

<http://www.dynamicministries.com/sunday-service-archive/message/how-to-be-clothed-with-the-armor-of-god-under-grace/watch.html>

This teaching will help you to have absolute clarity on how to have your life protected by what God made available for **you** in Jesus. This is a must for every believer.

## **HOW to be clothed with the Armor of God under GRACE**

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Today we will continue in our series speaking on the book of Ephesians and we are busy talking about spiritual warfare on our web page.

I will recap about last week's message. I am reading from Ephesians 6:11-13. It's very important to know that the concept we have of spiritual warfare through the ages, I'm talking about my last two decades, has been a concept where we are trying to war against Satan so that God can conquer the devil. That is not the case! God is not sitting in heaven and there's a fight and a battle between Jesus and the devil and sometimes the devil wins and sometimes Jesus wins, just like we see in the movies where the bad guy actually always wins until the very end. Then out of this desperation and last attempt you find the good guy come and he kills the bad guy. That is not the case in Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ has conquered over Satan. He never lost against Satan... not at all! **He's not even in a battle with the devil wherein He is trying to conquer or those kinds of things.** The scriptures in the Bible which refer to battle between God and Satan just doesn't talk about Satan overthrowing the kingdom of God. What it talks about is that the people of God went and believed in a wrong belief system and they allowed the kingdom of Satan, which was his way of doing things, into their hearts and the Gospel is about how God came and set them free. That is what it is. The Apostle Paul comes and there are places in the Bible where it talks about a battle --- for the battle is in our hearts and in our minds. The battle is for our mind. So, let's know that. Jesus is not like almost or just winning over Satan. He completely defeated him! He disarmed him, if you want to use battle terminology. Jesus disarmed him completely in a triumphant entry! He led the victory and showed that He was victorious over death in the lives of people. That is what it is about. So let's read Ephesians 6 starting from verse 11: ***Put on the whole armour of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.***

Last Sunday we said that the word, wiles, here basically comes from the Greek word, methodeia, where we get the word, method ... that you may be able to stand against the method of the devil. It is compiled out of two words: the word, meta, which means together with and the other Greek word, hodeuo, which means to travel or journey. **So, the word, wiles, talks about the method of the devil or to journey with the devil.** It says, **Put on the whole armour of God so that you may be able to stand against the wiles, or this journey with the devil.** The word, devil, there, diabolos, means prone to slander, slanderous, accusing falsely, false accuser or slanderer. **We can clearly see that this whole journey that he talks about, or the whole armor of God, is to protect us that we may be able to stand against the journey that false accusation wants to actually bring over us.**

Then it says in verse 12, ***For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities*** (that word, principalities basically means the principle thing), ***against powers, against the rulers of darkness of this world*** (the system, which is the legalistic law system where we don't believe that God is the One who "pulls your wagon" but where you say, "I am doing it myself"), ***of this world*** (talks about the world system as well. In this case the people would have understood it just as the Jewish system of works righteousness) ***against spiritual wickedness in high places*** (It talks about this spiritual wickedness that wanted to exult itself against God.)

**Ephesians 6: 13: *Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, having done all, to stand.***

**:14 *Stand therefore, having your loins girt with the truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness.***

What's very important that I want you to see here it says, ***Wherefore take on the whole armour of God that you may be able to withstand in the evil day...*** That word, evil, there means full of labors, annoyances, hardships, pressed and harassed by labors, bringing toils, annoyances, perils, of a time of full peril to the Christian faith and steadfastness; causing pain and trouble. We can see a lot of the emphasis here is on labors -

--- pressed and harassed by labors. So, the word, evil, means oppressed and harassed by labors. When we look at that we see that the armor of God, he says to **put on the whole armor of God so we will not go on this journey into works with Satan.** That's what he wants. He wants you to take on the whole armor of God. That word, armor, also means a utensil to prepare something like you would say a hammer is there or a saw is there as something you use to prepare something. God has given us certain tools, certain instruments, wherein we protect ourselves. Now, we need to understand that the spiritual warfare that we talk about here is not just an outside onslaught. We are not getting dressed in some armor every day and now we are resisting the devil. I remember that I would get dressed in the armor of God every day and in the morning I would get dressed in the armor of God again and every day I would get dressed in the armor of God again. I would say, "I put on the helmet of salvation. I put on the breastplate of righteousness. I put on all these things. I gird my loins with the Truth" and all of that. The problem is the following: It's very simple! **Why do we have to get dressed in it every day** as if you go to bed tonight and then it is gone? No, **when it talks about the armor of God it talks about a belief system. It talks about what you need to believe to be protected against that which Satan wants to bring you away.** So when he goes to verse 14, where it says, **"...have your loins gird with the Truth"**, what he is actually saying is **WALK IN THE TRUTH.** That is all he is saying: **just continue to walk in the Truth .**

