

# ARMOR OF GOD

Provided by Grace Assembly School of the Bible



# Table of Contents

<i>Introduction</i> .....	3
<i>Girdle of Truth</i> .....	10
<i>Breastplate of Righteousness</i> .....	12
<i>Feet Shod with Preparation of Gospel of Peace</i> .....	14
<i>Shield of Faith</i> .....	16
<i>Helmet of Salvation</i> .....	18
<i>Sword of the Spirit</i> .....	20
<i>Prayer</i> .....	24
<i>Conclusion</i> .....	29

# Introduction

**6:11 Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.**

***Topic: Great Fight of Faith***

***Why Put on the Whole Armor of God?*** - Believers have been provisionally blessed with all spiritual blessings in Christ, in high and heavenly places ([1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>d</sup> Heavens](#)). This also includes a vast inheritance. In Christ, believers soon discover a “**great fight of faith**” in claiming these blessings and inheritance. Why? Their claims, by faith, will be contested by the adversary who remains in occupation of these very high and heavenly places. Therefore, believers will desperately need the “whole armor of God” to stand against the “wiles” of the Devil, as he fights to hold possession of these high and heavenly places in a life-or-death struggle. Therefore, he uses “wiles” or “any means” to wrest believers from holding their position in Christ by faith through seducing them into using “carnal weapons,” i.e., their own wisdom, righteousness, and strength after the flesh.

***The Whole Armor of God for the Acts 27 Storm*** - We have chosen to include a prophetic overview of the Acts 27 Storm in with the study of the Armor of God. We trust this will prove to be a “word in season” to members of the Living Church who are becoming faint and wearied in their minds. Many believers are finding themselves in a quandary in trying to understand the events taking place in our nation and around the world. If believers are willing to receive that the Living Church is now standing on the Seventh Day of the Lord, based on the Millennial Day Principle, this may prove to be a “word in season” to the weary. ([Millennial Day Principle](#)).

(Isa 50:4) “The Lord GOD hath given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to him that is weary: he wakeneth morning by morning, he wakeneth mine ear to hear as the learned. The Lord GOD hath opened mine ear, and I was not rebellious, neither turned away back.”

***The Acts 27 Storm – A Type and Shadow of the “Last Days”*** - “A Word in Season” to the Living Church. According to the Apostle Paul in (Eph 6:13) and typified in the Acts 27 Storm, the Living Church will enter the “evil day.” The “evil day” is the time period in which the Day of the Lord under God’s number of 777 is breaking in the heavens and will meet with great controversy, as the god of this world seeks to counter with a counterfeit system under man’s number of 666. The Living Church, as we speak is being engulfed in a great storm described prophetically through types and shadows of the Acts 27 Storm.

***Where does this storm come from?*** - The “troublous times” besetting our nation has a spiritual origin. This is being played out in the present political controversy between the Left and the Right. The Day of the Lord, we believe, is now breaking in the heavens with the Lord entering His presence (parousia) in the heavens to receive His Church ([Progressive Coming of the Lord](#)). He will yet be enthroned according to Rev 4 and 5 and will establish His heavenly kingdom by receiving His Church. First those in Christ who are asleep and afterward those alive unto His coming.

***Great Opposition!*** - The presence of Christ in the heavens is stirring fierce opposition from the god of this world whose kingdom is also located in “high places.” Satan is feeling threatened by the Lord’s presence and the eventual setting up of His kingdom in these high and heavenly places. This is a “harbinger” of things to come as Satan’s dark kingdom of wicked principalities, powers and rulers will be cast to the earth and there will be an eventual cleansing of the heavens – (Rev 12).

***Satan Becoming “Desperately Wicked”*** - The present storm, now raging between the secular forces on the Left is threatening the organized forces on the Right, under the Judean Christian principles, figured by the ship, in the midst of this storm. A prophetic word in season, from Acts 27. Nevertheless, the Lord will stand down to deliver the Apostle Paul, as a prisoner, and those who sail with him, figuring the Living Church as those looking up for their redemption.

***The Judean Christian Establishment Survives!*** - The good news, from the “types and shadows” in the Acts 27 storm, is that the Judean Christian establishment will survive! They will emerge from this storm greatly strengthened as unified through religious “ecumenism.” Sadly, the captains, as leaders, of the ship, will fail to recognize they were delivered by the Lord, Himself on behalf of those looking up for their redemption! Instead, they will lend their allegiance to religious leaders who urged “ecumenism.”

***The Storm will Continue*** - However, there will yet be a “social backlash” by the liberal forces against organized religious control forcing Christendom, as a whole, to begin entering into a union with the political and commercial systems. Nevertheless, doctrinal differences will cause a serious “fracture” in the ship of Christendom. This will result in a division between the Visible Church, i.e., organized Christendom figured, as the forepart of the ship, and the Invisible Church, i.e., the living organism of the Body of Christ figured, as the hinder part of the ship. There are born again Christians in the organized system and depending on the forepart of the ship. As a result, the ship figuring Christendom will break into two parts from the “violence of the waves.”

***The Forepart of the Ship*** - The forepart of the ship will remain as un-moveable, figuring the Visible Church as joined to the political and commercial systems becoming the accepted religious system. This union will consist of the Roman Catholic Church, Mainline Churches and others who hold to Covenant Theology or “Replacement Theology.” They will contend the Visible Church has spiritually replaced Israel in the divine purposes of God.

***The Hinder Part of the Ship*** - The hinder part of the ship, figuring those of the “Invisible Church” looking up for their redemption, will gradually turn spiritually northward in seeking to lay hold of the heavenly call of the Church, as the “faith once delivered” to the Church. They will begin to look up for their redemption, by rank and order, being strengthened by the Holy Spirit and will contend for the “catching away” through the open door of translation, as the “blessed hope.”

***Great Persecution!*** - The coming division of the ship of Christendom between the Visible Church and the Invisible Church will result in persecution of believers who continue to look up for their redemption. These believers will be accused of holding “unsound

doctrines” and “unsound minds” by the Visible Church. Believers who continue to look up for the heavenly calling will desperately need “the whole armor of God” in protecting their hearts and minds and defending their faith until they are caught up to meet the Lord in the air by rank and order – (I Thess 4:15-18) ([Order of the Resurrection](#)).

***Beware of this Counterfeit Kingdom*** - This is a warning to those remaining! The above union will seek to set up the Kingdom of God on earth. This will be a counterfeit kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ under “another Jesus, another spirit, and another gospel.” This kingdom will be established in the place of Israel’s promised Messianic Kingdom upon the earth. This will usher in “great tribulation” to the Gentile nations and “Jacob’s trouble” to Israel. Christ will return and be received by a remnant in Israel, as their Messiah. After that the Lord, Himself, will fight for His ancient people Israel in the great Battle of Armageddon. After great carnage, He will deliver the remnant and set up the true Messianic Kingdom under Israel. (Ps 110:6) “He shall judge among the heathen, he shall fill the places with the dead bodies; he shall wound the heads over many countries.” Even so come, Lord Jesus! ([Covenant Week](#) and [Sequence of Battles](#)).

