

Lighthouse Ministries International

Victorious Spiritual Warfare

*A Bible Study in the Principles and Practice
of Spiritual Warfare*



The Armor of God

*Our Defensive and Offensive
Gear for Battle*

Ephesians 6:10-20



Commander's Orders: Put on Full Body Armor of God



Warfare Principle:

Armor on =
we can discern
and stand against
the schemes of
the devil.

Why do we need the Armor of God?

- **Protection** — when under attack
- **Position** — in God's victorious army
- **Power** — against unseen enemy

***Our Goal:** Wear the Armor of God daily so that we can stand firm in the battle.*



Armor is for protection of our valuable, priceless life in Christ.

- **Because we are Christ's** (*Ephesians 1*)
- Chosen one's (*1:4*)
- Adopted as **His Royal Children** (*1:5*)
- The Redeemed Ones (*1:7*)
- Christ's treasure and inheritance (*1:11*)
- Vessels sealed by the Holy Spirit (*1:13*)
- The living Body of Christ on earth (*1:23*)

We have been given the position that Satan coveted — seated with Christ in the heavens.

(Ephesians 2:6)

Ephesians 2:3-6

But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus...

We are a high value target because we have been rescued from Satan's prison.

Colossians 1:13-14

For He rescued us from the ***domain of darkness***, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Our Lord gives us His authority and power.

Luke 9:1

And He called the twelve together, and gave them **power** and authority over all the demons and to heal diseases.

Ephesians 1:19

I pray that the eyes of our heart be open to so we may know what is the immeasurable greatness of **HIS power** to us who believe.

- We have the same power in us that raised Jesus from the dead!!
- Do you think Satan wants you to exercise this **power** and authority against him?

We are God's army on earth.

- We are to bring destruction to Satan's kingdom and take no prisoners.
- **Our mission is to proclaim destruction to the rulers and powers of darkness in Christ's authority and power.**

Ephesians 3:10

This is so God's multifaceted wisdom may now be made known through the church (you and me) to the rulers and authorities in the heavens.

KEY TRUTH:

The Lord Jesus Christ is our armor.

LEARNING OBJECTIVE:

To understand and apply the full armor of God so that we can stand firm in the battle against Satan and to discern his schemes.

KEY VERSE:

Ephesians 6:11 – “Put on the full armor of God, that you may be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil.”

The Armor of God

Ephesians 6:10-18

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. **Put on the full armor of God**, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.

The Armor of God

Ephesians 6:10-18

Therefore, take up the full armor of God, so that you will be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm.