Let's go and look at **Ephesians 6:14** and we are going to see some interesting things here concerning the weapons of our warfare. It says, **Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth.** That word, loins, there, means, the hip (loin), to gird about the loins is the place where the Hebrews thought the generative power (semen) resided. Strongs says, the loin, the hip; or procreative power. It talks about the very ability to reproduce or to actually then to bear fruit. So what he is actually saying there is : **Listen, when we abide in the Truth, the ability to bear the fruit of God will be in us and we will continue to bear fruit and we will protect the seed that is inside us by walking in the Truth.** The seed is that which will create after its own kind. In other words, the way I see that verse is God is saying to everyone of us: **"Continue to walk in the Truth and you shall protect this whole fruit bearing system that God has."**

How does God bear fruit in us? **We must realize that fruit bearing is not your responsibility. Fruit bearing is God's responsibility. He took it upon Himself to bear the fruit.** You might say, "Well, Bertie, I don't believe that." Well, the Bible clearly says in **John 15: Abide in Me and I abide in you. If you abide in Me and I in you, then you will bear much fruit for of yourself you can do nothing. Therefore abide in Me so that I can bear My fruit in you.**

The plan that God had from before time was that man would experience His quality of life on account of Him living in us, or actually, on account of Him just sharing that life with us. For us to experience His quality of life and to know exactly what His kind of life is, He had to have a being that has understanding, a being that has an ability to believe, that can be persuaded, that has a free will and all those kind of things. So, He created a being like that and the truth about that being was that the life that was given to that being belongs to God. He was a being that was created inside friendship with God, in the image and likeness of God and God came to share His life with him. If this being would get confused about who he is and not know the truth about himself ---the truth about his God Who created him, and for him to start to believe that the God Who created him is a task master that wants to build His kingdom on his back, for instance --- when you don't walk in that truth, do you know what will happen in you? The fruit of a peaceable relationship will be destroyed.

Let's look at Adam and Eve in the beginning in the Garden of Eden. It's very simple. What happened to Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden? Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden came and Satan said to them, "You can be like God by knowing good and evil." After they partook of that fruit, God came to talk to them again. God came like any other day and what did Adam and Eve do? They hid themselves from God. So there was a fruit of boldness, always, there's always has been boldness. There has been friendship. There's been communication. There's been acceptance and all of a sudden when they didn't walk in the Truth anymore, (and the truth was that if you eat of this tree you will die), they didn't walk in that Truth, they believed the lie, and when they didn't walk in Truth, and what happened? All of a sudden all the fruit of confidence, the fruit of friendship, the fruit of boldness, the fruit of no guilt --- all of that was taken away. Acceptance was taken away and all of a sudden wrong fruit comes forth. **The only way you can protect your heart, or protect your life, to have the fruit of the enemy manifest in your life, is by walking in the Truth. That is the ONLY way!**

The word, truth, according to Webster's, means the following: "conformable to fact; being in accordance to the actual state of things." Let me say it again: Conformable to facts... If you walk in the Truth, or Truth is anything that conforms to the real facts; that which is in accordance to the actual state of things. What is the actual state

of things as pertaining to God and what He knows about us? In **John 14**, Jesus Christ comes and makes an astounding statement and says, "***I am the Truth.***" Jesus says that He is the Truth! So Jesus actually is the actual state of things and He is the message or that which conforms to the actual state of things. When Jesus came to the earth, we saw that He took the sin of the world upon Himself and He, represented man under the law, innocent for that was the actual state of things. When Jesus died, He was still the Word of the actual state of things. **The actual state of things as pertaining to every man is that the sin of man was taken out of the way; that the law system was taken out of the way. That is the actual state of things. So, if that is the actual state of things, anything you hear, anything you listen to, Church, needs to conform to the actual state of things. The actual state of things is that Jesus Christ is the Word about you. It is that you are united with God in Christ. Your sins have been taken away. The Law man has been taken away. The only way in which we can, actually, walk in the Truth is by only listening to things that are in accordance to the actual state of things and Jesus Christ is the actual state of things as pertaining to you. It also means, not concealing, or not to conceal or not to hide but to bring forth that which is true or original.**

