

# Armor of God Part 5

Steve Berger August 7, 2016

## Review and Preview

- last week looked at first part of the armor of God — Cover our Loins with Truth
- start with Truth, reproduce Truth, defeats devil's lies, know Truth and be free
- TODAY—Breastplate of Righteousness, Feet covered with Peace, Shield of Faith

- **Ephesians 6:14-16**

Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one.

## Breastplate of Righteousness

- **imputed righteousness** — that God gives us in Christ
  - **2 Corinthians 5:21**  
For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.
- **practical righteousness** — only allowing righteous things into my life

*Application — the Breastplate of Righteousness **guards my heart** — covers imputed, practically guards against unrighteousness trying to enter my heart!*

*Question? Why is guarding your heart so important?*

- **Proverbs 4:23**

Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it spring the issues of life.

- **Matthew 12:34-35**

Brood of vipers! How can you, being evil, speak good things? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good things, and an evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth evil things.

- **Matthew 15:18-20**

But those things which proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and they defile a man. For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies. These are the things which defile a man, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile a man.

*Application — words you speak, good or evil you do, come from what's in your heart!*

**Breastplate of Righteousness protects who you are,  
allows good things to come out, guards against temptation and sin,  
prevents unrighteous footholds from ruling your heart!**

**Not guarding your heart with Breastplate of Righteousness,  
there's unrighteousness going in and coming out of you!  
Yielding to temptation and sin, footholds are established — defiled!**

***SO IMPORTANT** — Breastplate of Righteousness asks the question to every heart-suitor, “How does what you’re offering me line up with the righteousness of God?”*

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## **Peace of God**

- **Ephesians 6:15**

...and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace

- Preparing Yourself to Stand in God's Prevailing Peace, in a world going mad!

- **John 14:27**

Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

**Jesus has given us peace, receive it, it's not like the world's peace!**

***World's Peace** — circumstantial, all good, peace, crazy, trouble, fear*

***Jesus's Peace** — allows us to not be troubled or afraid when things are storm-tossed!*

- **Philippians 4:6-9**

Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things. The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you.

**Prayer with thanksgiving produces the peace of God  
that surpasses understanding, guards your heart and mind!  
Meditating on truth, etc. brings the God of Peace into your situation.**

***Remember** — ask, believe, receive*

- **Galatians 5:22**

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace...

***Summary** — Standing in the Prevailing Peace of God delivers us from trouble, fear, and anxiety — and produces peace, courage, and comfort! Stand in the peace of God!*

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## **Shield of Faith**

- **Ephesians 6:16**

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

- God is our shield — mentioned 19 times in scripture — this is personal for God!
- **Genesis 15:1**  
After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, saying, “Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your exceedingly great reward.”
- **Psalm 84:9,11**  
O God, behold our shield, and look upon the face of Your anointed...For the LORD God is a sun and shield; The LORD will give grace and glory; No good thing will He withhold from those who walk uprightly.
- **Psalm 115:9-11**  
O Israel, trust in the LORD; He is their help and their shield. O house of Aaron, trust in the LORD; He is their help and their shield. You who fear the LORD, trust in the LORD; He is their help and their shield.

*Application... take up and trust, the Shield of your faith, take up Who He is, What He promises, what He provides. Have faith in all that!*

**There is no weakness in the Shield of your faith,  
take Him up, put Him before you!**

*RESULT — quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one all of them — every type and kind!*

- fiery — hellish, burning, destroying
- darts — arrows, stealth, out of nowhere
- from wicked one — don't discount the source of these fiery darts

*Application... take up the Shield of your faith, put Him before you, believe Who He is, what He promises, what He provides and start quenching all the fiery darts of the wicked one.*

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## Summary

- **Breastplate of Righteousness** — covers who you are, guards against unrighteousness infiltrating your heart.
- **Peace of God**- Jesus gave it, receive it, it's not circumstantial, it surpasses our understanding, we get it and keep it through prayer, thanksgiving, meditation, it guards our heart and mind
- **Shield of Faith**- God Himself is our Shield, take Him up, put Him before you, believe Who He is, what He promises, what He provides and start quenching all the fiery darts of the wicked one

**All these pieces of armor, working together,  
defeat the enemies schemes and power over your life...  
put on the whole armor of God!**

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## **Discussion Questions**

1. What is the difference between imputed righteousness and practical righteousness?
2. Why is guarding your heart so important? What do YOU do to guard your heart?
3. Are you to the place in your life where you have peace in all circumstances? Why or why not?
4. How does it make you feel, knowing that God wants to be your shield, your first line of defense?
5. What do WE have to do with the Shield of Faith?

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## **JOIN US BEFORE THE THRONE: WORSHIP NIGHT**

Wednesday, August 31st

6:30 p.m. — Sanctuary