

# THE ARMOR OF GOD pt.2 Text: Ephesians 6:10-18

*Fight the Good Fight*

—Bill Turner 4/2026

1. Spiritual warfare is real... but it's a deceptive war for your mind and soul
  2. Like a scammer who convinces you to transfer your retirement to a safer account
  3. To deceive, to demoralize, to discourage so you give up hope (2 Cor. 10:3–5 NIV)
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## I. THE ARMOR OF FAITH (v.16)

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### A. THE ROMAN SOLDIER WAS EQUIPPED WITH A SHIELD FOR BATTLE

#### 1. This Shield Protected the body of the Soldier

- a) This Roman shield was about 2 1/2 ft wide and 3 1/2 ft tall
- b) It was made of metal... or of wood covered with metal.
- c) Or wood covered w/ leather that was soaked in water to extinguish flaming arrows.

#### 2. In Ancient Warfare, archers would tie a rag on the end of their arrows and dip them in flammable tar and ignited them with fire.

- a) When these fiery darts hit they splattered flaming tar all over the target

#### 3. But the Roman shield was also used in Battle formation...

- a) As soldiers advanced in rows into battle—they formed a portable wall of protection
- b) So the enemy was met with a wall of shields.

### B. THE ARMOR OF FAITH—Protects us like a Shield

#### 1. Faith Forms a Protective Shield (force-field) from fiery darts of the enemy

- a) Our Faith Links up with Other Soldiers of the Cross to provide a wall of defense
- b) Our Faith can Extinguish the fiery arrows of the enemy  
“Even when such a missile was caught by the shield and did not penetrate to the body, it caused panic, because it was thrown when well alight and its motion through the air made it blaze most fiercely, so that the soldier was tempted to get rid of his burning shield and expose himself to the enemy’s spear-thrusts. But the shield of faith not only catches the incendiary devices but extinguishes them.” (F.F. Bruce)

#### 2. Thoughts, feelings, imaginations, fears, lies and temptations—all of these are hurled at us by Satan as fiery darts.

- a) The King of Syria was arrayed in battle against Israel but every move was anticipated—as if a spy was telling the king of Israel
- b) Finally the Syrian King asks—who is the informant? But his adviser told him: It is not a spy from within—it is the prophet Elisha (2 Kings 6:12–14).
- c) So he send his army by night to surround Elisha (2 Kings 6:15–17).
- d) “Do not fear, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them.”

#### 3. THE BATTLE IS REAL—so our Faith must be Real!

**The Shield of Faith is our Absolute Confidence and Trust in God!**

- a) True Faith is precious to God (Hebrews 11:6)
- b) True Faith means to trust and obey God (Hebrews 11:8)
- c) True Faith is rewarded by God (Genesis 15:1)

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## II. THE ARMOR OF SALVATION (v.17)

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### A. ROMAN SOLDIERS WORE A HELMET FOR BATTLE

1. This armor protected the head from a fatal blow
2. Because the head was the core of a soldier's power to wage war
3. His thinking and his training was the difference between victory or defeat

### B. THE ARMOR OF SALVATION—Protects our minds

1. One of Satan's most effective weapons against us is discouragement.
  - a) Discouragement can break down a person's confidence and courage
  - b) Discouragement and Doubt can cause a person to give up hope
  - c) This is spiritual warfare (**2 Corinthians 10:3–5**)

#### DISCOURAGEMENT AND DOUBT SAYS:

- 'No One Cares' — GOD says I Care (1 Peter 5:7)
- 'I'm Worthless' — GOD says Your Precious (Isa 43:1, 4 ESV)
- 'I'm Hopeless' — GOD says You Have a Living Hope (1 Pet 1:3)
- 'I'm Alone' — GOD says You Are Never Alone (Mt 28:20)
- 'I'm Afraid' — GOD says Fear Not (Isaiah 41:10 NKJ)
- 'I've Failed' — GOD says Your Repentance gives Joy in Heaven (Lk 15:7)
- 'I Could Lose Everything' — God says: I made everything. (Gen 1:31)