**2 Corinthians chapter 3**, talks about the account when Moses went up to the mountain and what happened there. He was in the presence of God, He saw the glory of God and then he went down and his face was shining with the glory of God. What they then did was they took a veil and put it over the face of Moses so that people could not see this glory and this glory was even passing away -- it was not an eternal glory. You might say, "Why would people want to do that? I want to see a man whose face is shining!" Imagine you have somebody whose face is shining like a 5,000 watt halogen, a floodlight, and he comes to visit you. It's not going to be fun. How do you look at this guy? He has this bright light shining out of him. So they put a veil so they could not see the light and that is a sign of what is **not** true. **Truth is to reveal the light.** What is not true, what would be false, is to give an image of what is not really there and that was that veil.

**Then the Bible says that the veil is upon the hearts of every person that reads the Law. So when we read the Law, what happens is, we are not walking in the Truth. When we take the Law and we want to live by the Law, what do we do? We veil the glory that God is trying to reveal to us in our hearts. From birth, God speaks to every human's heart be it through an emotion, a feeling, a prompting of the heart, whatever you want to call it, He speaks to every person and this is what He says: I have taken away your sin. You are valuable! You belong to Me! The earth and the fullness of it all belongs to Me. I promise you immortality. I've conquered sin. I've conquered all these things!" That's what He promises!** And there's a yearning toward that in our heart but by the reading of the Law, that inner joy that God comes to give every person, what happens, a veil is put over that. If you have never received that in your heart, that darkness abides in your heart and you continue to walk in darkness. **Even we, as Christians, when we go back to legalism and Law and we're not walking in the Truth about us, a veil is put over our hearts and that which is in our heart cannot shine forth. That which you really are cannot shine forth. That which God has come and made true in Christ cannot shine forth because you veil your belief and you are not walking in the Truth. So Truth means not concealing. When you walk in legalism and Law, where you find your identity in that which you must do for God or in what you possess, what you drive, your achievements and all those kinds of things, and you find your life from that, you will veil things like love, joy, peace, kindness and all those kind of things. It will be veiled. The Truth of who you are will not shine forth on account of unbelief and not walking in the Truth.**

Remember, that everything we say here is in the context of not going on a journey with false accusation. **When we have our loins girded with the Truth, what he is actually saying is just walk in the Truth and you will continue to see the fruit of God in your life and you will not be given over to that which cannot bring forth fruit in your life.** Isn't that beautiful! That is absolutely awesome! I'm blessed by that! I never understood all those things. I just thought gird your loins with the Truth and I thought the Truth is never to tell a lie. Now I am not saying that we should go out and tell lies for the Bible says, "Don't lie to one another." I'm not saying that. What I am saying is that thinking not to tell a lie and thinking that should you tell a lie and not speak all the Truth every time is going to cause you to lose your salvation or not to have the fruit of God in your life, is a lie... and then you are not walking in the Truth. Again I am saying, "Do not go out and lie", but if I look at myself, for instance, in another form of Truth, I would say the Truth is if I had done something wrong like I told a lie, then that now means that I am now a liar in the eyes of God. That is not the Truth. That is a lie. Should I believe that if I told a lie I am a liar in the eyes of God and God judges me as a liar, that will take away every form of Truth that I could ever have spoken and sincerity from me and I will start to tell more and more lies, for **the Law is the power of sin, that's what 1Corinthians 15:56 actually says.** I don't want to make this confusing but, when we walk in the Truth, we should not define the Truth just as truth between people when we say, "I was there at 7.", but I was actually there at 7:30. That is not what he was talking about. **He is talking about Jesus as the ONLY**

**TRUTH about you.** The Bible says, **“Grace and Truth came by Jesus Christ.”** Glory to God!

**Ephesians 6:14 says, Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with Truth and having on the breastplate of righteousness.** Having on the breastplate of righteousness... then I will talk about 6:15 having your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace...

