

Prayer-The Deciding Factor!

Ephesians 6:10-20

5x- Devil and his angels are **AGAINST** the people of God!

2x- Paul instructs us to...

- **Put on...the whole armor of God!**
- **Take up...the whole armor of God!**

Why? The Christian life is **NOT** a playground it's a **battleground!**

Paul imprisoned in Rome, chained to a Roman soldier, became very familiar with the **Roman soldiers armor.**

Here Paul inspired by the Holy Spirit writes of the **Christian soldier's armor!**

The **whole armor of God** is the Christian soldiers protection against the **devil** and his angels! Enabling the believer to both **STAND HIS GROUND** and **ADVANCE!**

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** (schemes, strategies, trickery) of the **devil.**

12 For we do not **wrestle** against **flesh and blood**, but **against principalities** (rankings of demons), **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. **14 Stand therefore** (tortoise formation)

14 Stand therefore,(N.I.V.) **with the belt of TRUTH buckled around your waist**) having put on the **breastplate of righteousness**,

At the **VERY CENTER** of the **whole armor of God** is **TRUTH! Truthfulness with God & others!**

The purpose of the **breastplate** was...to protect the **heart, lungs**, and other **vital organs** of the soldier in combat.

Understand that our enemy, our adversary, is against **US**, he is against **YOU!** There is **NOTHING** that he loves to **ATTACK** more than the **FINISHED WORK** of Calvary!

15 and having shod your feet with the **preparation (readiness) of the gospel of peace**;

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

fiery darts- can also be translated NIV- **flaming arrows** or **flaming spears** or even NASV- **flaming missiles**.

A **faith** that looks to God! A faith that looks beyond our **circumstances**! A faith that looks beyond what we **feel** or **see**! A faith that **believes** God. **Trusts** God! **Knows** God!

17 And take the **helmet of salvation**, and **the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God**;

Q. Who's telling me this? Q. What's the truth?

the sword of the Spirit, which is The Word of God

Paul focuses in on 6 pieces of Roman armor: 1. **Belt** 2. **Breastplate** 3. **Sandals** 4. **Shield** 5. **Helmet** 6. **Sword**

Paul adds a 7th piece of armor for the Christian- **PRAYER!**

The Christian soldier is a soldier is marked by 1. **Truth** 2. **Righteousness** 3. **Gospel** 4. **Faith** 5. **Salvation** 6. **The Word of God** 7. **Prayer**

Equipped with The Word of God & Prayer...the SOLDIER OF GOD... can not only withstand the enemy BUT is a threat to the enemy's strongholds!

2 Corinthians 10:4 For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds.

Understand... When we pray in the name of Jesus, standing on the Word of God...The devil and his principalities **MUST YIELD!** (Colossians 2:15)

Prayer is our **SUPREME WEAPON!** -John Bunyon

"Satan trembles when he sees... the weakest of saints upon his knees" -William Cowper

PRAYER is the deciding factor! (Knife)

Neh 4:4 Don't be afraid of them. Remember the Lord, who is **GREAT & AWESOME**, and fight for your families, your sons and your daughters, your wives and your homes.

18 praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit...

Group prayer, individual prayer, silent prayer, shouting prayer, singing prayer, walking prayer, kneeling prayer, eloquent prayer, groaning prayer, constant prayer, fervent prayer, morning prayer, evening prayer, a week of prayer!

Ephesians 6:18 praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit

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 19 and for me...

1Peter 5.6-8 Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, 7 casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you. **8 Stay alert! Watch** out for your great enemy, the devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour.

This Week

Word on relationships **NOT RIGHT...GET RIGHT** this week! **HUMBLE** ourselves with each other... **SPELLS DEFEAT** for the Enemy!

Right with God? **NOT RIGHT...GET RIGHT! NOW!**