***Commentary: “The Exaltation of the Sons of God” - A.S. Copley***

What is the primary feature of our combat? It is defensive. “Stand ... wrestle against ... withstand ... stand ... quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.” Satan is the aggressor. We have been seated by Christ's ascension in our blood-bought abode. By faith, we have laid hold of our rightful possessions. We would not need to fight if the devil would not disturb us. Our conflict is not to OBTAIN our inheritance but to **HOLD** it. The word “wiles” means “methods, cunning, craft, and artifices.” Satan does everything by diabolical method. Our first act of resistance is “to stand against the wiles (methods) of the devil.” To fight and work methodically in divine things is to attempt to be strong in one's own might, which means defeat always. Bear in mind that method in religion is satanic, and the more pious and wiser it may appear and the more it appeals to the intellect, the more dangerous and destructive it surely is. Method is always subtle or crafty.

**6:12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.**

***Topic: Warfare of the Church***

***Not Against “Flesh and Blood”*** - The Apostle warns the Church’s warfare by faith in these high and heavenly places is not against mere “flesh and blood.” This includes the visible governments of this world, as organized politically, commercially, and religiously.

***Against Principalities, Powers and Rulers in “High Places”*** - The Church’s warfare is rather against the invisible government of Satan, as the “god of this world.” He is well organized as principalities, powers, and rulers of the “darkness of this world,” i.e., those that hold the world in darkness. Therefore, Satan’s invisible organization is about “spiritual wickedness,” meaning that Satan holds dominion over the fallen, invisible, and visible realms with the intent of holding them under layers of spiritual “darkness” ultimately blinding them against the “Light of the Gospel.”



(2 Cor 4:4) “In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.”

(1 John 5:19) “And we know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness.”

***The Darkness or Strongholds of False Religions*** - Satan, as the “god of this world” operates through his invisible kingdom of darkness by holding most of the world under a spiritual darkness to God as Creator through false religions. Satan receives worship and is served under the many names of false deities. In Judean Christian circles these are referred to as the “heathen.”

***The Darkness or Strongholds of Secularism*** - Satan, as the “god of this world” operating through his invisible kingdom of darkness down through the visible realm, seeks to blind the minds of men to the “Light” of God as Creator through secularism. Satan is the author of atheism, agnosticism, and secular humanism, i.e., man is god. This stronghold is effective even in the Judean Christian world.

***False Religions and Secularism – The “Outer Darkness”*** - The “outer darkness” or “double darkness” is when men’s minds are blinded through the darkness of false religions and secularism. Both segments are twice removed from the “Light of God, as the Great Redeemer” and consequently the “Light of the Gospel.”

(Heb 11:6) “But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.” The power of the Gospel has proven greater than these strongholds.

***Satan’s “Kingdom of Darkness” vs the “Light of God” as Redeemer*** - Satan is greatly opposed to the “Light of the Gospel” as it reveals God as the Great Redeemer. This revelation came into the world through the Person and Work of His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. Why such great opposition? The power of God is revealed in and through the Gospel from faith to faith. It has power to deliver men eternally out of Satan’s Kingdom of Darkness, as the fallen “old creation” and to translate them into God’s Kingdom of light as a “new creation.” Therefore, Satan’s agenda is to suppress the “Light of the Gospel” by gradually organizing it out of the “public square” in the political system and the commercial system. He likewise seduces religious systems into a mere “form of godliness” that denies the power of the Gospel.

***Satan’s “Kingdom of Darkness” vs the True Church*** - Satan greatly opposes the true Church, as an “organism” in holding the Headship of the Lord Jesus Christ and holding forth the “light of the Gospel” in a dark world. Therefore, Satan works tirelessly against the Church being an “organism,” over which he has no control. In fact, Satan greatly fears the Church as an “organism” as joined unto the Headship of the Lord Jesus Christ and headquartered in heaven. Satan also fears the power of the Gospel in loosing subjects from his control. His greatest fear of the Church as an “organism” will be at Christ’s Second Advent in which the “kingdom of darkness” will be overthrown by the Kingdom of Light happening first in the heavens and then upon the earth ([\*Progressive Coming of the Lord\*](#)).

***A Warning to the Church: Beware of the “Apostasy.”*** Satan feverishly opposes the true Church as an “organism,” by using “wiles” to “subvert,” “pervert,” and “divert” them away from holding the headship of Christ. His many “wiles” or methods are hidden in the process of the “apostasy” or the gradual “falling away” from the divine order. Satan subtly seduces them under the visible headships and organizations of men. It is here they become vulnerable to his efforts to dim the “Light of the Gospel” by moving them into a “form of godliness” while effectively denying the power of the Gospel in their walk ([\*Fivefold Departure of the Church\*](#)).

***Commentary: “The Exaltation of the Sons of God” - A.S. Copley***

Our fight is not against people, though Satan operates through them. It is against wicked spirits, of which Satan is the chief. Satan is "the god of this world," "the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience" – (II Cor 4:4); (Eph 2:2). The devil has organized the wicked spirits into “principalities” or dominions, which are controlled by wicked authorities. John saw these devilish dominions symbolized by “a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads” – (Rev 12:3). Those heads, or authorities, are here declared to be “against the rulers of the darkness of this world.” How tremendously solemn that Satan is the first organizer. Organization is a blinding snare, a crafty trick of satanic invention. Saints are fooled by its methodical chains, and they never realize its fear-imposing power until they are wholly delivered from it and swung out into the blood-bought “liberty of the children of God” – (Romans 8:21). The Headship of Christ is ignored by organization, because one body cannot have more than one head without confusion. The freedom of the sovereign operation of the Spirit is sadly hindered, and the growth of the saints is rendered impossible, by organization.

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

***Topic: The Whole Armor of God***

Believers are, hereby, urged by the Apostle to take unto themselves the “**whole armor of God.**” God’s armor as couched in the Person and Work of Christ was used in eternally defeating Satan and his vast hierarchy. Therefore, believers partially clad, or lacking complete knowledge of the Gospel will suffer casualties on the battlefield. The “whole armor” is defined as the “whole Gospel.” This includes the Person and Work Christ accomplished through His death, burial, resurrection, and coming again. Every believer was subsequently baptized by God, Himself, into an eternal oneness with every aspect of the Person and Work of Christ. Therefore, the Gospel is powerful! (Rom 1:16) “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.”

***Believers to Provide a Threefold Stance***

**(1) Withstand:** (G)436, G473 and 2476; to stand against, oppose: resist, withstand. Believers using the armor of God, will be able to withstand or restrain the evil day (666) until they are taken out of the way.

**(2) Having done all to stand:** (G)2716, 2596 and 2038; to work fully, accomplish; to finish, fashion: cause, do (deed), perform, work (out). Believers using the whole armor of God, will be able to stand for the prevailing of Day of the Lord (777) and His kingdom ([Millennial Day Principle](#).)