Stand firm therefore, ***HAVING GIRDED YOUR LOINS WITH TRUTH, ...***

The Armor of God

Ephesians 6:10-18

and **HAVING PUT ON THE BREASTPLATE OF
RIGHTEOUSNESS, ...**

and having shod **YOUR FEET WITH THE PREPARATION
OF THE GOSPEL OF PEACE; ...**

The Armor of God

Ephesians 6:10-18

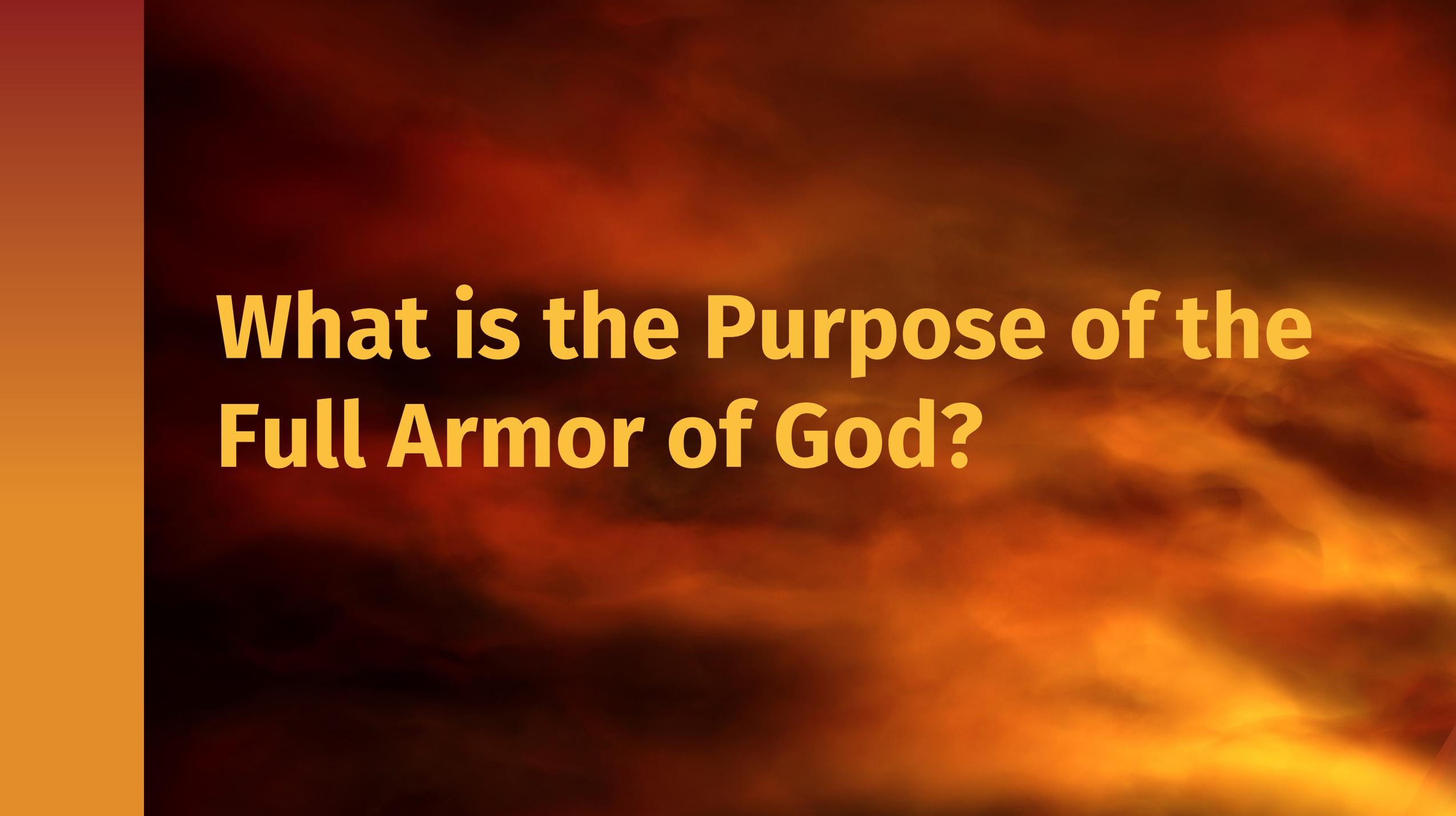
in addition to all, taking up **THE SHIELD OF FAITH** with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one.

And take **THE HELMET OF SALVATION**, and the **SWORD OF THE SPIRIT**, which is the word of God.

The Armor of God

Ephesians 6:10-18

With all ***prayer and petition*** pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints, ...



**What is the Purpose of the
Full Armor of God?**

Understanding the Armor of God

GROUP DISCUSSION:

Each group will take one piece of the Armor and with your study books and Bible, answer these questions:

- 1. What is the purpose of this piece of Armor in battle?
Define the key word, i.e. 'Truth', 'Faith', etc. You may use a Bible verse.*
- 2. What is the application of this piece of Armor in my life?
Give an example.*

(10 minutes and then discussion)

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. (Ephesians 2:6)

2 Corinthians 12:9-10

Therefore, I will most gladly boast all the more about my weaknesses, so that ***Christ's power*** may reside in me ... for when I am weak then I am strong.

Psalms 18:32, 39

God—clothes me with ***strength*** and makes my way perfect.
... You have clothed me with strength for battle.

Our weapons are supernatural.

2 Corinthians 10:4-5

For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ,



Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. (Ephesians 6:11)

- When we put on the full armor of God, we will discern and stand firm against the schemes of the devil.
- What are the devil's schemes or tactics that work in your life?
 - *Identify on scheme working against you now.*

For our battle is not against flesh and blood, ... (Ephesians 6:12)

- **Our non-enemies are flesh and blood:**
 - *Spouses, boyfriend or girlfriend*
 - *Children and step-children*
 - *Relatives*
 - *Boss*
 - *Friends who betray you*
- **How much time do we spend fighting in our own strength the wrong enemy and losing most of the time?**

But against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.

