

KNIGHTS FOR THE LORD

A Study in Service to Christ



INTRODUCTION TO THIS STUDY

- HAVE YOU EVER FOUND YOURSELF SITTING WITH FRIENDS AFTER WATCHING A GREAT MEDIEVAL KNIGHT MOVIE AND YOUR FRIENDS ARE SAYING, “THAT WAS A COOL MOVIE,” WHILE YOU ARE THINKING, “NO—THAT WAS A REALLY COOL MOVIE” AND FINDING YOURSELF REFLECTING ON SOME OF THE DEEPER MEANINGS IN THE MOVIE? IF THIS IS TRUE ABOUT YOU, THE CHANCES ARE YOU WILL ENJOY THIS STUDY

THE NEED FOR PURE HEARTS

- ONE OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THOSE IN OLDEN DAYS WHO WOULD BE A KNIGHT WAS TAKING A VOW OF PURITY. PURITY IS MORE ABOUT THE CONDITION OF A MAN'S HEART THAN IT IS ABOUT HIS INDIVIDUAL ACTS.
- EVERYONE MAKES MISTAKES BUT AS WE LEARN FROM THEM, WE SHOULD MAKE ADJUSTMENTS AND DO BETTER THE NEXT TIME. PURITY EXAMINES THE MOTIVES ON OUR HEART AND THE DESIRE TO SERVE THE LORD FOR HIS HONOR AND GLORY.

THE COMPONENTS OF THIS STUDY

- THE DIFFERENT PIECES OF THE ARMOR OF GOD AND HOW THEY FUNCTION AS WE DO BATTLE AGAINST THE ENEMY. WE HAVE AN EVIL ENEMY WHO DESIRES TO ALWAYS KILL, STEAL, AND DESTROY. THE ARMOR OF GOD – THIS ARMOR IS THE AWESOME PROTECTION OF OUR GOD AS WE DO BATTLE AGAINST THE ENEMY OF OUR SOULS.
- THE 24 VIRTUES OF A KNIGHT FOR THE LORD. THESE VIRTUES KEEP US PURE AT HEART AND MOTIVATE OUR SERVICE TO HONOR GOD

- THE SEVEN DEADLY SINS- THE THINGS THAT WE AS MEN OF GOD SHOULD ALWAYS AVOID AND SHUN. THESE THINGS OPEN US UP TO CORRUPTION AND THE ATTACK OF THE ENEMY TO BRING US DOWN.
- THE MANTLE OF SERVICE TO GOD- THIS SHOULD BE NOT A BURDEN BUT SHOULD INSTEAD BE A LOVE OF GOD AND DESIRE TO CARRY HIS HEART TO THE PEOPLE. UNCONDITIONAL LOVE, SACRIFICE, AND SERVICE.

THESE ARE ALL NOBLE CAUSES THAT BLESS AND ALLOW US TO BE ALL THAT GOD HAS CALLED US TO.



TONIGHT, WE
WILL EXAMINE
PURPOSE OF THE
ARMOR OF GOD.
AS WE SERVE THE
LORD AS HIS
KNIGHTS, WE
WILL NEED THIS
UNDERSTANDING.

- *WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO PROTECT YOURSELF WITH THE "FULL ARMOR OF GOD"?*
- CHRISTIANS TODAY ARE TAKING THE IDEAS AND PRACTICES OF OUR CULTURE AND FORMING THEIR CHRISTIAN BELIEFS AROUND THEM. WE ARE BEING TAUGHT BY SOCIETY TO BE "TOLERANT" OF ANTI-BIBLE ACTIONS AND PRACTICES. WE MUST HOLD FIRM TO CHRIST'S TEACHINGS AND COMMANDMENTS. BE SURE YOUR "*BELT OF TRUTH*" IS FIRMLY BUCKLED AROUND YOUR WAIST.

Ephesians 6:10-17

10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.

11 Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.

12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

13 Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.

14 Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place,

15 and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace.

16 In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one.

17 Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.



