

BE ARMED!
(Ephesians 6:14-17)

- I. The BELT (or “GIRDLE”) of TRUTH (6:14a)
 - A. Keeps the ARMOR in PLACE
 - B. Indicates BATTLE READINESS
 - C. Represents TRUTHFULNESS and INTEGRITY
 - 1. Represents thorough UNDERSTANDING of God’s WORD
 - 2. Includes PERSONAL INTEGRITY
- II. The BREASTPLATE of RIGHTEOUSNESS (6:14b)
 - A. Protects the HEART and other vital ORGANS
 - B. Represents RIGHTEOUSNESS, or HOLY living
 - 1. Not the righteousness of CHRIST imputed to the believer in JUSTIFICATION
 - 2. But the PRACTICAL righteousness developed in the believer’s life in SANCTIFICATION
- III. The SHOES of the “PREPARATION of the gospel of PEACE” (6:15)
 - A. Provides a FIRM FOUNDATION
 - 1. Strapped a SHIN GUARD to the lower leg
 - 2. Strapped on a thick LEATHER sole, studded with NAILS

- B. Represents SECURITY in the GOSPEL
 - 1. We have PRESENT peace with God through FAITH in the GOSPEL of Jesus Christ
 - 2. We anticipate FUTURE peace at the end of the conflict because we face a DEFEATED FOE

- IV. The SHIELD of FAITH (6:16)
 - A. Protects from ENEMY ARROWS
 - B. Represents TRUST for present VICTORY
 - 1. In general, over SATAN, the TEMPTER
 - 2. In particular, over SINS, the TEMPTATION

- V. The HELMET of SALVATION (6:17a)
 - A. Protects the HEAD
 - B. Represents SALVATION from present DESTRUCTION
 - 1. Potential of SIN'S corrupting INFLUENCE
 - 2. Potential of SATAN'S constant ATTACKS

- VI. The SWORD of the SPIRIT, the WORD of GOD (6:17b)
 - A. Defends against enemy ATTACK and allows counter-ATTACKING
 - B. Represents appropriate APPLICATION of SCRIPTURE