(Ephesians 6:12b)

Satan's military hierarchy:

- Satan
- Rulers, powers, principalities over nations
- World forces over systems of evil
- Forces of wickedness

**Our Adversary is not made of flesh and blood.
Our true reality is in the unseen world.**

1 Peter 5 (CJB)

*Stay sober, stay alert!
Your enemy, the **Adversary**,
stalks about like a roaring lion
looking for someone to devour.*

Isaiah 14:12-15

Ezekiel 28:11-15



Our battle is against Satan and the demonic hosts of hell. (Ephesians 6:12)

Satan's kingdom is an **unseen military hierarchy designed to:**

- **Keep the unbeliever from Christ** (2 Corinthians 4:3-5)
- **Attack and defeat us as Christians using three major avenues:**
 1. *The sinful appetites of the flesh — Victory is by the Cross*
(Romans 6:6-7, Galatians 5:24)
 2. *The lusts for the things of the world — Victory is by the Cross*
(Galatians 6:14)
 3. *The devil and demons — Victory is by using our divine weapons*
(Ephesians 6:12-13; Revelation 12)

Take up the full armor of God, that you may be able to resist in the evil day, having done everything, to stand firm. (Ephesians 6:13)

- **Take up** — to seize and put on armor in order
- **Full armor** — every facet of Christ
- **Evil days** — times of severe attack
 - *Job stood firm in the evil days and was equipped to minister.*

The warfare you face will serve God's purpose.

Put on the Lord Jesus Christ.

Romans 13:14

But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

We will be able to resist and stand firm in the evil day when we wear the full armor of God.



Warfare Principle:

The putting on of every piece of the Armor helps us to stand in victory under demonic attack.

7 Pieces of Spiritual Armor

1. Belt of Truth
2. Breastplate of Righteousness
3. Feet sandaled and ready to go and proclaim the Gospel of Peace
4. Shield of Faith
5. Helmet of Salvation
6. Sword of the Spirit — the Word of God
7. Prayer



Therefore, stand!
Have the belt of truth buckled around your waist.

(Ephesians 6:14)



PURPOSE:

- To stand in military position
- Protect us from enemy lies
- Defeat demonic lies with truth

Jesus answered, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. The only way to the Father is through me."

Making Truth our Belt.

(Ephesians 6:14)



APPLICATION:

- The belt of truth is activated when we take an unwavering stand on God's Word in the face of lies.
- **Truth** — to walk in the Light with God and others in the Body of Christ.

1 John 1:10

*This is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you, that **God is Light**, and in Him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth; but if we **walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light**, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.*

The Weapon of Truth

John 8:31-33

So Jesus was saying to those Jews who had believed Him, "If you continue in My Word, then you are truly disciples of Mine; and you will *know the truth*, and *the truth will make you free.*"

***Stand, ...
with righteousness like armor on your chest, ...***

(Ephesians 6:14)



PURPOSE:

- Protect us from enemy accusations about our past sin by using guilt or shame.
- Protect our heart.
- ***Righteousness*** — right standing before God because our sin debt was paid for and cancelled by our Lord Jesus Christ.

I receive Christ's righteousness.

(Ephesians 6:14)



Philippians 3:8-9

... that I may gain Christ, and may be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own derived from the Law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which comes from God on the basis of faith.

Activating the “breastplate of righteousness”.

(Ephesians 6:14)



APPLICATION:

- When we purpose in our heart not to be defiled by sin, and we claim the righteousness of Christ as ours, we stand strong against Satan’s accusations.

*... on your feet the readiness that comes
from the **GOSPEL OF PEACE.** (Ephesians 6:15)*



PURPOSE:

- To hold you firmly in place when you are getting hit, **never backing down** once you have engaged the enemy.
- **Gospel of Peace** — is Christ's salvation and victory for us by reconciling us to God.

***... on your feet the readiness that comes
from the GOSPEL OF PEACE.*** (Ephesians 6:15)



APPLICATION:

“I declare that I have been purchased with the precious Blood of Christ. The record of my sin has been cancelled. I stand in the righteousness of Christ. I am at peace with God. I choose to forgive all who have offended me with the forgiveness of my Lord Jesus Christ, and I cancel their record of wrongs against me. I stand firmly in the Gospel of peace and claim the boldness of Christ to declare the Gospel.”

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*Above all take up the **SHIELD OF FAITH** so that you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one.* (Ephesians 6:16)



PURPOSE:

- Keeps us standing by God's Word when flaming unclean, sinful, accusing thoughts come against us
- **Faith** — is a personal trust in the person of the Lord Jesus Christ for our every need and circumstance. It is seeing thru' Christ's eyes.

Standing by Faith

Colossians 2:6-7 (NASB)

*Therefore as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, having been firmly rooted and now being built up in Him and established in your **faith**, just as you were instructed, and overflowing with gratitude.*

The Lord is our shield.