**(3) Stand:** (G)2476 and 5087 to stand, is used in various applications: abide, appoint, bring, continue, covenant, establish, hold up, lay, present, set (up), stanch, stand (by, forth, still, up). Believers using the armor of God will be able to stand in agreement with the Lord in the cleansing of the heavens prior to their home-go.

**A Spiritual Overview from David vs Goliath** - David, a young lad of the Tribe of Judah, tried and then refused to be clad in the armor of Saul, as they were a type of “carnal weapons” (2 Cor 10:4) of man effective only against “flesh and blood.” Instead, David chose the invisible Armor of God, in using only his sling and “five small smooth stones” when confronting Goliath of the Philistines. David is a type of our Lord Jesus Christ, during His First Advent, when He confronted Goliath, a type of the world system, and slew him with “one small stone” to his head provisionally destroying the wisdom of this world through His death on the Cross and Resurrection. He will again return to confront Goliath during His Second Advent as a type of the “New World Order” organized under the number of 666. Goliath’s lineage possessed - six fingers and six toes – (1 Sam 21:20,21). Goliath’s stature was six cubits and his spear of iron weighed 600 shackles.) This system will be supported by Satan, as a trinity 666 ([The World System 666](#)). This system will defy the Lord Jesus Christ, as the “Greater than David,” in His support of His ancient people Israel. During Christ’s Second Advent occurring on the Seventh Day of the Lord, Christ, as the “Greater than David,” under the Divine Trinity (777) will cutoff the head of Goliath, bringing to a “nought” the power and wisdom of the “New World Order” (666).

**Spiritual Insight: David's Five Smooth Stones** - David selected only five smooth stones from the brook. Five is the number of grace. Christ, as the “Greater than David,” defeated Goliath at His First Advent with only “one small stone,” personified in “His Name shall be called Wonderful.” Christ will return in His Second Advent as the sharp two-edged sword of the “Word of God” (Rev 19:13). Finally cutting off the head of the greater than Goliath (666). Afterward He will acquire the remaining four titles listed below under (777).

“*The Five Smooth Stones*” - (Isa 9:6) “For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called **[1] Wonderful** [2] Counsellor [3] The mighty God [4] The everlasting Father [5] The Prince of Peace.”

*Wonderful (first stone thrown):* (G) 6382 pele', peh'-leh; from (H) 6381; a miracle: -- marvelous thing, wonder (-ful, -fully). (The miracle of His virgin birth as the “Only Begotten” and the miracle of His Resurrection as the First Begotten!)

**Commentary: “The Exaltation of the Sons of God” - A.S. Copley**

As intimated before, our warfare is primarily defensive. The enemies fight us, but we stand against them. Observe in vs 11 and 13, that the word “**stand**” occurs four times; hence, the absolute need of the whole armor of God. We are not called on to lay siege against



Satan and his movements. We can never change the current of the times. People pray in vain in that direction. We do well to stem the tide and reach the goal in time for the Prize. God has not sent us to overthrow Christian Science or Romanism, nor to recover Protestantism from apostasy. But we are to witness to the people and thus rescue individuals, who may listen, out of these conditions, by inducing them to believe on Jesus Christ. As pilgrims and strangers passing through, we are not to yield to the inhabitants of this world. In doing so, we would be yielding to the devil. "Be not ye therefore partakers with them" – (Eph 5:7). "Be not conformed to this world (age)" – (Romans 12:2). "Have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them" – (Eph 5:11). Here is where our fight arises. Our old nature, if not curbed, would readily follow the customs of the world, and accept the deceptive, religious theories afloat. This is true of beginners. After we go on with the Lord – learn His Word and grow up into Christ – even our very flesh recoils from the alluring things of men and cries out against them. Of course, it is not we but Christ living in us who refuses to allow sin to have dominion over us.

# Girdle of Truth

**6:14 Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;**

***Topic: The Girdle of Truth as the Gospel***

*The Girdle of Truth* - The “loins” speak specifically of a place of strength in the human body. Paul calls on believers to cover their loins with truth. Likewise, Peter admonishes believers to **“gird up the loins of their mind.”** With this phrase, he is speaking of the believer’s new creation mind of Christ, which is able to comprehend the truth of the Gospel through revelation knowledge of the Word of God as strengthened by the Holy Spirit (I Peter 1:13).

(1 Cor 2:16) “For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? but we have the mind of Christ.”

***The Secret Strength of the Girdle of Truth*** - The secret strength of girding our loins with truth lies in the interweaving of many threads of truth running both horizontally and vertically from Genesis to Revelation.

***The Horizontal Threads: Christ, as Divinity His Eternal Strength*** - The horizontal threads which have “no beginning or ending,” speak of the Divinity of Christ, as “without a seam” woven throughout the Scriptures from Genesis to Revelation.

***The Vertical Threads: Christ, as Humanity His Redemptive Strength*** - The vertical threads, which have both a beginning and ending speak of the Humanity of Christ, as the “Only Begotten” of the Father, conceived in the womb of a virgin. After He was cut off for the sins of the people, He arose again from the dead as the “First Begotten” or “First born” and is alive forevermore!

(Rev 1:18) “I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.”

(John 14:19) “Yet a little while, and the world seeth me no more; but ye see me: because I live, ye shall live also.”

***Believers to Weave a “Girdle of Truth”*** - The truth of Christ’s Person and Work, as recorded in the Scriptures, must be revealed by the Holy Spirit to the believer’s spiritual mind. Gradually this becomes a woven work as received “line upon line” and “here a little and there a little” – (Isa 28:10). The Old Testament and the New Testament Scriptures are replete with multiple threads setting for the truth that Christ preexisted as the Great Creator and the Eternal Word in Genesis chapter one. This same “Word was made flesh,” according to John chapter one. This was made possible through the virgin birth of Christ, as the “Only Begotten” Son and following His resurrection becoming the “First Begotten” from the dead. Therefore, His Divinity and Humanity have been forever joined by God,

“let no man put asunder.” God has likewise joined the First Advent with the Second Advent, “let no man put asunder.” Gradually, a girdle of truth is woven in the believer’s spiritual mind. They are strengthened to thwart any attack against the Person and Work of Christ on behalf of fallen man, as perfect, finished and eternal!

***The Girdle of Truth as the Gospel*** - The above truths of Christ’s Person and Work, as perfect, finished, and eternal are without controversy! Therefore, the believer’s salvation should also be without controversy! The believer’s salvation rests solely in Christ’s Person and Work and not in the works of the believer. We, therefore, received our eternal salvation as a “gift of God” by grace, or favor to Christ, through the faith of Christ! Therefore, the “girdle of truth” becomes the necessary foundation or piece that holds all the other pieces of the armor of God together. (Eph 2:8) “For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:”

***Commentary: “The Exaltation of the Sons of God” - A.S. Copley***

**“Loins girt about with truth”** This is the primary piece of the armor. It is the solid base on which armor. To meet every onslaught of the devil, He exclaimed, "It is written." He was girded with the Truth. He was filled with it. He lived by it; for He said (quoting from Deu 8:3), “Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every Word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God” – (Matt 4:4). Likewise, if we know and believe the Word, the Holy Spirit will bring it to our remembrance when we are beset by the enemy.

