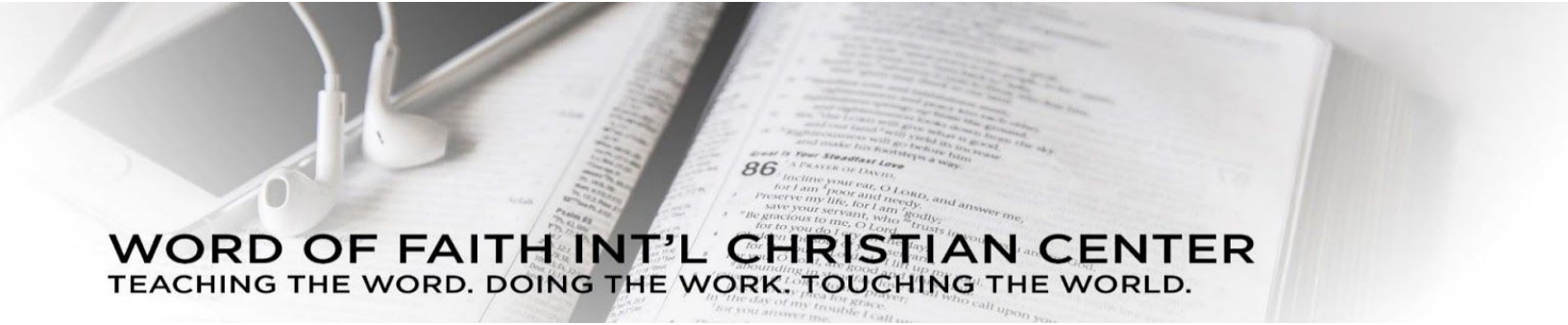




WORD OF FAITH INT'L CHRISTIAN CENTER

TEACHING THE WORD. DOING THE WORK. TOUCHING THE WORLD.

Be Strong in the Lord, Part 3 The Armor of God

by Bishop Keith Butler | Bible Study Notes | Ministered Sun., 6/28/20

Text: Eph. 6:10-20

Introduction Summery

In this third part of *Be Strong in the Lord*, we will look closely at the armor God gave Christians to deliver us from satan's traps. We will learn, exactly, how to gain spiritual strength and tap into God's power. Then, when the enemy attacks, we can use God's armor and watch the Holy Spirit bring peace into our lives.

- I. *Strong* (Gk. *endunamoo*) means empower, enable and increase.
- II. Strength comes through the knowledge of God.
 - A. Knowledge causes your strength to increase (Prov. 24:5; Eph. 1:16).
 - B. Knowledge comes by meditating the Word and Bible teaching (Psa. 1:2).
 - C. *Power* (Gg. *kratos*) means vigor, dominion and strength (The Holy Spirit).
 - D. *Might* means (Gk. *ischus*) forcefulness and ability (Eph. 1:19-21).
- III. Here are some other ways to tap into God's power (1 Cor. 14:4).
 - A. Act on what you hear (James 1:22).
 - B. Pray in other tongues (1 Cor. 14:4).
 1. The Holy Spirit helps us and intercedes for us (Rom. 8:26-28).
 2. This benefit is for specific people (Rom. 8:37).
 3. Hold yourself up and keep yourself in God's love (Jude 1:20-21).
 - C. Say what God says. He says what He wants to happen (Rom. 4:17).
 - D. Do the greatest of the three, which is love (1 Cor. 13:13).
 - E. Because of God's love, I'm going to minister to the Muslims in Saudi Arabia.
- IV. Here are some points regarding the armor of God (Eph. 6:14-18).
 - A. Put on the belt of truth. Truth is the Word of God (John 17:17).
 - B. Put on the breastplate (your identity) of righteousness.
 1. It is your reminder that you don't have a past.
 2. You are in right-standing with God Almighty (1 John 1:9).
 3. When reminded of your past, say with confidence: *I am forgiven. I am born again; and I am the righteousness of God, in Christ Jesus.*
 - C. We are commanded to cover our feet with the gospel of peace (Gk. *eirene*) which is prosperity, quietness and rest. It is a life with no worries.
 1. Cast all your care on God (1 Pet. 5:5-7; Mat. 6:25-34).
 2. The devil is not a lion. Jesus gave you victory over him (1 Pet. 5:8).

3. Resist satan. Resist COVID19 (1 Pet. 5:9; Jam. 4:7).
4. God *strengthens* you (1 Pet. 5:10).
5. Peace is the work of righteousness (Isa. 32:17).

D. Use your shield of faith, *out in front of all*. Don't let the fire burn; put it out!

1. Your faith shield extinguishes the fire.
2. Faith praises and faith laughs. That extinguishes the fire.
3. Speaking God's Word puts the fire out.
4. If there's a fire going on in your life, put the fire out (1 John 5:4).

E. Put on your helmet of defense. Eph. 6:17-20 are all one sentence.

1. The purpose of a helmet is to protect the head.
2. *Testimony: In high school I went out for football. At the last cut, I was put up against someone much heavier than I. We did not wear a helmet. After the coach blew the whistle, all I remember is being awoken with smelling salts. I needed a helmet to protect my head.*
3. The helmet of salvation is the spoken Word of God.
4. *Hope* (Gk. *elpis*) is expectation or confidence (1 Thes. 5:8).
5. *Salvation* (Gk. *soteria*) means rescue, safety, deliver and health.
6. Believe that your helmet is the hope of your salvation.
7. Expect deliverance. Be confident in your mind, will and emotions.
8. Start where you are in faith and go upward from there.

F. The sword of the Spirit is the Word of God.

1. Take the sword which the Spirit wields (Eph. 6:17).
2. The Holy Ghost uses the spoken (Gk. *rhema*) Word of God.
3. You were saved by confessing Jesus as Lord (Rom. 10:9-10).

V. Pray the Word, as you are led by the Holy Spirit (Eph. 6:18-20).

- A. Don't pray the circumstance. Go to the Word and pray what it says.
- B. Pray in the Spirit (1 Cor. 14:2).
- C. Persevere in prayer for the body of Christ, before praying for yourself.
- D. The Lord directed us to give an airplane away. We now need another one. In prayer, we confess that we believe we receive our new airplane.
- E. Pray for ministers of the gospel, in particular your pastor (Eph. 6:19-20).
 1. Pray that utterance is given to them and the Word flows freely.
 2. Pray that they resist the forces of darkness and say everything they should say.
 3. Pray that they open their mouth boldly, as they ought.
 4. Pray that they reveal the mystery of the gospel.

Closing Summary

Now that we know how to use the armor God gave us, we can start where we are and begin to gain strength in the Lord. As we use the tools outlined in this study, we can be sure to always take more ground from satan, and stand victorious over any situation we face.