When we look at the breastplate of righteousness, I think it is quite okay to go to **Romans 10** and look at righteousness there for the Bible says, **“With the heart we believe unto righteousness.”** So the way you are going to protect your heart, or your belief system, is by shielding it with the message of righteousness. There are different righteousnesses in the Bible. One of them, that I will talk about today, is the righteousness of God. The righteousness of God is not the righteousness of man. **The righteousness of God is the good equitable deed that God brought forth in Jesus Christ, the way God is as He is supposed to be. How He was supposed to be is to pay for our sins, take away our sins, get us away from slavery, and to walk in accordance to love Who He truly is.** When we look at that righteousness of God, and we shield our belief with the message of God is a righteous God who gives righteousness as a free gift and we believe unto this righteousness, which I will now explain, we will find that our heart is at a safe place.

The Bible says, **“Guard your heart above all things that must be guarded.”** How do we guard our heart? We watch out at what we look at and what we hear. What do you see? I don't want to see myself as a Law man. I want to see myself crucified with Him. When we behold the glory of God in the face of Jesus and we see that glory doesn't just shine on the face of Jesus but it shines on the face of a human, of a man, in who I am. **So it talks about me and when I see that glory, that glory starts to shine in my heart ! And when I see the righteous act committed by God, bought forth by God, my belief system is protected, Church!** My heart is protected and I'm in a safe place and then from that heart, the origin originates all life! So what he is saying is. **“Protect your life by knowing how righteous God is.”** When we look at how righteous God is, is, God would think it was unrighteous for us to become sinners through the disobedience of one man and we cannot become righteous through the obedience of one Man, Jesus Christ, and He manifests His righteousness towards us. We can also take upon our heart and upon our belief, protect what we believe, protect our belief system, by believing that He gave righteousness as a free gift to us. The righteousness that He possessed and that is His, shall manifest in our life, called justification, through fruit in our life and immortality in the return of Jesus Christ. So what the Apostle Paul is saying to us, the Church, is **“Let us protect our hearts by having this message of righteousness.”**

**Romans 10:9-10** when it refers to the righteousness of God, it refers to **Isaiah 52.**

**:4 For thus saith the Lord God, My people went down aforetime into Egypt to sojourn there; and the Assyrian (Pharaoh) oppressed them without cause.**

**:5 Now therefore, what have I here, saith the LORD, that my people is taken away for nought? They that rule over them make them to howl, saith the LORD; and my name continually every day is blasphemed.**

**:6 Therefore my people shall know my name: therefore they shall know in that day that I am he that doth speak: behold, it is I.**

**:7 How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth:**

This is then what the Apostle Paul then uses when it comes to **Romans 10** where he said that we believe unto righteousness but how will they believe if someone doesn't preach and how will they preach unless they are sent. And then it says, How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news. What is this good news? This good news is of the righteous thing that happened to us by us being delivered from the oppression of the Assyrian, the oppression of the Egyptians, the oppression from legalism and Law and bondage and death and torture where a city is built upon our backs, where we are the ones laboring for the king... where the king could not provide for us...where the king could not care for us when we were in Egypt but he came and took us away and that righteousness that is seen in God where he said, “My people are suffering. I'm bringing forth my righteousness, I'm delivering them.” When we believe unto this righteousness, when we see this righteousness, we are protecting our heart from believing the wrong thing and your heart is in a safe place. That is what that

actually means. Isn't that beautiful! So, people, let us stand in the message of how righteous we are in Jesus Christ and what He has freely given us.

Let us now go to **Ephesians 6 verse 15: *And your feet shod*** (that word, shod, means to bind under one's feet, so this is something you put underneath your foot that protects you.) ***with a preparation of the gospel.*** I have always seen this as, "I must be prepared to go and take the Good News out. I must be prepared to go out and preach the Gospel. And if I am prepared to go and preach the Gospel of peace then I protect my feet. That is not what it says! What it says is that there is a preparation of the Gospel. Jesus Christ came and He said in **John 14**, and this is what I said before that I have never preached this before. This is the second time I preached it (I preached it this morning in our church.) Jesus says in **John 13**, ***"I am going away and where I go, you cannot come."*** Then Peter said to Him, ***"I will go with you even if I have to die, I will go with You!"*** Then Jesus said, ***"You will deny Me three times, Peter."*** Then after that Jesus said to him, ***"But you believe in God but also believe in Me. I go to prepare a place for you. Peter, don't let your heart be troubled. Believe in God and believe also in Me."*** What I have found in churches is that we have believed in God but we have not believed in Jesus because what Jesus says is that **He** will prepare a place for us! **The Gospel of Peace, the preparation of the Gospel of Peace, is that which God has prepared for us in accordance to this Gospel that says that you have now been delivered from legalism and Law and the fruit of the flesh. You've been delivered from the slavery and bondage to sin. You have been delivered from hatred and bitterness. The old man was crucified and all its fruit was crucified. The Law System plus all its fruit was crucified! All that is away! You are led out of Egypt in one day. God led you out. He took you through the Red Sea into the desert place --- out of Egypt... completely out! Where we are now the place where we experience the Promise land by persuasion, by believing that that is what He will bring forth in us. So what he is saying here is, the preparation of the Gospel of Peace is the protection of your walk in what God has prepared for you in Jesus Christ.**