# Breastplate of Righteousness

**6:14 Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;**

***Topic: Righteousness of Christ***

***The Breastplate of Righteousness*** - The breast, which encases the heart, is by far the most vulnerable area of the believer, as a warrior. Therefore, the “breastplate of righteousness” is essential in defending the truth of the believer’s eternal life, which is protected through, the righteousness of Christ and not any protection from his or her own righteousness. The first defense is the believer’s eternal standing in Christ wherein His righteousness is imputed to the believer through the faith of Christ. This is doctrinally defined, as justification by faith. Subsequently, Christ becomes the imparted righteousness of the believers, through a new birth. This is doctrinally defined, as regeneration. Without the revelation knowledge of the righteousness of Christ, as twofold (1) imputed, i.e., justified or put to your account and (2) imparted, i.e., regeneration or actual new birth that dwells in you, the believer becomes vulnerable to the adversary’s accusations and may experience a spiritual heart attack! Remember the adversary, as the “accuser of the brethren” seeks to condemn believers based on their personal failures, shortcomings, or lack of sanctification in their walk ([Seven Steps of Glorification](#)). Therefore the “Breastplate of Righteousness” is specially designed to protect the heart of the believer, as a warrior from any fear of separation from God. (Please read Romans 8:38-39.)

**Note:** There is only one way for a believer to lose their eternal life, as based in the Person and Work of Christ, and that is for Christ Himself to fail or fall, as our life and righteousness, in the sight of God. That can never happen. (Rev 12:10) “...for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night.”

***Commentary: “The Exaltation of the Sons of God” - A.S. Copley - “Having on the breastplate of righteousness”*** When men shoot, they aim at the head or heart, and so, does Satan. But, if our head and heart are shielded, he cannot harm us. He knows that we cannot obtain nor hold a place in the heavenlies by any human righteousness. Therefore, he seeks to condemn us. He finds fault with us. He says that we are not the sons of God, even as the Jews accused Jesus. How then may we meet his onslaughts? Again, the conduct of the Lord is cited in (Isaiah 59:16-17) – “His righteousness, it sustained Him. For He put on righteousness as a breastplate.” The Lord is righteous in Himself. That was His defense against the foe. But we must obtain righteousness from Him, having none of our own. We must walk righteously before God – (Eph 5:8-10). We overcome by faith in the blood of the Lamb, which purchased divine righteousness for us; and by our testimony that we have put on the righteousness of Christ – (Rev 12:10-11). “He that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as He is righteous” – (I John 3:7). This piece of armor is very intimately related to the first; hence, they are named together. We shout it against the enemy that, “through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the Truth,” God chose us unto salvation – (II Thess 2:13). “For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For the

Scripture saith, “whosoever believeth on Him shall not be ashamed” – (Romans 10:10-11). The truth that Christ died for our sins and rose for our justification is an impenetrable breastplate against the cunning insinuations of the devil. “By the Word of Truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness on the right hand and on the left” – (II Cor 6:7).



# Feet Shod with Preparation of Gospel of Peace

**6:15 And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;**

***Topic: Stay on the Path! Stay on Message!***

The feet of believers, as spiritual warriors, must be shod with the preparation of the Gospel of peace! This is necessary preparation to carry the Gospel of peace with God in a complete understanding of the revelation and knowledge of the Person and Work of Christ and only based on becoming a new creation in Christ. Otherwise, carriers will surely suffer a foot injury, because of rough terrain, or be tempted by rejection to turn aside from the narrow way into the broad way of compromise – (Matt 7:13,14).

***“Beautiful Feet”*** - Our Lord, as the “Word” in Genesis one, possessed the most “beautiful feet” on the mountains of God’s Covenants before descending into the very “deep valley” of His humiliation, during His First Advent. He was often weary and certainly needed His feet shod in order to finish His course. His course included the preaching of the Gospel and afterward becoming the provision of the Gospel. Following His resurrection, He became the “Messenger of the New Covenant,” of Grace and Peace, first to the Jews and then to the Gentiles.

***Be Not Weary in Well Doing!*** - Believers, as warriors, may suffer spiritual weariness or even “battle fatigue,” in carrying the Gospel. Many will feel “strained” in trying to scale the “high” mountains as “typical” of God’s Covenants. However, these mountain peaks will be necessary in grasping the gradual unfolding of God’s great plan of redemption of fallen man that finally was consummated in the Person and Work of Christ, as His Son. These are referred to as “Mountain Peaks” of prophecy, spanning Mount Moriah, Mount Sinai, Mount Calvary, and Mount Zion. These successive “Mountain Peaks” represent a gradual revealing of God, as the Great Redeemer to fallen man and culminating in the great revelation of Himself through the Person and Work of Christ, His Son. This revelation was preached, first to the Jews and then to the Gentiles as the Covenant of Grace. This Covenant was promised as the “New Covenant” in (Jeremiah 31:31).

***Beware of the Valleys!*** - Warriors, having scaled the “Mountains Peaks” of God’s Covenants, often find themselves “cast down” when descending into the “valleys” filled with the briars and thorns of men’s reasoning, unbelief, and very often rejection of the wonderful Gospel of God’s Grace.

***Warriors Will Need a Spiritual Perspective: Light vs Darkness!*** - Spiritual warriors, their feet prepared for battle or carrying the Gospel of peace, through the Person and Work of Christ, as believers becoming a new creation will need to “pace themselves” or they will become overwhelmed! They will soon discover in their march into warfare that they are engaged in the greater “battle of the ages” between the two spiritual realms of “Light and Darkness.” They will find strength in gaining spiritual perspective that “Light” will ultimately prevail over the “Darkness.” Christ will yet reign, joined by the Church comprising His heavenly kingdom as canopying over His earthly Kingdom through Israel for a thousand years of peace as the Day of the Lord ([Seven Millennial Days](#)).

There is a great responsibility when your feet are shod with the preparation of the Gospel of peace. If believers, as warriors, compromise the Gospel, they will compromise God's great redemptive plan of the ages resting in the Person and Work of Christ. This will be a serious offense for which believers must give an account at the Judgment Seat of Christ – (2 Corinthians 5:10).

(Rom 10:15) "And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!"

