

WORD PICTURES OF THE CHURCH

PUTTING ON THE ARMOR OF GOD

Ephesians 6:10–18 (ESV)¹⁰ Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. ¹¹ Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. ¹² For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil 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 firm. ¹⁴ Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, ¹⁵ and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. ¹⁶ In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; ¹⁷ and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, ¹⁸ praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints,

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Ephesians 6:10–18 (ESV)

¹⁴ Stand therefore,

having fastened on the belt of truth,

having put on the breastplate of righteousness,

having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace.

In all circumstances

taking up the shield of faith

take the helmet of salvation,

and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God

praying at all times in the Spirit

PARTICIPLES
IMPERATIVE

DEFENSIVE
OFFENSIVE

These phrases imply we are dressed and ready before the attack comes. The implication is that we must not wait until the day of evil comes upon us to put our fighting equipment on, but we are to wear it at all times so that we are already prepared for those evil moments. Paul links these first four together by means of participles, which form the complete picture of the primary protective

The next three (helmet and sword combined with prayer) are primarily offensive in purpose and are linked together by means of an imperative, which is a command.

1. The Belt of Truth

“having fastened on the belt of truth”

2. The Breastplate of Righteousness

“having put on the breastplate of righteousness”

3. Shoes With Readiness Given by the Gospel of Peace

“..shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace.”

4. The Shield of Faith

“In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one.”

REFLECTION:

Do I present a false picture of who I am or do I live in truthfulness with my fellow brothers and sisters?

Am I living today in a right relationship with God and all others?

Am I experiencing the peace of God, in that I have a sense of order in my life?

Am I confident in my resolute faith in the Lord, so that I am protected from the flaming arrows of doubt and distress which come from the evil one?