

## **Ephesians - The Armor Of God**

### **The Shield Of Faith And The Helmet Of Salvation**

Ephesians 6:10-18 (NIV) – Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. <sup>11</sup> Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. <sup>12</sup> 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. <sup>13</sup> Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.

<sup>14</sup> Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, <sup>15</sup> and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. <sup>16</sup> In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. <sup>17</sup> Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. <sup>18</sup> And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests.

#### **The Shield Of Faith**

**The strength of a person's faith in something is grounded in the object of our faith.**

Our faith in Christ is powerful and effective because the object of our faith, Jesus Christ, is infinitely powerful and absolutely dependable. Our faith never fails, because the One in whom that faith is placed never fails.

#### **Satan's Purpose in Firing the Darts**

- 1) Produce discouragement in our mind**
- 2) Produce depression in our spirit**
- 3) Produce disappointment in our relationships**

**If we try to fight in our own strength, we will most likely fail. We stay close to Jesus and rely on His strength. We do this through:**

- Prayer**
- Obedience**
- Awareness**

<sup>1</sup> Peter 5:8-9 - Stay alert! Watch out for your great enemy, the devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour. <sup>9</sup> Stand firm against him, and be strong in your faith.

#### **The Helmet Of Salvation**

Since Paul is addressing believers, putting on the helmet of salvation cannot refer to receiving Christ as Savior. The only ones who can take up any piece of God's armor, and the only ones who are involved in this supernatural struggle against Satan and his demon forces, are those who are already saved. (1 Cor. 1:18)

#### **Three Aspects Of Salvation**

- 1) Justification: We HAVE BEEN SAVED from sin's penalty.**  
This occurs when we give our lives to Christ.
  - Satan wants to convince us that we are not really saved.**
- 2) Sanctification: We ARE BEING SAVED from sin's power.**  
This takes place between the moment we are saved to the day of our death.
  - Satan wants to convince us that we are failing God.**
- 3) Glorification – We WILL BE SAVED from sin's presence.**  
This will happen when Jesus returns.
  - Satan wants to convince us that heaven isn't real or that we are not going there.**

#### **The Purpose Of The Helmet Of Salvation**

**Satan attacks our justification and our sanctification so that we will lose sight of our glorification.**

**The helmet of salvation protects our minds from believing Satan's lies.**