Now, how does He protect our walk? According to **Luke 10:**

***:18 And he said unto them, I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven.***

***:19 Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.***

***:20 Notwithstanding in this rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you, but rather rejoice, because your names are written in heaven.***

What he is saying here is that we will trample on scorpions and snakes. **What does a scorpion do? He stings you.** The Bible says that ***the sting of death is sin.*** So what he says here is that **we will walk in this world and we will be protected against the sting of legalism, the death that is in legalism.** We will be protected against the bite of Satan which is he wants to bite you with his message. If we can just continually say that I walk in that which He prepared for me. What can you see He has prepared for you? **He has prepared life in abundance for you. He has prepared a life for you where you are co-seated with Him in the Trinity and that will protect your walk from the stones. Stones talk about the administration of death written on stones. About the scorpions, it talks about the sting that is in 1Corinthians 15 and snakes talk again about the viper, the snake, the devil. The Bible says he was the murderer of man from the beginning. Where we are protected against his venom and the death of legalism we will find the life of God flowing in us as we clothe ourselves with the place where He has prepared for us.**

How do we shod our feet? We put underneath our walk, we say, "I don't walk on the Law. I don't walk on the doctrine of the snake anymore. I don't have my foot on that anymore. I have something in between, under my foot. What do I put under my walk? What do I actually walk on? I walk on what He prepared for me when He went to heaven and I don't just believe that God exists but I also believe in Jesus. I believe He prepared a place for me. I believe that He is the very place that God prepared for me and He will come and take me to where He is so that I can be where He is. When I say that we are where He is, it doesn't just talk about a geographical place. It talks about a stand in the Spirit. It talks about righteous, holy, blameless, above reproach, It also talks about a place where I don't walk, where I don't have a life, based on the basic principles of this world but where I have a life based on the principles of the Trinity which is called the spirit of life in Christ Jesus where I can now live by the Spirit that God lives by and not the spirit of the world that says that I am by what I do. **I can live by the Spirit of God that says that I am that I am for He is inside me! Glory to God!** That is the message that I have for you today.

Let me just recap. Let us not go on a journey with false accusation which will lead to death by having a heart believing in the righteousness of God, having the Truth. Let's walk in the Truth. Let's start in the way the Scriptures start. Let's have the ability to have His fruit of kindness and peace and all those things protected. All

you have to do is seek Jesus as the only Truth about your life. See what He has done and have that in front of your eyes. By doing that you will protect what you believe about yourself. You will protect your heart. In this life you will be protected from the bite of the snake. You will be protected from the sting of the scorpion.. by what? By simply knowing what He has prepared for you and walk in that revelation. Glory to God!

I would like to pray for you. Father, I thank You that I can pray for every person that is watching this today. Thank You that every person's life is enriched by this message and as they think upon this and ponder upon this and just meditate on what You have done for them. I thank You, Father, that they are strengthened and encouraged through this and they will know that the spiritual war is all about just looking on what Jesus has done and just continue to look into that. Thank You, Father. Thank You, Lord, that we don't try to advance but we are just withstanding --- in other words, we are sticking to what You say about us! Thank You, Father! Amen and amen!

(Thank you for watching. I would also like to thank everybody who started to contribute to wards Dynamic Love Fellowship. Your giving is really generous and wonderful! Thank you so much for that! If anyone would want to give you can just click on the Donate button on or website and just give as you are led in your heart. Know that your giving cannot get you to be blessed by God. Your giving cannot enrich you in the sense of sowing seed and God's going to multiply the seed and give you a great harvest or anything like that. No,! **What God has sown is Jesus Christ --- that's how sowing and reaping works! And what He reaps is YOU and the fruit in your life as you believe this Good news!**