

THE ARMOR OF GOD pt.1 Text: Ephesians 6:10-18

Fight the Good Fight of Faith

1. The Battle is real and we need the Armor of God to fight the good fight.

2. But the enemy has one particular advantage...

- There are millions of lies — but only one Truth.
- There are millions of forms of self-righteousness—but only one righteousness from God
- There are millions of different man-made gospels—but only on gospel that can save

Satan doesn't have to turn you into an atheist—he just has to turn you away from God to a different truth, different form of righteousness, a different gospel.

1. THE ARMOR OF TRUTH

A. THE ARMOR OF TRUTH

1. The Roman Soldier wore a belt tightened around the waist.

- a) It wrapped around the soldier's tunic and his sword hung from it.
- b) It gave him his center of gravity and freedom of movement.

2. People are guessing and feeling their way in the dark—without the Truth

- a) But the Christian moves freely and decisively because they know the truth.
- b) And it is the Truth that Sets Your Free (Jn 8:31-32)

B. THE CORE OF SPIRITUAL WARFARE IS LIES VS. TRUTH

1. THINK About the ORIGINAL LIE in the Garden.

- a) Satan didn't Deny the ***existence of God***—
—he just tempted Eve to question the ***goodness of God***
- b) Satan didn't deny the ***existence of Truth***—
—he just offered a counterfeit ***more appealing than the Truth***.
- c) There was only 1 Law in the Garden—only ONE!
- d) but Instead of recognizing the freedom God gives—he focused on the 1 limitation.
- e) They could eat of any tree, including the tree of life and live forever—
- f) But if they ate of the Tree of the knowledge of Good & Evil—they would die...
- g) Did God say you would die? —No you won't die—your eyes will be opened and you will become wise and be like God knowing good and evil.

2. Satan is a liar and the father of lies (John 8:44)

- a) “And then she understood the devilish cunning of the enemies plan. By mixing a little truth with it they had made their lie far stronger.” (CS Lewis, The Last Battle)

3. People still fall for this lie—because it is so appealing—The IDOL OF SELF

- Believing the source of truth is NOT God—but YOUR inner-self—‘Your Truth’
- Exalting own inner thoughts or feelings as more inspired than scripture.
- The highest ‘good’ is to be Good to MYSELF.
- The Highest Truth is to be ‘true to MYSELF. The Highest Love is to Love MYSELF
—more than the Truth, more than God! (Romans 1:18–23, 25)

C. PUT ON THE ARMOR OF TRUTH

1. God's Word is Truth (John 17:14–17) The Truth that sets you Free!

2. The Truth is Your Defense Against the Lies of the Enemy (2 Cor. 10:3–5)

2. THE ARMOR OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

A. THE ARMOR OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

1. **The next piece of armor the soldier puts on is a metal breastplate.**
 - a) This armor protected the chest, lungs and heart in the heat of battle
 - b) It was strong and light and an arrow shot at 20 paces left only a light scratch.
2. **The Armor of Righteousness protects the soldier of Christ like a bullet proof vest.**

B. THE ATTACKS OF THE ENEMY

1. **The name Satan means: שָׂטָן (śā-tān): adversary, ...slanderer or accuser**
 - a) Satan brings accusation against the people of God day and night [Rev. 12:10].
2. **We are given a glimpse of this in the spiritual realm (Zechariah 3:1–4)**
 - a) Joshua the High Priest had no defense against the accusations of Satan
 - b) His robes were filthy because he represented the people who had sinned...
 - c) the High Priest himself was human—so had sinned...
3. **Although Satan is a liar—His accusations against us are truth because We have all sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.**
 - a) (Prov. 20:9) “Who can say, “I have made my heart clean, I am pure from my sin”?”
 - b) **ANSWER: NO ONE!** And those who say otherwise are only lying...
 - c) ALL Have Sinned (1 John 1:8) “If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.”
4. **Satan is the Accuser—but he is also the deceiver...**
 - a) Deceiving us into believing—I Can Fix This on my own.
 - b) I’ll be a good person from now on.
 - c) I’ll make this up on my own. — I’ll work my way out of this debt.
5. **But Your own self-righteousness cannot make you holy (Isaiah 64:6)**
 - a) Pile up ALL your righteous good deed—and all you have is a pile filthy rags!
 - b) But Millions upon Millions of People have been deceived (Romans 10:2-4)

C. PUT ON THE ARMOR OF GOD

1. **The Armor of Righteousness is given to us by God (Isa. 61:10)**
 - a) The Robe of Righteousness... The Garment of Salvation...
 - b) Robes made white by the blood of the Lamb
 - c) Provided by the atoning sacrifice of Jesus on the cross
2. **We are not worthy—but worthy is the Lamb who was slain for our sins (Philippians 3:9-11)**
3. **The Armor of God’s Righteousness is like a bullet-proof vest against the accusations of the Enemy (Romans 8:33-34)**
 - a) The enemy can accuse us but cannot condemn us
 - b) Because there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ (Rom 8:1)
4. **This is how we have victory over the enemy (Revelation 12:9–11)**

3. THE ARMOR OF GOSPEL PEACE

A. THE ARMOR OF GOSPEL PEACE

1. The Footwear of the Soldier was designed for three things:

- a) **STABILITY**: Soldiers wear boots for stability to hold the line.
- b) **MOBILITY**: Roman Soldiers could march far distances in a short time.
- c) **READINESS**: Imagine trying to fight in battle barefoot! You fight with your boots on

2. The Gospel of Peace is critical for our ability to:

- a) **STAND**: against the enemy
- b) **WALK**: In the strength of the Lord
- c) **READY**: to defend the Faith with the Truth

3. The Gospel is the good news of salvation...

- a) The only way to have peace w/ God—and the ONLY way of peace within ourselves
- b) But the Enemy wants to Steal, Kill and Destroy your peace & relationship with God

B. ARMOR TO STAND AGAINST COUNTERFEIT GOSPELS (2 Cor. 4:3–4)

Satan doesn't have to turn you into an Atheist—he just has to turn you away from God—to make you think your saved when actually your lost.

