

## **Armour of God 1 message 2020**

### **Introduction**

Right at the beginning of going into spiritual battles there is an attitude every believer must have. It is not, if there will be an enemy attack, THERE WILL BE ONE AND MANY. The enemy knows our weaknesses because he watches us. Don't be ignorant of his devices or ways of attack. We also need to be aware of our weaknesses and not presume the devil won't try to exploit them. In the armour of God there is protection for every part of us. There is also plenty of weaponry available for us to be victorious over every enemy attack. Today we want to explore the Belt of Truth.

### **THE BELT OF TRUTH**

#### **Key verses**

#### **Hebrews 12:1-3 New International Version (NIV)**

12 Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, <sup>2</sup> fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. <sup>3</sup> Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

This was Jesus' battle royale. Why? Because Satan saw a chance to kill the Son of God and did not realize to kill Him would be helping God achieve an everlasting redemption for all mankind who choose Jesus.

#### **Eph 6:10-20**

All of Heaven wants you to win in this life against everything the enemy Satan attacks you with. They are cheering you on. God Himself cheers you on and will make all His power and strength available to you so that you can be approved of God and win.

The first several armour elements are related to how strong and effective the rest of the armour will be. They are foundational, relational, and make the rest of them effective.

What are the pieces of spiritual armour?

The Belt of truth, the Breastplate of righteousness, shoes of the gospel of peace, Shield of faith, Helmet of Salvation, and the Sword of the spirit

## **1. Belt of truth**

Purpose

**John 8:31-32 New International Version (NIV)**

<sup>31</sup> To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. <sup>32</sup> Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

**2 Corinthians 5:17 New International Version (NIV)**

<sup>17</sup> Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!

We need to know the truth.

Why did the Lord Jesus start with a belt? Why not something more powerful like a sword or some kind of weapon?

When we look into why a Roman soldier in Jesus day used a belt, we find it was an essential element as it secured other parts of the soldier's armour to the soldier for use. It held the sword in its sheath so that the soldier would always have a sword available in battle. There were also strips of leather hanging from it to protect the legs and lower body. If a soldier had to carry everything in his hands, the sword could become unavailable or fall. In battle, a soldier could be called upon to do many things like throw a spear, jump onto a horse, avoid a chariot etc. The sword must be secured for it to be available to him and that other work could also be done.

The same is as a Christian The Sword of the Spirit must be fully available and be used correctly thus needing the belt of truth to do so. The Sword of the Spirit is the aggressive weapon God gives us to win against Satan. God doesn't train us in spiritual warfare to be defensive but offensive. The protective elements are there so we can be protected while being aggressive against the enemy of our souls.

Things to know in truth

We need to know what will set us free and win the battle. We need to know where our strength and power comes from. We need to know where a

battle is forming. We also need to know our personal limitations and weaknesses and how to approach each battle no matter when or where it happens. Jesus' temptation battle In **Matt 4:1-11**, has some clear knowledge of this. Jesus always responded to temptations from the devil with truth (the bible-Word of God). The belt of truth. He had it on when He had to deal with the devil, and we need it too. Even though He felt weak in body, He could be powerful with the Word of God.

### **Matthew 4:1-2 New International Version (NIV)**

4 Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. <sup>2</sup> After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry.

### How is it put on

Jesus prayed to the Father,

### **John 17:17 New International Version (NIV)**

<sup>17</sup> Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth.

### **2 Timothy 2:15 New International Version (NIV)**

<sup>15</sup> Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the Word of Truth.

### **Acts 17:11 [Full Chapter]**

Now the Berean Jews were of more noble character than those in Thessalonica, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true.

They studied to see if the words they were being taught matched with the bible. In today's world truth is not absolute or based on God's Word. The truth people use is whatever appeals to them in the day they live. It keeps changing. It keeps being treated like whatever was said yesterday has no bearing on today.

We need to start reading what God says about things. We need to read it and study it well on topics we are concerned about or don't know about. Study to show thyself approved of God. In **Matt 4**, during Jesus' Temptation in the desert, Jesus quoted the bible to Satan and Satan could not combat that. He had to move on to something else.

## **2 Timothy 3:16 New International Version (NIV)**

<sup>16</sup> All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,

We need to understand that we can stand with confidence on what the bible says because it is God's words to us.

Jesus will not let you be tempted above what you can handle either. That is a comforting thought.

## **1 Corinthians 10:13 [Full Chapter]**

No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.

**Truth from God should cling to us like a belt does. His words need to be close at hand.**

How is the Belt of Truth used?

We use the Belt of Truth in reading the bible, quoting it to the devil when he tempts us to do wrong or tries to get us to not do what God is asking us to do. It may require us to read and read until the pressure to do wrong lifts. It may require us to ask for help from other believers in prayer so we can win over something. We need to surrender our will to God when reading His Word so we can receive something from it even if we don't initially want to. REMEMBER THE ARMY. It is not you alone in this and Christ wants us to be as strong as we can be in Him and His strength.

## **Some things of truth that we need to know**

1. We can do anything He asks us to do

## **Mark 10:27**

Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God."

## **Philippians 4:13 New International Version (NIV)**

I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

2.He is all powerful and can't lose

**Isaiah 14:27 New International Version (NIV)**

<sup>27</sup> For the LORD Almighty has purposed, and who can thwart him?  
His hand is stretched out, and who can turn it back?