Put on the
Whole Armor
of God

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THE PURPOSE OF THE ARMOR OF GOD

- **WE ARE IN A SPIRITUAL BATTLE, BUT WE ARE NOT FIGHTING TO GO TO HEAVEN; THAT WAS SETTLED BY CHRIST WHEN HE WENT TO THE CROSS FOR YOU AND SETTLED BY YOU WHEN YOU ACCEPTED HIS SACRIFICE TO TAKE YOU TO HEAVEN. HEAVEN IS SECURE FOR THE BELIEVER THE MOMENT HE TRUSTS CHRIST AS SAVIOR. HOWEVER, THERE IS A BATTLE ONCE YOU ARE SAVED, FOR YOUR GROWTH IN THE LORD, FOR YOUR HOLINESS, AND FOR YOUR INFLUENCE UPON OTHERS.**

- **I. THE ARMOR OF GOD HELPS THE BELIEVER TO DEFEND HIMSELF-1 PETER 5:8** *BE SOBER, BE VIGILANT; BECAUSE YOUR ADVERSARY THE DEVIL, AS A ROARING LION, WALKETH ABOUT, SEEKING WHOM HE MAY DEVOUR:*
 - A. AN ADVERSARY IS EXAMINING YOU TO SEE IF YOU WILL BE VULNERABLE "... WALKETH ABOUT, SEEKING WHOM ..."

– B. AN ATTACK FROM THE ENEMY IS EXPECTED “WHOM HE MAY DEVOUR.”

1. AN ATTACK UPON YOUR FAITHFULNESS

2. UPON YOUR MARRIAGE

3. YOUR HOLINESS

4. YOUR HEALTH

5. YOUR CHILDREN

– C. AN ALERTNESS IS NECESSARY---"BE SOBER, BE VIGILANT “

- II. HELPS THE BELIEVER TO DECLARE HIS POSITION-

- THE ARMOR IS TO HELP YOU STAND, THAT IS TO "HOLD THE FORT" OR MAINTAIN A POSITION.
- TO DECLARE YOUR POSITION ON SOMETHING TODAY IS REFERRED TO BY THE EXPRESSION, "TAKE A STAND" FOR SOMETHING.
- DRAW A LINE IN THE SAND & DON'T BUDGE! CUT "COMPROMISE" OUT OF YOUR DICTIONARY
- A. IN SERVICE
 1. FAITHFULNESS TO CHURCH (HEBREWS 10:25)
 2. TITHES AND OFFERINGS (MALACHI 3:10)

B. IN SEPARATION

THERE ARE THINGS THAT WE AS CHRISTIANS THAT WE SIMPLY CANNOT PARTICIPATE IN IF WE ARE GOING TO HOLD THE LINE IN OUR OWN LIFE. WE HAVE TO SEPARATE OURSELVES FROM THE THINGS THAT PULL US DOWN INTO SIN.

C. IN SCRIPTURE TRUTH AND DOCTRINE

1. EVEN IF YOU'RE ACCUSED OF BEING TOO CRITICAL AND TOO NARROW-MINDED (SOME OF THESE "OPEN MINDS" SHOULD BE SHUT DOWN FOR REPAIRS!)



III. THE ARMOR OF GOD HELPS THE BELIEVER TO DEFEAT HIS FOE

A. YOU ARE IN TROUBLE WITHOUT IT---SATAN IS STRONGER THAN ANY MAN, WITHOUT THE LORD.

B. YOU CAN TRIUMPH WITH IT---IT IS GOD'S ARMOR!

C. YOU MUST TAKE IT-

1. THE SECOND AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION GIVES YOU THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND TO BEAR ARMS. IT DOESN'T DO YOU ANY GOOD, HOWEVER, IF YOU DON'T TAKE AND BEAR THE ARMS.

2. LIKEWISE THE CHRISTIAN IS GIVEN THE ARMOR OF GOD, BUT YOU MUST TAKE IT ON A DAILY BASIS.

D. YOU MUST TRY IT ON. EACH PERSON'S ARMOR FITS DIFFERENTLY-DAVID DIDN'T USE SAUL'S ARMOR BECAUSE HE HADN'T PROVED (OR TRIED, TESTED) IT.