There is only 1 True Gospel that saves—but many counterfeits

- **The Self-Esteem Gospels:**
Sin is negative self-feelings. We didn't need Jesus - we need Oprah.
- **The 'Good Person' Gospel.**
I don't need the blood of Jesus, because I'm a "good person."
- **Self-fulfillment Gospels:**
You are the center of all things,
God exists for your self-fulfillment and self-actualization.
- **The 'Follow Your Heart' Gospel:**
Original Sin is not Eve disobeying God...
the original sin is that she did not fulfill her full potential to follow her heart
- **The Universalist Gospel:**
All Roads Lead to Heaven... Jesus is a way but not necessarily the way...
'because there are MANY ways' you just have to pick which way you want...
- **The Therapeutic Gospel:**
Jesus dying on a cross is OK... BUT really it was great psychologists and intellectuals like Sigmund Freud, Karl Marx who Really Opened Our Eyes to Truth!
- **Health and Wealth Prosperity Gospels:**
 - God only exists for YOU—to make YOU healthy, wealthy and happy
- **New Age Gospels:**
salvation is not from sin against God—but lack of knowing your true 'divine' self
- **The Gospel of What's Happening Now:**
Whatever is popular. > or trending. > the New Big Thing.
- **The Liberation Theology Gospel:**
The Woke gospel that liberates us from oppressive unjust social structures
- **(2 Cor. 11:3-4 > Galatians 1:6-7) Satan doesn't have to turn you into an Atheist — he just has to turn you away from God—and from the Gospel of Christ.**

THREE TYPES OF SALVATION:

1—SALVATION AS SELF-FULFILLMENT¹

(1) Hinduism (2) Buddhism (3) Gnosticism (4) Eastern Mysticism (4) New Age

- Each of these belief systems seek salvation through Self – “Enlightenment”
- This Salvation is not to be saved from separation and wrath of God because of sin...
- But to be saved from **ignorance of your true self — that you are a ‘Divine’**
- That there is no being called God—but everything is God including you [Pantheism]
- Therefore God does not save—you must save yourself...

THE PROBLEM is Divinity comes with a price, one you might not have expected:

Since You’ve Convinced Yourself You’re a god... “any ill that befalls you, any anguish, any disaster, any tragedy—is no one’s fault but your own. You are responsible for your entire reality (b/c you are god after all) You have to cure your own cancer, heal your own problems and prevent your own death, you have to maintain the universe. *(Greg Koukl, The Story of Reality)*

2—SALVATION AS THE HEALING OF SOCIETY

(1) Marxism (3) Secular Humanism (2) Christian Liberalism / ‘Liberation Theology’

- Each of these belief systems define salvation as the healing of society, not saving a soul
- This Salvation has little or no need for God—we must save ourselves for heaven on earth
- This Secular salvation sees man’s problem is not in himself—but social & economic structures.
- A Liberation Theology to Liberate man from unjust social, economic and racial oppression.
- These social structures must be destroyed and replaced
- If salvation is achieved it will be by man himself...**

Man will save himself and be Politically Enlightened and Liberated from Oppression.

3—SALVATION AS FORGIVENESS AND ACCEPTANCE FROM GOD

(1) Judaism and (2) Biblical Christianity

- Only Those Who Know God and His Word will understand the true nature of salvation.
- Our sins have separated us from God who is holy—who is light, and no darkness is in Him
- But who gave us free-will, even w/ all its consequences—so we could love and to be loved.
- God does not want any to perish but all to come to repentance
- So He sent His Son to the cross to die for our sins—Jesus took the wrath of God against evil and sin upon Himself—so that we could be saved from wrath through Him
- Jesus PAID Our DEBT In FULL on the Cross so we can have eternal life through Him**

You can search all the worlds religions and belief systems and ideologies—

—but you will not find grace in any of them. Grace can only be found in Jesus Christ!

C. THIS IS THE ARMOR OF GOSPEL PEACE

- This is the Work that **ONLY Jesus Could Accomplish at the Cross...**
- Jesus Paid Our Debt in Full by His Blood on the Cross for our sins!**
- This is the Grace in Which We Stand in the strength of the Lord

CONCLUSION:

- 1. The Full Armor of God Protects us from lies and attacks of the Enemy**
- 2. We Are Protected by the Armor of TRUTH, Armor of RIGHTEOUSNESS, the Armor of the GOSPEL OF PEACE (Romans 8:33–39)**

He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world (1 John 4:1,4)

–Bill Turner 4/2026

¹ Jack Cottrell, God the Redeemer. P.45ff College Press