

Wearing our Spiritual Armor Ephesians 6:10-20

Every follower of Jesus is involved in a Spiritual battle. We may think that an occasional glance at our bibles, a hurried prayer or a few worship songs is all that we need to fend off the enemy...

1. 1 Peter 5.8 *Be careful! Watch out for attacks from the Devil, your great enemy. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for some victim to devour.* Documentaries of the Serengeti show lions attack sick, young, or straggling animals; they choose victims who are alone or not alert. What sort of people make easy victims for Satan in our communities?
2. Why is the Christian urged to take *God's* armour? What promise is implied (v13) to the one who does make use of this equipment?
3. What parts of the body are specifically mentioned (vs 14-17)? What provision is made for each? Which part of the equipment is for defence? Which is for offence?
4. Why is truth (an awareness of the real facts about our-selves and about God) essential for success in spiritual battles? How can a soldier be hindered by not knowing the truth?
5. What vital organs of the body will the breastplate (v14) protect? Righteousness here means moral integrity. How can a life devoted to obeying God's will be a protection against spiritual attacks? How does a guilty conscience weaken us spiritually?
6. Every soldier knows the importance of good footwear. Compare v15 with Rom 10:15 and Isaiah 52:7. Why does the gospel of peace form a part of this armour for spiritual warfare?
7. What importance does Paul put upon the shield as a part of the Christian's equipment? How is faith the Christian's chief means of protection? From what? See also James 1:14; 1 Peter 2: 11.
8. Give examples in which a Christian's close personal relationship with Christ through faith becomes a protecting shield for him against temptation. Compare 1 Corinthians 10:13.
9. What experiences have you had that make you aware of the reality of the spiritual battle in which Christians are engaged? In what specific ways have you found the armour of God effective?
10. How can we make sure that we don't go about un-equipped or only partially equipped?

Share areas where you may feel under spiritual attack. Pray for each other.