*"Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.*

2. This is the battle for your mind: "do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind" (Romans 12:2)
3. But we are equipped with the Armor of Salvation (**1 Thes. 5:8-9**)
  - a) This is the hope that protects us from discouragement.
  - b) The Hope to keep us from giving up in the face of hardship.
4. The Armor of Salvation means we are safe in Christ (**Eph 2:4–10**)

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## III. THE ARMOR OF GOD'S WORD (v.17)

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### A. THE SWORD WAS THE SOLDIERS OFFENSIVE WEAPON

1. Skill with a Sword meant life or death for a soldier...
  - a) They trained with their sword for close hand to hand combat...
  - b) They practiced and trained how to use their weapon to stay alive
  - c) One wrong move, one delayed reaction, one distraction is all it takes...
2. A Soldier has to know His Weapon...
  - a) U.S. Marines are trained and timed to breakdown & reassemble an M16 blindfolded!
  - b) They have to know their weapon inside and out—blindfolded
  - c) But How Well do We Know Our Weapon—the Word of God?
  - d) Do we have skill with the Sword of Truth?

### B. WE ARE EQUIPPED WITH THE SWORD OF THE SPIRIT: the Word of God

1. Your Sword is a powerful weapon (**Hebrews 4:12**)
  - a) When Satan tempted Jesus in the wilderness...

- b) Jesus repelled every attack with the Sword of the Spirit—the word of God.
  - c) Satan was defeated: so he left in order to attack Jesus at a more opportune time
2. **It is a light in the darkness (Ps. 119:105)**
  3. **Protects you from evil (Ps. 119:11)**
  4. **Keeps You Pure (Ps. 119:9)**
  5. **Enlightens your mind with understanding (Ps. 119:130)**
  6. **Protecting you from harm (Ps. 119:114)**
  7. **The Sword of the Spirit is the Word of God—  
—not the Opinions of Man! (1 Thes. 2:13)**
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## **IV. THE ARMOR OF PRAYER (v.18-20)**

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### **A. A SOLDIER IS TO BE SOBER, ALERT, WATCHFUL, READY...**

1. **The Life of a Soldier can be difficult and lonely...**
  - a) Living conditions are not ideal,
  - b) they're often separated from their families
  - c) the Mission is Hard... and it takes discipline
2. **The life and work of a soldier is not easy—  
and it is difficult for a Christian Soldier (2 Timothy 2:3–4)**

### **B. BY THE ARMOR OF PRAYER—We Stay Sober, Alert, Watchful, Ready**

1. **In the Garden of Gethsemane Jesus told the disciples to watch and pray**
  - a) *“Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.” (Mk 14:38.)*
2. **After WW2, John F Kennedy wrote a book called ‘While England Slept’**
  - a) About the NAZI Build up that led to a World War and millions of deaths.
  - b) Winston Churchill was one of the few men in England who recognized the Threat of Hitler simply because he actually read what Hitler was saying...
  - c) Churchill recognized the Lies and deception of the enemy
  - d) Winston Churchill said to Britain in the early days of the Second World War:  
*“I must drop one word of caution, for next to cowardice and treachery, overconfidence leading to neglect and slothfulness, is the worst of wartime crimes.”*
3. **Sometimes we don't pray because we are overconfident...**
  - a) Do you get discouraged? Do you sometimes have doubts?
  - b) Are you taking arrows from the enemy? Are you getting hit with arrows of anxiety?  
Darts of Doubt and Discouragement?
4. **Take it to God in Prayer! (1 Peter 5:6–9)**
  - a) *Put on the whole armor of God—each piece put on with prayer...*

### **CONCLUSION:**

1. **If God is for us, who can be against us? We are more than conquerors in Him**
2. **Even the Lord's Prayer asks for spiritual protection (Matthew 6:9–13)**