IV. THE ARMOR OF GOD HELPS THE BELIEVER TO DEPEND ON THE LORD.

A. YOU SEE THE PROBLEM OF YOUR OWN ABILITY---JOHN 15:5B "*... WITHOUT ME YE CAN DO NOTHING.*"

B. YOU SEE THE PROFIT OF GOD'S ARMOR

1. WITH IT YOU'RE SAFE

2. WITH IT YOU'RE SECURE!

3. WITH IT YOU'RE STRONG!

C. YOU SEE THE POWER THAT IS AVAILABLE---PHILIPPIANS 4:13 “I CAN DO ALL THINGS THROUGH CHRIST WHICH STRENGTHENETH ME.”

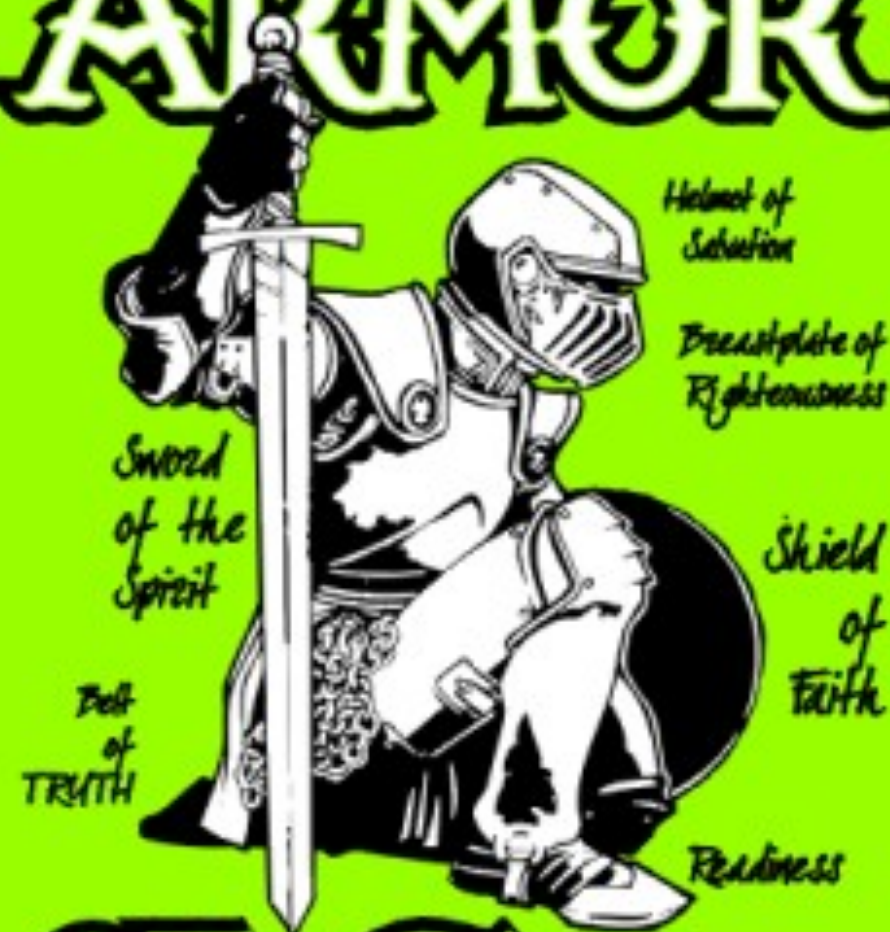
- 1. YOU CAN WIN THROUGH HIM!**
- 2. YOU CAN BE VICTORIOUS THROUGH HIM!**
- 3. RELY ON THE LORD, RESIST THE DEVIL, AND RUN SATAN OFF!**

- MAKE A COMMITMENT TO BEGIN AS A KNIGHT FOR THE LORD, TO PUT ON THE ARMOR OF GOD AND FIGHT FOR ALL THAT GOD HAS CALLED US TO DEFEND AND ALL THAT HE HAS CALLED US TO CLAIM AND STAND FOR AS CHRISTIANS.
- DON'T LEAN ON YOUR OWN UNDERSTANDING AND YOUR OWN ABILITY TO DO BATTLE. GOD HAS GIVEN US THESE THINGS TO PROTECT US AND INFLICT A WOUND UPON THE ENEMY.

NEXT WEEK

- WE WILL LOOK AT THE DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF THE ARMOR GOD HAS GIVEN AND WE WILL LEARN MORE ABOUT THESE IMPORTANT PIECES AND HOW TO USE THEM FOR GOD'S GLORY.
- THE BELT OF TRUTH
- THE BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS
- SHOES OF PEACE
- HELMET OF SALVATION
- SHIELD OF FAITH
- SWORD OF THE SPIRIT THE WORD

ARMOR



OF GOD