

# The Combat-Ready Christian



*“take unto you the whole armour of God”*

# The Combat-Ready Christian



## ☞ Defensive Armor

- ☞ *Eph 6:10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.*
- ☞ *Eph 6:11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.*
- ☞ We are first told to **be strong**. It is a command. We have the ability to obey it or God would not have given it!
- ☞ We are then told to **put on** the full armor. Partial dress or half dress will not do the job. Satan is a master at ferreting out weak spots, weak links and weak hearts.
- ☞ This is what is needed to stand against the wiles and tricks.

# The Combat-Ready Christian



## ❧ Natural Armor

❧ Human defenses with natural armor will not work

❧ Human defenses include:

❧ *Covering ourselves in layers*

❧ *Withdrawing into ourselves*

❧ *False spirituality to hide feelings of inadequacy*

❧ *Bravado to hide feelings of insecurity*

❧ *Withdrawal from battle*

❧ *Etc, all the natural mechanisms we use to defend ourselves.*

❧ None of these will help. None of these are God's provision.

# The Combat-Ready Christian



## ☞ Put on Your Armor

- ☞ Eph 6:11 *Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.*
- ☞ Eph 6:12 *For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.*
- ☞ Eph 6:13 *Therefore **take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.***
- ☞ The command to use armor is used **twice**.

# The Combat-Ready Christian



## ☞ Defensive Armor

- ☞ *Eph 6:13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.*
- ☞ There armor is for the **evil day**. This is the day of counter-attack. We are the ones primarily on attack but there is always a day of counter attack. Count on it! Be ready.
- ☞ After using your armor to weather and withstand the attack, then continue to **stand** at the ready!
- ☞ There is a manner in which we should stand

# The Girdle of Truth

## ☞ Stand wearing the armor of God

☞ *Eph 6:14 Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth...*

☞ This is not “pretend armor”. This armor is real.

☞ The girdle is real, protecting your stomach area where you digest your food.

☞ It is protected by truth, which is the word of God, both Jesus, the living word and scriptures, the written word.

☞ If you love the word (truth) you will protect your ability to digest the nourishment coming from truth.

☞ If you do not love the word (truth), Satan will exploit this weakness so you can no longer digest truth. You will instead desire lies. (like sugar or bad foods)

# The Breastplate of Righteousness

## ☞ Stand wearing the armor of God

- ☞ *Eph 6:14 Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness,*
- ☞ The Breastplate is righteousness and it protects the heart.
- ☞ Righteousness is received by faith as we trust in the blood of Jesus and walk in repentance. Righteousness is about the heart and that is what we are protecting.
- ☞ We must desire to protect our walk before the lord, that it is a righteous walk and not tainted by sin, with righteous acts.
- ☞ *Rev\_19:8 And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.*

# Some Heart Conditions

From "The making of a Leader", Frank Damazio



## Shield Protects

Willing Heart	Ex 2:25
Wise Heart	Ex 35:35
Soft Heart	Job 23:16
Pure Heart	Ps 24:4
Sound Heart	Pro 14:30
Merry Heart	Pr 17:22
Forgiving Heart	Mt 18:35
Good Heart	Luke 8:15
Believing Heart	Rom 10:9

## Arrows Cause

Hardened Heart	Ex 4:21
Deceived Heart	De 11:16
Proud Heart	2 Ch 32:26
Wicked Heart	Ps 58:2
Deceitful Heart	Pr 12:20
Wounded Heart	Pr 109:22
Rebellious Heart	Jer 5:23
Bitter Heart	Ez 27:31
Hard Heart	Rom 2:5

# Preparation – Gospel of Peace

## ☞ Stand wearing the armor of God

- ☞ *Eph 6:15 and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace;*
- ☞ The Gospel of Peace is the good news offered in peace.
- ☞ This enables us to move and to move quickly.
- ☞ *Mat 10:13 If the household is worthy, let your peace come upon it. But if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you.*
- ☞ Where there is no interest in peacefully sharing with others, there is no interest in moving. Jesus began offering the Gospel of peace and preached in all the villages.
- ☞ You are no longer limber when it is also needed defensively.

# The Shield of Faith

## ☞ Stand wearing the armor of God

- ☞ *Eph 6:16 above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one.*
- ☞ The shield is limber and mobile, using it to stop attack from any angle. Your faith must be limber and ready for anything.
- ☞ It is your faith that quenches the fiery darts and arrows. The hit but your faith causes them to whimper out.
- ☞ Keep your faith in what God can do alive, vibrant and ready.
- ☞ *Luk\_7:50 "...Your faith has saved you. Go in peace."*

# Helmet of Salvation

## ☞ Stand wearing the armor of God

☞ *Eph 6:17 And take the helmet of salvation...*

☞ The helmet protects your mind and it is the hope of salvation.

☞ *1Th 5:8 But let us who are of the day be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet the hope of salvation.*

☞ Our mind is protected when we trust in God and see Him as our hope.

☞ *Psa\_71:5 For You are my hope, O Lord GOD; You are my trust from my youth.*

☞ This prevents our mind from prematurely imagining defeat.

# The Sword of the Spirit

## ☞ Stand wearing the armor of God

- ☞ *Eph 6:17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God;*
- ☞ This is your offensive weapon, the sword of the Spirit. Jesus used scripture when He was tempted.
- ☞ Jesus used scripture to resolve conflicts with Sadducees.
- ☞ The word of God cuts to the chase and is Spirit led.
- ☞ *Heb 4:12 For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.*
- ☞ This is the most powerful weapon we have.

# Further Admonition

## ☞ Stand wearing the armor of God

- ☞ Eph 6:18 *praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints –*
- ☞ Eph 6:19 *and for me, that utterance may be given to me, that I may open my mouth **boldly** to make known the mystery of the gospel,*
- ☞ Paul wanted, utterance (the right words) so he could be bold.
- ☞ May God grant us the right words so we too may be bold to share the mystery of the Gospel.

# Remembering

☞ Stand wearing the armor of God

☞ Memorize the armour of God

☞ *Girdle of truth*

☞ *Breastplate of righteousness*

☞ *Feet with the Gospel of Peace*

☞ *Shield of faith*

☞ *Helmet of salvation*

☞ *Sword of the Spirit*

☞ *Pray at all times.*

☞ You can get some props from the dollar store or remind your self visually. Always remember which are **visual aids** and what is the **real thing!!!**