Please consider: (Gal 6:15,16), (Eph 2:15) and (Col 1:20)

***Commentary: "The Exaltation of the Sons of God" - A.S. Copley***

Indeed, peace comes with righteousness. "Being justified by faith (reckoned righteous), we have peace with God" – (Romans 5:1). The proclamation of "on earth peace, good will toward men," introduced this age. Christ died for us, "making peace," and now "He is our peace" – (Eph 2:13-15). For we dwell indeed in the midst of those who are for war, as we speak peace – (Psalm 120:6-7). The effective way to foil the foe is to be filled with the Gospel of peace. "Feet shod" simply means to be prepared to go with God's Message, in a peaceable and quiet spirit; for "the wicked are like the troubled sea, when it cannot rest, whose waters cast up mire and dirt. There is no peace, saith my God, to the wicked." "The way of peace they know not." Therefore, we are to hasten and proclaim His Word – "Peace, peace to him that is far off, and to him that is near, saith the Lord; and I will heal him" – (Isaiah 57:19-21, 59:8). There will be no slipping, no falling. We will go in the way of good will to men – preaching peace, making peace, and living in peace as much as lieth in us with all men – because "the God of peace" dwells in us. They who are thus shod are no strife-makers nor malicious talebearers, but "peacemakers" always. "Love as brethren" is burned into their hearts. They practice what they preach by eating their own words, even the words of peace, which they vehemently proclaim. No marvel that of them it is written, "How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace" – (Isaiah 52:7); (Romans 10:15).

# Shield of Faith

**6:16 Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.**

***Topic: The Shield of Faith: “The Faith of Christ”***

(Gal 2:20) “I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.”

***The Warrior’s Overall “Self Defense”*** - “Above all” take the “shield of faith” as an overall defensive weapon. This “shield” can be maneuvered to protect the entirety of the warrior’s body, though covered by armor, from taking a “direct hit.” The “fiery darts” of the “wicked one” may be fired in clusters yet designed to target specific areas.

***What is the Shield of Faith?*** - The “shield of faith” is clearly defined in Scripture as “the faith of Christ.” “His faith” as a gift of God was divinely imparted to every believer when they were dead in sins and trespasses enabling them to believe the Gospel. Through the Gospel Christ becomes the life of every believer, which He continues to live through them by His faith (Gal 2:20)!

***Where do the Fiery Darts come from?*** - “Fiery darts” both in the Old Testament and New Testament speak of tongues “set on fire” from hell, as “fiery darts” from the “wicked one.” They are sometimes described as poisonous serpent bites. These vicious verbal attacks against believers, especially as spiritual warriors, are against Christ, as their life. The “wicked one” seeks to deeply wound believers, out of his intense hatred of Christ and the Gospel. As believers discern the true source of these “fiery darts,” as from the “wicked one,” against Christ, as living, walking, and often ministering the Gospel through them, they will learn to wield the “shield of faith” to quench them or deflect them, as personal attacks.

***Tongues as “Fiery Darts”*** - “Fiery Darts” generally emanate from the tongues of unbelievers, but they may also emanate from the tongues of believers who have failed to judge their old creation nature. These can be particularly painful. These tongues may target the believer’s faith, walk, or even their ministry but are disguised as personal attacks. These “fiery tongues” may be speaking doctrines contrary to the truth, aimed at undermining the faith. These tongues are “set on fire from hell,” according to (James 3:6).

We might want to consider the divine purpose for “tongues of fire” as evidence of receiving the Holy Spirit in (Acts 2:4). This demonstrates the sanctifying power of the Holy Spirit to purge lips of believers from speaking evil doctrines ([Three Evil Doctrines](#)).

***Coals of Fire:*** (Isa 6:6-7) “Then flew one of the seraphims unto me, having a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with the tongs from off the altar: And he laid it upon my mouth, and said, Lo, this hath touched thy lips; and thine iniquity is taken away, and thy sin purged.”

Consider (Ps 140:3), (Job 20:16), and (Rom 3:13).

(James 3:6) “And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell.”

*Shield:* (G)2375 and 2374; a large shield (as door-shaped): shield "door;" a portal or entrance (the opening or the closure: door, gate).

*Faith:* (G)4102 and 3982; persuasion, credence, conviction (of religious truth, or the truthfulness of God or a religious teacher), reliance upon Christ for salvation; constancy in such profession; the system of religious (gospel) truth itself: assurance, belief, believe, fidelity.

***Commentary: “The Exaltation of the Sons of God” - A.S. Copley***

Every manipulation of every weapon is by faith. Faith in divine Truth makes that Truth practical and powerful in our lives. Faith in the righteousness of Christ enables us to walk uprightly in this evil world, so that Satan cannot condemn us before men, and God will not disapprove of us nor be ashamed of us at last – (I Cor 9:27), (I John 2:28). “I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so, fight ... not as one that beateth the air” – (I Cor 9:26). Our impenetrable “shield of faith” wards off and quenches Satan's burning darts of ridicule, criticism, accusation, condemnation, and reproach. His kindled darts are his most painful attacks. Thank God, faith in the precious Word rises and overflows them all like a stream of water that extinguishes a flame.

# Helmet of Salvation

**6:17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:**

***Topic: The Helmet of Salvation: Used to Defend the Faith Once Delivered***

“**The helmet of salvation**” is designed to protect the head or quite literally the mind of believers, as warriors, in defending the “Blessed Hope!” This piece of armor protects the mind against the adversary’s planting insidious doubts or unbelief, that would fester and inhibit God’s finishing a “good work” in believers of glorifying their bodies in the image of Christ. God’s promises are sure and include the resurrection of the body, as incorruptible or changing the mortal body into one of immortality. This twofold work was finished when Christ received His glorified body and was bodily translated forty days later. Believers, as baptized by God into Christ’s Person and Work are henceforth sealed as a purchased possession by the Holy Spirit of promise, until the day of redemption – (Ephesians 4:30).

***The Blessed Hope Must Be Defended*** - Doctrinally, the “Blessed Hope” has been defined, as stated above. Howbeit, the “Blessed Hope” as it relates to translation of those alive unto the coming (parousia) or presence of the Lord in the heavens will need to be vigorously defended in these “last days” ([The Progressive Coming of the Lord](#)). Why? There has been a “falling away” from the doctrine of the rapture of the Church as escaping through an open door into heaven. There are many believers embracing a “kingdom now” theology teaching the Church will enter an earthly kingdom. Please Study the following: (I Thess 4:16, 17) and (I Cor 15:51-52).

***The Helmet of Salvation in the “Last Days”*** - The “Helmet of Salvation” will prove essential in defending the mind of believers trusting to be changed and caught up through the “open door.” The Apostle Paul warns the Living Church they will enter the “evil day.” The “evil day” defines the Seventh Day of the Lord breaking in the heavens as under God’s divine number of 777. However, the Day of the Lord and His redemptive purposes will be greatly challenged by the adversary in an all-out effort to continue man’s day and man’s order under the system as number 666.

***A Great Fight of Faith!*** - The adversary will engage the Living Church in a great fight of faith as they try to lay hold of the “faith once delivered” of being translated through an open door in heaven. The Church will awake to find herself in great need of the “times of restoration” under a final outpour of the Holy Spirit ([Seven Good Years](#)), to recover from the “apostasy,” i.e., the “falling away” ([Spirit Storm](#)). Many in the Church who did not have “an ear to hear” will discover that they have slept into the Day of the Lord, through an unwillingness to search into the “times and seasons” and therefore have not watched! They will also discover that a spiritual drunkenness has overcome them, as a result of “swallowing” a cunningly devised fable of the “great snatch” or the Church is suddenly translated at the same time without warning ([Order of the Resurrection](#)).



