

SPIRITUAL WARFARE
ARMOR FOR THE BATTLE—EPHESIANS 6.10-20

¹⁰ Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might.

¹¹ Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. ¹² For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.

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 firm.

¹⁴ Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness ¹⁵ and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. ¹⁶ In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; ¹⁷ and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God,

¹⁸ praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints,

¹⁹ and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel,

²⁰ for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak.

Is Belief in the Supernatural silly, simple, and superstitious?

There are 3 great images for the Christian Life in Scripture:

1. Race (I Cor. 9.24-27)
2. Rest (Hebrews 4)
3. Fight/War (Eph. 6.10-20, I Tim 6, II Tim 4, Matt. 11.12)

“Put on/take up the whole armor of God.”

I. Belt of Truth

What does a belt do?

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Why do you think Paul uses warfare imagery here?—b/c he loves death/violence?

- Seriousness:
- Urgency:

“Love rejoices with the truth (I Cor. 13.6).”

“They refused to love the truth and so be saved (I Thess. 2.10).”

He that is spiritually enlightened truly apprehends and sees it, or has a sense of it. He doesn't merely rationally believe that God is glorious, but he has a sense of the gloriousness of God in his heart. There is not only a rational belief that God is holy, and that holiness is a good thing; but there is a sense of the loveliness of God's holiness....There is a difference between having a rational judgment that honey is sweet, and having a sense of its sweetness. A man may have the former, that knows not how honey tastes; but a man can't have the latter, unless he has an idea of the taste of honey in his mind. (J. Edwards)

Satan's Character: He is a/an

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Military Obedience:

Protection of the Truth: