

Wearing our Spiritual Armor Ephesians 6:10-20

1. Why is the Christian urged to take *God's* armor? What promise is implied (v13) to the one who does avail himself of this equipment?
2. What parts of the body are specifically mentioned (vs 14-17)? What provision is made for each? Which part of the equipment is for defence? Which is for offence?
3. Why is truth (an awareness of the real facts about ourselves and about God) essential for success in spiritual battles? How can a soldier be hindered by not knowing the truth?
4. What vital organs of the body will the breastplate (v14) protect? Righteousness here means moral integrity. How can a life devoted to obeying God's will be a protection against spiritual attacks? How does a guilty conscience weaken us spiritually?
5. Every soldier knows the importance of good footwear. Compare v15 with Rom 10:15 and Is 52:7. Why does the gospel of peace form a part of this armor for spiritual warfare?
6. What importance does Paul put upon the shield as a part of the Christian's equipment? How is faith the Christian's chief means of protection? From what? See also James 1:14; 1 Peter 2: 11.
7. Give examples in which a Christian's close personal relationship with Christ through faith becomes a protecting shield for him against temptation. Compare 1 Corinthians 10: 13.
8. The verb translated *take* in verse 17 means to *accept*, to *receive* the salvation God has provided for us of forgiveness for past sins and present deliverance from sin's power. Why does the head need special protection? What attacks might be made on the Christian through his mind? How does the assurance of our salvation equip us against such attacks?
9. What is the one weapon of offence necessary for the Christian? How may it be used defensively as well? Whose sword is it? Compare with Matthew 4:1-11 to see how Jesus used this weapon.
10. What experiences have you had that make you aware of the reality of the spiritual battle in which Christians are engaged? In what specific ways have you found the armor of God effective?
11. How can we make sure that we don't go about unequipped or only partially equipped?

Share areas where you may feel under spiritual attack. Pray for each other.