

WEEK 5 : THE ARMOUR OF GOD (PART 2)

Welcome. Share Key Rules: Find a quiet room; Have a bible; Hold study material.



A quick recap of last week's study.

Four, is the shield of

This faith is a firm trust in God which protects you from the schemes / lies of Satan. It protects you from flaming missiles of doubt and unbelief sent by the enemy.

1 John 5:4

This shield of faith is a calm and confident trust in God's *person, purpose/ plan and promises*.

Q: What is meant by "**faith in God's *person, purpose / plan and promise***".

Q: In what / who is your faith?

Q: Mention a few things that we could place our faith in.

Q: Share an experience of how faith placed in a wrong thing / person failed you in the past.

John MacArthur says, "Faith is only as reliable and helpful as the trustworthiness of its object". In the case of a Christian, it is placed within an unfailing God.

Faith is based on truth [of God's word] (not based on lies, presumption or even fact). Psalm 91:4.

Faith comes by (Romans 10:17). What does this mean?

How does faith grow? James 2:17

Five, is the of salvation.

What do you think this is talking about?

Ok, name three situations where you need this piece (in the natural).

Why?

In the natural, what does the helmet protect? What's the equivalent in the spiritual?

Note: Remember, we are dealing with spiritual armour here, and it is assumed that you are a believer and a member of God's army before you start putting on the armor.

The helmet of salvation represents a regenerated mind. It represents a transformed and renewed thought life; God-centred kingdom thinking. 1Thess 5:8 . Romans 8:6-7 (NIV)

BTW: Pls note, the said weapons are here described as a metaphor to give a picture e.g Righteousness could be described as a belt or a breastplate (cp. Isa 11:5 and Ephes 6:14).

Taking control of your thought life is a defense against the enemy.

Can one control his thoughts? Phil 4:8; 2 Cor 10:5 (.bringing every thought into captivity ..)

Have you ever caught yourself thinking wrong thoughts? How did you deal with this?

2 Cor 10:4-5 What are strongholds?

So, what has this 'salvation' got to do with my mind and thought life?

Because genuine salvation truly influences your soul (mind, will and emotion).

Protection against our spiritual enemy is not just a matter of positive thinking but of God-centred, Spirit-inspired thinking.

Q: Is your thought life controlled by the Spirit? Have you yielded your mind to Christ?

Putting on our helmet of salvation means accepting the God-given assignment of daily renewing our mind with His promises and perspectives (Romans 12:2).

Final question on this: does the devil know what you are thinking? 1 Cor. 2:11

Six, we have the of the Spirit.

This represents the

It is both a defensive and an offensive weapon. Matt. 4: 1- 11; Heb 4:12.

No weapon more potent than this. Rev 1:16; Rev 19: 13-15.

Note, the sword of the spirit is not the spiral-bound bible or leather bible on your shelf / under your pillow at night. Explain.

With this piece, you can do a whole lot.

You can guard your heart by speaking the word to yourself. Ps: 119:9-11

You can encourage yourself by speaking the word. Ps. 42:11

What else can you do with it? Give examples.

Finally, there is prayer. Ephesians 6:18

Truth (girdle) protects from Deception.

Righteousness (breastplate) protects from Unrighteousness.

Peace (shoes) protects from Confusion.

Faith (shield) protects from unbelief.

Salvation (helmet) protects from Bondage.

Sword (the word of God) is both offensive and defensive in operation.

Final charge. Questions / Remarks. Closing Prayer.

Acknowledgement / Resource for further studies: