

## **Armour of God 3 message-Helmet of salvation 2020**

### **Introduction**

We are moving thru a series on the armor of God that we are told to put on as Christians. The war we are in is a spiritual one and everyday the devil is working to make us lose wherever possible. He will seek to get you to worship God less, read the bible less, attend church less, tithe less, be less committed to God in prayer, tell others less about Jesus and salvation and obey God less. If we do less than God wants, Satan wins. This battle is real and is ongoing as long as we live on the earth. Today we are covering the helmet of salvation. Our mind is where the battle starts.

### **Ephesians 6:10-18 New International Version (NIV)**

<sup>10</sup> Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. <sup>11</sup> Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. <sup>12</sup> For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. <sup>13</sup> Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. <sup>14</sup> Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, <sup>15</sup> and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. <sup>16</sup> In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. <sup>17</sup> Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

<sup>18</sup> And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.

### **2 Corinthians 10:1-5 New International Version (NIV)**

**10** By the humility and gentleness of Christ, I appeal to you—I, Paul, who am “timid” when face to face with you, but “bold” toward you when away! <sup>2</sup> I beg you that when I come I may not have to be as bold as I expect to be toward some people who think that we live by the standards of this world. <sup>3</sup> For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. <sup>4</sup> The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. <sup>5</sup> We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.

### Why do we need the helmet of salvation?

There are many Christians today who think they are invincible and go into battle unprepared. They get blindsided and fail. In a battle in our world, it is amazing what can hit you in the head and injure you if you have no helmet on. A lot can be flying around that can be deflected away if the helmet is there. Soldiers have even had bullets deflect off their helmets and not hurt them simply because the helmet was there.

### What is the helmet protecting?

In our physical world, the helmet protects the head from damage. If your head is injured, your ability to decide, move, and use your weapons, no matter how good they are, is impaired and that injury can take you out of the battle or even kill you.

In the spiritual battle we are in, the helmet is the helmet of salvation. The gift of salvation has been given to us and how we understand it and look at its value is how it will protect us.

### Take a look at it

Salvation doesn't become ours by our efforts so nothing can take it from us once we have received it from Jesus. Not feelings, not circumstances, and not even the devil. Christ is the guarantor of our salvation and therefore it is secure.

### **2 Corinthians 1:21-23 New International Version (NIV)**

<sup>21</sup> Now it is God who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ. He anointed us, <sup>22</sup> set his seal of ownership on us, and put his Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.

The guarantor is also the maker of heaven and earth and is God Almighty. Security is sure. If the soldier doesn't think his helmet is worthy of protecting him, it will affect how good he fights and how he will engage in battle. He may try to hide to avoid having to test the helmet to see if it is good or not. As Christians if we don't understand the security we have in Jesus, we may believe the Devil's lies and become less effective for God because of them. We become defeated and insecure. This affects how we share the gospel or good news of salvation to others.

Jesus responded one time,

**Matthew 26:53**

Do you **think** I cannot call on my Father, and he will at once put at my disposal more than twelve legions of angels? (each legion about 6000 in number).

The Helmet of salvation also protects how we think. If we use worldly wisdom and don't check it with the bible, we can get drawn into wrong thinking which in turn directs us into wrong actions. A soldier not listening to his commander's voice will go astray and fall into traps and be defeated.

If our salvation is secured by Jesus and we know that He is to be followed, then follow Him. If we think we can choose a smorgasboard of our own choices for our life, then we also make ourselves vulnerable to the enemy's ideas. Why listen to God about salvation but not about everything else that He asks us to do?

The helmet is hard and metal in a physical form. It is meant to stand up to abuse, attack, and wear.

Spiritually speaking, this helmet of salvation is durable, strong, and it also identifies us in the army we are. If you look at the helmets of soldiers in the world wars, you can identify the adversary by his helmet. It is also the first thing you may see of the enemy before he fully shows himself.

We as Christians are to be identified by the salvation we have from the Lord Jesus. We are not to be afraid of being identified with Him. Why should we when we know we are on the winning side.

You will not know how durable your helmet is until it is tested. It will get tested because we are in a battle.

How do you put it on?

We begin by asking Jesus into our hearts as our Saviour. Jesus gives us the helmet to identify ourselves with Him. He puts a seal upon us to identify us as His.

### **Ephesians 1:13**

And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a **seal**, the promised Holy Spirit,

### **Ephesians 4:30**

And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were **sealed** for the day of redemption.

We then seek to hear, understand, and spend time with Him in prayer, reading God's Word to get to know how He thinks about things and how we should act. We allow Him to change our **thinking** habits and personal will so that we want to do what He asks us to do. If we can't decide to do what He wants, then we have work to do in allowing that Helmet to truly identify us for who we are as followers of Christ Jesus.

### How do we use it?

We start by reading the bible as to what Jesus says we have and are as believers. We decide to believe Jesus for what He says. We act on His Word by asking Him to help us do what He wants and then go do what He says.

All of this involves the mind which the helmet protects.

### **James 1:22 [Full Chapter]**

Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.

The mind and the will, will decide how useful the soldier will be in using the armour he has been given. How we **think** is very key to how we will deal with the Devil in battle against us and for others Jesus wants to save. The soldier could just hide or stay away and never be useful with what he has, or he could engage and, with God's help, be very powerful for the Saviour who gave him that helmet. Jesus will never give us more to do than we can with His strength.

### **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.

He will help you win that battle. The limitation is not Jesus but us. How committed we are to follow the Saviour, will determine how important and valuable we **think** the helmet really is.

### The purpose of it

Its purpose is to make the soldier of Jesus Christ confident and effective in the battle for the souls of humanity. It is to make him powerful in defeating the enemy who wants everyone to doubt the value of the salvation Jesus offers.

### **Benefits**

This helmet will help you to **think** as Christ **thinks**, to fight off the enemy's attacks on your mind and heart, and make you move with confidence when God is asking you to do something, even if it seems difficult or risky.

### **Philippians 4:8 [Full Chapter]**

Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—**think** about such things.

### What we need to consider

What are you using to govern your **thinking** on how you should act and **think** as a Christian in all circumstances? What do you understand about how powerful you are in Jesus? Is there anything you are resisting Jesus about because your **thinking** is not how He wants it?

### **Proverbs 21:2**

A person may **think** their own ways are right, but the LORD weighs the heart.

### **Conclusion**

#### **James 4:7 [Full Chapter]**

Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Our minds and hearts need to be protected by the Helmet of Salvation. Do you know Jesus as your Saviour? If you do, then you need to read what Jesus says you are in Him. Powerful, able to do anything He asks, able to overcome all the power of the enemy Satan. How about your life in Jesus? Have you allowed the Devil to undermine the security you have in Jesus? This can cause you to live as a defeated Christian. That is what the Devil

wants. The salvation Jesus brings us is based on what He did, not what you did to get it. He asks you to accept it and then act on it. When we act on the salvation He gives and begin to share what He has done, this strengthens our life in Him. It works in direct assault on the enemy's tactics to make us doubt. It is time to put on the helmet of Salvation and to stand firm in what Jesus has given and said in the bible. Stop letting the enemy have His way trying to devalue what you have so you won't share what you have. Amen