Psalm 3:2-3

*Many are rising up against me.
Many are saying of my soul,
"There is no deliverance for him in God." Selah.*

*But You, O LORD, are a shield about me,
My glory, and the One who lifts my head.*

Activating the “shield of faith”. (Ephesians 6:16)



APPLICATION:

We choose to believe God’s Word even when it does not agree with our perceptions, emotions, circumstances or the enemy’s lies.

What are 5 ways to use the shield of faith?

1. **Intake** God's Word.
2. **Claim** God's promises.
3. **Be filled** with the Holy Spirit.
4. **Put up** your shield immediately in combat.
5. **Be occupied** with Christ.

Colossians 3:1-2

Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.



“Take the **HELMET OF SALVATION.**” (Ephesians 6:17)



PURPOSE:

- We are identified as a child of God having been delivered from the kingdom of darkness.
- **Salvation** — forgiven of my sin, rescued from the enemy camp, given victory over the world and devil and given a permanent place in God’s family / army.

Why the Roman Helmet?

1. Identified which army
2. Red crested – identifies us as Soldiers of the Cross
3. We march under the Blood of the Lamb



**Our Lord won our victory with
this battle proven helmet.**

Isaiah 59:17

*He put on righteousness
like a breastplate,
And a helmet of salvation
on His head;*



The mind is the battlefield

- Our enemy inserts in our mind his lies, evil imaginations, high reasoning, doubts, etc.
- Enemy fortresses are destroyed at deliverance.
- Now the mind must be restored with God's truth.
- More in Chapter 5.

Divinely powerful weapons

*For though we walk in the flesh, we are not waging war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have **divine power to destroy strongholds**. We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ, being ready to punish every disobedience, when your obedience is complete.*

Activating the “helmet of salvation” (Ephesians 6:17)



APPLICATION:

- Refuse the evil thought when first hits.
- Distinguish between enemy thoughts and your own.
- Speak the truth in place of the lies.
- Submit your emotions to Christ.

“Take the **SWORD OF THE SPIRIT** which is the **WORD OF GOD.**”

(Ephesians 6:17)



PURPOSE:

- We use this **offensive weapon** of the spoken Word of God just as Jesus did in the wilderness when He said to Satan, *“Be gone, Satan!”*
- **Sword of the Spirit** — the *spoken* Word of God

We declare God's Word to the enemy.

Isaiah 49:2

*He has made My mouth
like a sharp sword,*

*In the shadow of His hand
He has concealed Me;*



Extremely lethal Roman sword symbol for the Word of God

- Double-edged, sharp, greatly feared
- Never left his side
- A primary offensive weapon

Hebrews 4:12 (ESV)

For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.



Activating the “the Sword of the Spirit” (Ephesians 6:17)



APPLICATION:

- Speak an appropriate verse against the lie or strategy of the enemy, and it will destroy Satan’s plan against you.

“PRAY at all times in the Spirit and be on the alert and make petition for all the saints.” (Ephesians 6:18)



PURPOSE OF PRAYER FOR BATTLE:

- Prayer is communication with God in praise, thanksgiving, confession, petition, intercession and LISTENING. Prayer keeps us from falling into enemy traps. **We get our orders for all spiritual warfare in prayer.**

Jesus admonishes us to pray.

*Prayer is the most lethal far-reaching
weapon of our armor.*

Matthew 26:41

Keep watching and *praying*,
that you may not enter into
temptation; the spirit is willing,
but the flesh is weak.



Activating the weapon of “prayer” (Ephesians 6:18)



APPLICATION:

- We pray for boldness to fearlessly declare the Gospel to unbelievers.
- We pray for boldness to speak against all enemy opposition in our minds or external circumstances.
- We stay alert to pray for the needs of our fellow brothers and sisters.



How do we put on the Armor?

1. Belt of Truth
2. Breastplate of Righteousness
3. Feet sandaled and ready to go and proclaim the Gospel of Peace
4. Shield of Faith
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Is this how the enemy sees you?

Luke 10:19

Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing will injure you.



Victorious Spiritual Warfare

Psalm 18: 32-37

The God who girds me with **strength**
And makes my way **blameless?**

He makes my feet like **hinds' feet**,
And sets me upon my **high places**.

He trains my **hands** for battle,
So that my arms can bend a bow of bronze.

You have also given me **the shield** of Your salvation,

And **Your right hand** upholds me;

And Your gentleness makes me great.

You enlarge **my steps** under me,

And **my feet** have not slipped.

I pursued my enemies and
overtook them,
And I did not turn back until they
were consumed.



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