(2 Pet 1:16) “For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty.”

***Spiritual “Anchors” in the “Last Days” ([Which Translation is God’s Word?](#))***

(1 Tim 1:10) - Sound doctrine

(2 Tim 1:7) - Sound mind

(2 Tim 1:13) - Sound words

(2 Tim 4:3) - Sound doctrine

(Titus 1:9) - Holding the faithful word

(Titus 1:13) - Sound in the faith

(Titus 2:2) - Sound in faith

(Titus 2:8) - Sound speech

***Commentary: “The Exaltation of the Sons of God” - A.S. Copley***

**“And take the helmet of salvation”** In (I Thess 5:8) – “Putting on ... for a helmet, the hope of salvation.” We are saved “by faith,” as to our justification or standing now – (Romans 5:1). But “we are saved by hope” as to our full salvation, which includes “the redemption of our body” – (Romans 8:23-25). In I Thessalonians, reference to especially being kept from passing through the tribulation, “we are saved by hope” – that is, we hope in God to escape those dreadful days. Hence, this piece of the panoply must do particularly with our bodies. The enemy attacks them with sickness and pain. He would crush the life out of us and make us leave this sphere of action before our appointed time. He would induce a premature death. But the helmet of salvation, the hope of translation, overcomes Satan's assaults against our bodies; for we insist on departing without dying, even as did Enoch. “Moses ... died ... according to the Word of the Lord” (Deu 34:5), and so did Paul who had “fought a good fight,” finished his course, and “kept the faith” (II Tim 4:7). So, may we die in God's will, if we die at all. But the coming of Jesus is so near, that we hope to live to be taken by way of translation. Therefore, if the enemy assails our bodies and insinuates that our career is ended, we can hoist our “helmet, the hope of salvation” from dying by disease, the hope of being translated, the hope of being kept “from the hour of temptation (trial), which shall come upon all the world” – (Rev 3:10).

# Sword of the Spirit

**6:17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:**

## ***Topic The Sword of the Spirit as a Two-edged Sword***

***The Sword of the Spirit*** - The Sword of the Spirit as a two-edged sword is the only offensive weapon listed in the Armor of God- (Heb 4:12). Therefore, believers, as warriors, will need an understanding into using this powerful weapon, in preaching the Gospel wielding it offensively, as the Church enters the “evil day.” (Heb 4:12) “For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”

***The Sword of the Spirit: “The Word was made flesh.”*** - This powerful weapon, first and foremost, speaks of the eternal Word as the Great Creator of (Genesis 1:1). It is John who reveals “the Word was made flesh” in (John 1:1) and (John 1:14). “The Word was made flesh” became the Word spoken as Christ the Only Begotten of the Father. Through Christ, the powerful work of redemption was accomplished through the power of the Holy Spirit. Through His death the world, the flesh, and the Devil and his dark kingdom were cut off and put away through His burial. Through Christ’s resurrection all things were made new.

## **Three Aspects of the “Two-edged Sword” of the Spirit**

- (1) **The “twoedged sword” of the Gospel as the Work of Redemption.** The two-edged sword based in the Person and Work of Christ, speaks of the twofold work of redemption in provisionally cutting off the old creation and making provision for the new creation.
- (2) **The “twoedged sword” of the Gospel as discerning and divisive.** As a “sharp” sword, it pierces inwardly and is able to discern the thoughts and intents of the heart of the hearers. It makes divisions accordingly. The hearer may choose to “hear or forbear” which becomes a choice between faith and unbelief.

**Note:** The choice of hearers is ultimately between remaining in the old creation of unbelief or becoming a new creation by faith, as a gift of God. This choice is true for unbelievers in receiving or rejecting the Gospel. It is also true for believers in making decisions regarding the provisions of the Gospel as to their walk in the old creation or in the new creation.

- (3) **The “twoedged sword” as Christ’s First and Second Advents.** The two advents of Christ are depicted as “one sword” having two edges. Herein is revelation knowledge that God has joined the First Advent of Christ with His Second Advent and though separated they must never be put asunder. (Mark 10:9) “What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.”

*Twoedged*: (G)1366. distomos, dis'-tom-os; from (G)1364 and (G)4750; double-edged: -with two edges, two-edged.

***The “twoedged sword” as the written Word of God*** - After Christ accomplished His work of redemption through the power of the Holy Spirit, the account became known as the Gospel. During the “early rain” of the Holy Spirit, this Gospel was gradually placed into writings as penned by the Early Church Apostles, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. The Book of Revelation, as the 66th book, was written in AD 95-96, and completed the Canon of the Scriptures, as the New Testament and the God breathed Holy Scriptures.

***The “twoedged sword” as the Word of God ministered***- The Gospel ministered, based on the Person and Work of Christ, and anointed by the Holy Spirit becomes the “sword of the Spirit.” As such the Gospel becomes the only offensive weapon in the arsenal of believers, as warriors. The anointed Gospel becomes powerful and able to liberate captives out of Satan’s kingdom of darkness and translate, or transplant, them into the kingdom of light of God’s dear Son.

(Rom 1:16) “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.”

(Col 1:13) “Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:”

***Jesus Christ of Nazareth Anointed to Preach the Gospel*** - (Luke 4:18,19) “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.”

1. The Brokenhearted – healed
2. The Captives – delivered
3. The Blind – recover their sight
4. The Bruised – set at liberty
5. The Acceptable year of the Lord – preached

**Note:** Five, the number of God’s grace is revealed in the Gospel, as the only remedy for fallen man, spiritually and physically.

***Preach the gospel.*** (G)2097. euaggelizo, yoo-ang-ghel-id'-zo from (G)2095 and (G)32; to announce good news ("evangelize") espec. the gospel: --declare, bring (declare, show) glad (good) tidings, preach (the gospel).

**The “twoedged sword” of the Spirit - A Prophetic Viewpoint (Rev 1:16)** - Judgment Beginning at the House of God (I Peter 4:17). The sharp “twoedged sword” as proceeding “out of the mouth” of the Lord is being thrust into the midst of the Seven Churches on the Day of the Lord ([\*Mystical Church – Day of the Lord\*](#)). This is a description of the Judge and judgment beginning at the house of God, according to (Rev 1, 2, and 3). Please

note this sword is described below as a long, broad, cutlass, designed to do a very “short work” as a final decision time for the Living Church prior to Christ taking His throne in (Rev 4 & 5).

(Rev 1:16) “And he had in his right hand seven stars: and out of his mouth went a sharp twoedged sword: and his countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength.”

*Sword:* (G)4501. rhomphaia, a sabre, i.e., a long and broad cutlass (any weapon of the kind) --sword.

*Set Time: A Proper Time* - (1 Pet 4:17) “For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God?”

*Time:* (G)2540. kairos, kahee-ros'; of uncert. affin.; an occasion, i.e., set, or proper time. (Please read Eccl 3:16,17.)

**A “Short Work”** - (Rom 9:28) “For he will finish the work, and cut it short in righteousness: because a short work will the Lord make upon the earth.”