**Psalm 2:1-6 New International Version (NIV)**

<sup>1</sup> Why do the nations conspire  
and the peoples plot in vain?  
<sup>2</sup> The kings of the earth rise up  
and the rulers band together  
against the LORD and against his anointed, saying,  
<sup>3</sup> "Let us break their chains  
and throw off their shackles."  
<sup>4</sup> The One enthroned in heaven laughs;  
the Lord scoffs at them.  
<sup>5</sup> He rebukes them in his anger  
and terrifies them in his wrath, saying,  
<sup>6</sup> "I have installed my king  
on Zion, my holy mountain."

**Revelation 1:8 New International Version (NIV)**

<sup>8</sup> "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty."

3.He lives in us

**Galatians 2:20 New International Version (NIV)**

<sup>20</sup> I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

4.We can ask for help anytime for anything

**1 John 5:14**

This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us.

5.All battles and temptations are winnable.

**Romans 8:37-39 New International Version (NIV)**

<sup>37</sup> No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. <sup>38</sup> For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels

nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, <sup>39</sup> neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

## **Conclusion**

### **Ephesians 6:10 New International Version (NIV)**

<sup>10</sup> Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.

Who are you in Christ? What should I say? What should I do? The answer to these and all other questions can be answered and be revealed when we activate the first piece of Armour. The Belt of Truth. When you know the truth, it will set you free. Free to be and do all God wants for you to be and do. His truth is also what is overwhelmingly powerful in situations where you need to know what to say and what to do. Let's get to work learning about what God says about our standing and position in Him. What He says we can do thru Him. What He wants us to say and to do. The situations come up regularly and will come up today. The belt you wear with your clothes you wear every day. The belt of truth is no different. It is very powerful to know where you go and what you do and say is just what Jesus wants you to do and say. Jesus wants us to be overwhelmingly able to defeat the devil at every turn in every way and the belt of truth is the beginning of just that. In every decision you make, let's check to make sure our belt is on and is being thoroughly used in our lives. Amen.

## 2. Breastplate of righteousness

2 Timothy 1:9

He has saved us and called us to a holy life—not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time,

### Purpose

The second piece of armour is the Breastplate of Righteousness. What is righteousness? It is living right. Who determines what is right? God does and it comes from the truth He gives us. Righteousness is 2 things: One, it is the standing we have in Jesus as His followers which does not change. Secondly, it is our response to His command to live for Him according to His standards and wishes.

This piece of armour is to protect the vital core of our life. It includes the areas where we are developing character qualities, becoming more like Jesus in the way we respond to others, and the passions that shape what we spend effort doing.

### How is it put on

1 John 1:9 [Full Chapter]

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Psalms 119:9

How can a young person stay on the path of purity? By living according to your word.

We just read about the word of God, the bible being able to train in righteousness. It starts by reading in the bible what God says about it. Begin realizing how God views us now that we have accepted Him as our Saviour and are part of His family, team and army.

### How is it used

Satan will try to make us think we can not be like Christ and are beyond help because we do sin. He will try to make us think we are disqualified from God's blessing because we fail. He will try to make us think being righteous is weird or unattainable thru Christ. In so doing he will be saying Christ is incapable of making us new creations of God.

Feet shod with prep of gospel of peace

What is their purpose

How do you put it on

How does it react

Weapons not carnal or physical. Mighty for the unseen war. You need the holy spirit power. How to use it. Ask god for his insight. He brings his thoughts to your mind. Confirmed by the bible. You can speak it by the power of God into situations . It is not your power or your words but gods. What is done in secret can be seen in the light as god works . Our job is to use his power, use his weapons and not fight people but what is attacking them in mind and heart.

What attacks them. Hurtful things, hopelessness, bondages, .

Series

How we approach warfare

What weapons and how to use them eph 6

Armour of God 1

Start with helmet. How we think then take it to heart and desire then actually start believing it and doing it. As a man thinks so is he. Satan's fights us 2 ways. Topic of all bad comes from him and how we view our power or abilities.

Satan brings bad but god can allow things bad into our lives to make us stronger and better so the bad satan brings ends up coming out as a good end. Do we believe that. If so then we end up looking at difficulties differently than on a depressed way.



How we view our abilities. Satan wants us to feel small and can't do things God asks us to do. God says you can do all because I give you the power to do it. It is not your power but mine. Therefore you can. Do you believe that. If so then you can attempt to do all God asks of you and win giving glory to God because he was why you achieved it. There is nothing you can't do with God. So the key is find what God wants and the power will be there.

The arrows of doubt Satan fires are meant to make you feel detestable and weak so you will think and believe that way so you won't try to do God's will. Satan sees how powerful God is every day because He is in the invisible realm and sees God doing things all the time. We don't see that realm so we tend to discount what may be happening. If we could see all of that then we would be more active for God. God says will you believe me and what I say in the Bible. These are my words to you. If you believe them you will do them. The battle is in the heart and mind. The battle of the mind goes through whose eyes we look through for what we can be and do. Ours or God's.

Believing God means we believe He has our best interests at heart and that He can achieve everything He wants to do through us if we will act.

Gideon acted. David acted. Peter acted. Will you. God is for us and Satan does not want you to believe that or that you can do everything God asks simply by trusting Him to help you and then following through.

God can give you the wisdom to solve each problem, the words to pray for each need you see. The heart to be passionate for Him. The ability to achieve things you have never done and the words to talk about what Jesus has done for you.

Do you believe this. Jesus is asking. He has words He wants to think over from the Bible. They are words of life. They will get you there if you really believe them.