Notice that this piece of armor is not "peace" but it is "the readiness of the gospel of peace." What does that

mean? It means that when the devil comes and says that we are separated from God, the readiness of the gospel of peace says, NO! There is no separation between us and God, therefore the wrath of God has been removed from us through the shed blood of Jesus Christ! Our feet are going to have to be shod with the readiness of the gospel of peace. When we walk in that understanding we will be able to maintain our peace with God even when the devil comes with his deceiving "wiles." If we have our feet shod with the readiness of the gospel of peace we'll jump up like Phinehas did in **Numbers, chapter 25. We'll drive a spear right through that accusing work of the flesh!** Our peace, our ability to be one with God, is not by our action but only through the once for all sacrifice of Jesus Christ. Our actions must be ones that will execute judgment on any work of the flesh! Whenever the enemy pulls us into a distraction of the flesh, we must be quick



An Eagle's View!

to execute the death of its action or entertainment of it in thought.

The next piece of armor is the shield of faith (Eph. 6:16).

Ephesians 6:16 above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one.

This shield of faith is not a small hand held refractor of darts. It is as tall as a man and it goes from head to toe. It is the kind of a shield that was used for the offensive moves of a skilled soldier. The soldier would get behind it and push his way in behind the enemy lines. It comes from two Greek words. One word means, "door shaped" and the other means, "portal" or "entrance." Faith is a door opener not a door closer. Many times we operate with the shield of fear in our lives and we think that it's the shield of faith. The shield of faith is like a door that opens our access to God.



How does faith come? Faith comes by hearing and hearing God's personal word to us. That is His freshly spoken word (*rhema*) to us. We have to be able to take that door opening faith to stand against the wiles of the devil. Have we conferred with God and heard His *rhema* (*personal word to us*)? If we haven't conferred with God we have no business believing that we have the shield of faith. Faith comes by hearing and hearing God's word to us. Without a conversation with God there is no faith! The shield of faith comes when God speaks a word to us.

I love the positioning of each part of God's spiritual armor! Remember, the belt of truth was around the procreative area of our life. The breastplate of righteousness was around our heart relationship with God. The preparation of the gospel of peace prepares our feet to walk one with God in His peace that surpasses our understanding no matter where we are on the path of life. The shield of faith takes us forward to take back what the enemy has stolen in our lives.

Now we have come to the helmet of salvation (Eph. 6:17).

Ephesians 6:17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God;

The helmet of salvation covers the area of our mind. Our salvation is a daily process and it is for the whole man; spirit, soul, and body (**1Thes.5:23**). We have received the washing of rebirth by being born



An Eagle's View!

again through the Spirit of Jesus in our heart. The salvation of renewal is a daily process that renews our mind (**Rom. 12:2**). Do we have a renewed thinking according to the word of God? Are we thinking according to God's thinking or are we thinking according to tradition?

We have to cast down the strongholds of our own mind (**2Cor. 10:3-5**). The strongholds are in the thinking of our own minds. We must have the helmet of salvation on in order to appropriate every blessing that God has for us. If we don't have the renewed mind of Christ we will fall to defeat before our adversary. We can only prosper as our soul prospers.

The sixth piece of armor is the sword of the Spirit (Eph. 6:17).

Ephesians 6:17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God;

This is the word of God, or more specifically the "rhema" word of God. It's not the "logos" word. The sword of the Spirit is not taking the written word and using it as a whip. The sword of the Spirit is taking "God's personal word spoken to us" and using it as a sword. The sword of the Spirit is to make "declaration" or "proclamation" according to the "rhema" (God's spoken word to us) that we've received from God. It is only when we have God's spoken word to us in our mouth that we will be able to move in the power of the sword of the Spirit. If we will get in the presence of God, in the fellowship of God, we will hear His voice and we will receive a

sword in our mouth to speak words that will bring life. It's that sword in our mouth that will enable us to call in our blessing here on the earth. God wants to bless us! When He speaks the blessing, then we can speak forth and command the blessing. We can command the devil to flee and he must flee!

If we look at the life of Joshua we see that God told him that He had given him the land of Canaan. When Joshua went into that land



did he have to do anything with the sword? He killed 31 kings didn't he? He had to wield the sword. We're going to have to wield the sword. We're going to have to wield the sword of God to pull down the kings that are holding our blessing! The spirit of prophecy is going to have to work in our life today. We must be able to speak the things of God as though they are, even if we don't see them manifested today. It's only the spirit



An Eagle's View!

of prophecy that can change things by our mouth. It's not the preconceived ideas of our soul that want to exercise their own will and way. The sword of the Spirit is God's personal word in our mouth!

Now we come to the seventh and final piece of spiritual armor which is the ability to pray in the Spirit (Eph. 6:18).

Ephesians 6:18 praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints--

In **1Corinthians 14:14** and **15**, Paul says that if I pray in a tongue my spirit prays and my understanding is unfruitful. Therefore he says he would pray in tongues and he would pray in the understanding. Praying in the Spirit is an utterance of God. Tongues is an utterance of God. Here we see that Paul says to pray always with all prayer in the Spirit. That means all kinds and all times! It means every time we pray! If we pray in tongues we pray in the Spirit. If we pray in a tongue then we pray the perfect will of God (**Rom. 8:25,26**). If we pray in a tongue then we can also ask to receive the understanding of that tongue so that we might also pray in the understanding.



When we pray in the Spirit we don't pray according to our words, we pray according

to God's. When we pray in the spirit we pray the mystery of God (**1Cor. 14:2; 2:6-14**). When we pray in the Spirit, we don't pray according to our soul's doubt and unbelief. When we pray in the Spirit it builds up our most holy faith (**Jude 20**). Praying in the Spirit is an important weapon against the enemy!

By Ted J. Hanson

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Ted J. Hanson ministers as a prophet and prophetic teacher. He also directs a prophetic school called "School of Eagles". "School of Eagles" offers prophetic seminars, training activations, correspondence courses as well as a Bible School to train and activate the saints for release of their God given gifts. God has laid it upon Ted's heart to network prophetic ministries as well as to facilitate and release the flow of God's prophetic ministry in the earth.

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