***What is a “Short Work?”*** - The “short work” as defined in the following word study is a cutting off sin concisely and speedily as one blow of the knife. It defines the work of redemption accomplished through Christ’s death, burial, and resurrection. The Gospel becomes the standard of judgment, in which every believer will make a final decision, determining their final rank of glory ([\*Order of the Resurrection\*](#)). This “short work” takes place on the Day of the Lord in a “short” space of time. This judgment will begin at the Church, followed by Israel and the world – (I Peter 4:17).

*Short:* (G)4932 suntemno, soon-tem'-no; from (G)4862 and the base of G5114; to contract by cutting, i.e., (fig.) do concisely (speedily): --(cut) short.

*Work:* (G)3056 logos, log'-os; from (G)3004; something said (including the thought); Expression (i.e., Christ).

***The Final One-edged Sword of the Spirit*** - This final judgment of the ungodly is carried out by a one-edged sword meaning they will be cut off without remedy.

(Prov 29:1) “He, that being often reproved hardeneth his neck, shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy.”

(1 Pet 4:18) “And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear?”

***Defined in Scripture*** - (Rev 19:13) “And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God.”

***The Word:*** (G)3056. logos, from (G)3004; something said (including the thought); the Divine Expression (i.e., Christ).

***A Sharp One-edged Sword - To Smite the Nations!*** - (Rev 19:15) “And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.”

***Sword:*** (G)4501. Rhomphaia, a sabre, i.e., a long and broad cutlass (any weapon of the kind, lit. or fig.): --sword.



# Prayer

## 6:18 Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

### ***Topic: Persevering Prayer***

This final piece of armor, as persevering prayer, is an immense subject that fills many respected commentaries. We are simply providing an overview of prayer, as the final piece of the Armor of God. A “word in season” by A.S. Copley; “Believers will learn to pray by giving themselves to prayer.”

***The Seventh Piece of Armor: Persevering Prayer*** - This Seventh Piece of Armor is seldom included with the six-fold Armor of God. However, because God’s perfect number is “seven” we have included persevering prayer, as “last but not least.” Without this final piece of armor, the strength of the warriors, will most certainly fail, and they will faint in the midst of strenuous conflict. This will prove especially true, as the Church in the last days enters the “evil day,” as already defined.

(Luke 18:1) “And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint;”

(Isa 40:31) “But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.”

### ***The Warrior’s Threefold Reliance on the Trinity***

- (1.) Be strong in the Lord – The Lord Jesus Christ – Eph 6:10
- (2.) Be Strong in the power of His might – The Holy Spirit – Eph 6:10
- (3.) Be Strong thru persevering prayer – The Father as God – Eph 6:18.

***The Effectual, Fervent Prayer Defined (James 5:16)*** - Prayer in the Spirit, which is both effectual and fervent, may be defined as prayer made by the believer to God from their new creation spirit, through Christ, in the power or ability of the Holy Spirit. This prayer will prove to be according to the will of God. Prayer in the Spirit may be in an unknown tongue, as the Holy Spirit gives utterance or even in a known tongue, as anointed by the Holy Spirit. (James 5:16) “The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.”

***For the Single Hearted: Prayer will be answered*** - (1 John 5:14-15) “And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us: and if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.”

***For the Double Hearted:*** Prayer will not be answered - (James 1:6-7) “But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord.” (James

4:3) “Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts.”

***Two Prayers of the Lord*** - Two distinct prayers uttered by the Lord were preserved, as memorials in Scripture and will always serve as patterns. Please understand that each of these prayers furnish deep spiritual insight into the Lord’s personal intercession to God His Father for the consummation of the two great purposes of redemption wrought through His Person and Work.

- (1) Lord’s Prayer – Israel’s Inheritance of their Kingdom – (Matt 6:9-13).
- (2) Lord’s Intercession – Church’s Inheritance of Glory – (John 17:1-26).

***Two Prayers of the Apostle Paul***

First Prayer for the Ephesian Saints – (Eph 1:15-23)

Second Prayer for Ephesian Saints – (Eph 3:13-21)

The Apostle Paul uttered two special prayers, to the God and Father of the Lord Jesus, as the Father of Glory, on behalf of the Ephesian saints and all saints. Both prayers were spiritual requests for a divine impartation of knowledge, wisdom, and understanding in laying hold of the exceeding heights, depths, breadths, and lengths of the riches of the glory in Christ that “passeth” knowledge.

***The Spirit also Helps with Believer’s Infirmities (Rom 8:26-27)*** - Believers should always pray according to the will of God, as revealed in the Word of God. Sometimes, believers may not know how to pray, as they ought, but the Holy Spirit helps their infirmities by making intercession through them in an unknown tongue. Other times, through inspiration of the Holy Spirit, they receive knowledge in how to pray in a known tongue. Agonizing in the Spirit may come forth as groaning(s) in the Spirit, which cannot be uttered. No matter how believers pray they can be comforted that the Holy Spirit, knowing the mind of God perfectly, is able to pray according to the will of God.

***Special Prayers in the Old Testament:***

Abraham’s intercession for Lot – (Gen 18:20-33)

Job’s intercession for his three friends – (Job 42)

Hannah’s prophetic prayer – (Sam 2:1-10)

David’s great prayer of repentance – (Ps 51)

Solomon’s prayer for wisdom – (1 Kings 3:5-13)

Elijah’s prayer of Intercession for rain – (I Kings 18:42-44)

Daniel’s prayer for Israel’s restoration – (Dan 9)

***The Greatest Worthy of Faith*** - The entire account of the “Worthies of Faith,” in (Heb 11), should also be mentioned, as those who persevered in prayer. Our Lord Jesus Christ furnished the greatest example of persevering through prayer in becoming the greatest “worthy of faith.” He is the “author and finisher of faith” – (Heb 12:1-3).

***Watching!*** - Watch and pray are usually coupled together in Scripture. They serve as a double warning to believers to remain acutely aware of their hostile environment filled with many adversaries. There is a constant need of prayer, lest their feet be taken in a

snare. Adversaries will increase as the Church enters the “evil day.” Believers should also watch for answers to their prayers thus proving the Lord is greater than the adversary and adversaries.

(Matt 26:41) “Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

(1 Pet 5:8) “Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:”

***Prayer and Fasting in the Early Church*** - Fasting was common in the Early Church, as the “green tree,” being wet with the rain of the Holy Spirit. They found themselves in a hostile environment as separated from the world, the flesh, and Satan’s kingdom.

*Green (tree):* (G)5200. hugros, hoo-gros'; from the base of G5205; wet (as if with rain), i.e., (by impl.) sappy (fresh): --green.

(Luke 23:31) “For if they do these things in a green tree, what shall be done in the dry?”

***Prayer and Fasting in the Latter Church*** - Fasting has almost disappeared in the Latter Church, as the “dry tree,” which by contrast is withered from lack of rain. This condition is due to the “apostasy,” or “falling away” from the “faith once delivered.” The Latter Church finds itself in a friendship with the world and the flesh, as a part of Satan’s kingdom. Because of the lack of separation, the Latter Church has experienced a great famine of the Word of God and a great drought of the Holy Spirit ([\*Rainfall Holy Spirit\*](#)).

*Dry (tree):* (G)3584 xeros, xay-ros'; from the base of (G)3582 (through the idea of scorching); arid; by shrunken, earth (as opposed to water): --dry, land, withered.

Great Famine and Drought Prophesied “Last Days”

***The Nation of Israel*** - (Amos 8:11) “Behold, the days come, saith the Lord GOD, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the LORD:”

***The Church*** - (2 Tim 4:3-4) “For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; and they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.”

***Will there be a final outpour of the Spirit in the “Last Days?”*** - The answer is yes! There will be a special “geshem” shower wherein the Lord Himself will be in the cloud and in the rain, as His coming, i.e., “parousia,” or His presence in the heavens according to Rev 1, 2, and 3 ([\*Seven Good Years and Spirit Storm\*](#)). The “geshem” rain, as a final shower will follow the “Latter Rain” that fell at the turn of the last century ([\*Holy Spirit Rains Typology\*](#)). See (James 5:7-9) and (Hosea 6:1-3).

***Prayer or Intercession with Groaning(s)*** (Rom 8:26-27) - Groaning(s) “which cannot be uttered” are almost always used in Scripture describing groaning out for deliverance which emanates from the depths of one’s most innermost being.

***Examples of “Groaning” in Scripture*** - Jesus groaned for the deliverance of fallen humanity. (John 11:33) “When Jesus therefore saw her weeping, and the Jews also weeping which came with her, he groaned in the spirit, and was troubled,”

*The whole creation groans in pain for deliverance* - (Rom 8:22) “For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now.”

*Groaning(s)* - Final Redemption of the Body

(Rom 8:23) “And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body.”

*Groaneth*: (G)4959 sustenazo, soos-ten-ad'-zo; from (G)4862 and (G)4727; to moan jointly, i.e., (fig.) experience a common calamity: --groan together.

***The Living Church: The Greater Morning and Greater Night!*** - Prayer with “groaning(s)” for deliverance will return to the Living Church as they awaken and discover that they are standing on the Seventh Day of the Lord, as the morning and the “evil day,” as the night, is beginning to steal across the world ([\*Seven Millennial Days\*](#)).

*Watchman What of the Night?* - (Isa 21:12) “The watchman said, The morning cometh, and also the night: if ye will inquire, inquire ye: return, come.”

***The Living Church and the “Swelling of Jordan”*** - Believers in these “last days” will face the swelling of the “greater Jordan” in crossing into the heavenly promised land. (Jer 12:5) “If thou hast run with the footmen, and they have wearied thee, then how canst thou contend with horses? and if in the land of peace, wherein thou trustedst, they wearied thee, then how wilt thou do in the swelling of Jordan?”

### ***Word Study***

*All*: (G)3956. all, any, every, the whole: --all (manner of, means),

*All Prayer*: (G)4335 and (G)4336; prayer (worship); an oratory (chapel): pray earnestly, prayer.

*All Perseverance*: (G)4343 and (G)4342; persistency or perseverance.

*All Saints*: (G)40 and (G)53, (H)2282; sacred (pure, blameless or religious, consecrated) :(most) holy (one, thing), saint.

*Supplication*: (G)1162 and (G)1189; a petition: prayer, request, supplication.

### ***Commentary: “The Exaltation of the Sons of God” - A.S. Copley***

**“Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit”** This is the last weapon mentioned, but it begins to be in use with the first – “praying always.” Pray and you will learn how to pray. Observe the time of prayer – “always.” The quantity is “all prayer.” Its intensity is “supplication.” Jesus said, “Ask ... seek ... knock.” He said also, “The

Kingdom of Heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force” – (Matthew 11:12). Real prayer bears down on the promises of God and comes boldly to the throne of grace, that is, the throne which has authority and power to grant all that the redemption of Christ has purchased for us who believe on Jesus. Hence, the exhortation is emphasized by saying, “And watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication.” Saints faint and fail in the use of this everyday weapon; hence, they lose many victories. The purity of prayer is “in the Spirit.” Oh, how many vain and unscriptural petitions are offered. Also, they cry to Him to do things which He has done already, and which they are invited to receive by simple faith, and, because of ignorance, some saints actually pray against the foretold purposes and judgments of God. Of course, such praying is not “in the Spirit,” for He incites no petition contrary to the written Word. Only Spirit-anointed believers can learn to pray in the Spirit. Then follows the guard of prayer – “watching” – which also is by the enabling of the Holy Spirit. Finally, the chief object of prayer – “all saints.” All who believe on Jesus with the heart constitute the children of God, the household of faith. Paul instructs us to pray for the whole family. Whether they be saved under the ministry of James, Peter, or himself, he loved them and sought their highest welfare. He was in no sense sectarian.



## Conclusion

Here, again, “the shield of faith” stands forth. It couples with the helmet. For faith in the plain promises of God drives the foe from the field and holds us on our way – going and growing, running and hoping, ready to hear the first trumpet blast. “And the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God,” the first weapon named is the “Truth,” with which we should be girded. We should be filled with a knowledge of God's Word rightly divided. We saw that the Truth was the base for all the other weapons. The Greek term here translated “the Word,” is not “logos,” which is the usual word thus, rendered; but it is “hrama,” which means “a saying.” When a word is needed for our defense or to rout the foe, the Holy Spirit finds it lodged in our heart and hurls it at the enemy. This shows us the advantage and necessity of possessing a correct understanding of the Bible. This weapon is named here, because the Spirit employs it in connection with all the other pieces of the armor and against every attack. He enables us to use the “Truth” with which we are girded. He enables us to use our “breastplate of righteousness.” He makes us to run on our fittingly “shod” feet, wield “the shield of faith,” and wear “the helmet of salvation.” The Holy Spirit alone knows how and when to use the armor and prompts us to use the part needed at each particular time. He brings to our remembrance the appropriate “hrama,” or saying of God, that will vanquish the power of the devil. We are weak; but He is mighty, even Almighty. David said, “Thy Word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against Thee” – (Psalm 119:11). Thus, by one simple verse or sentence, we may be delivered from a terrible attack of Satan.

We said at the outset, that our warfare is primarily defensive. We “put on the whole armor of God,” that we may be fully able to stand against the methods or cunning artifices of the devil. We are plunged into a wrestling match against the fiendish forces of organized wicked spirits in the heavenlies, to which we are bound. Six times the preposition “against” occurs. We stand and fight against the devil and his hosts because we are determined to have the place as our eternal abode which they now inhabit. But our combat develops into an offensive contest. The phrase, “having done all,” suggests this. The original, for this phrase means, “having conquered all things.” We cannot be passive, and let Satan run over us and crush us. Our firm stand becomes an aggressive engagement in which we conquer every opposing thing and power. “We do more than overcome” – (Romans 8:37) Greek. We take the spoil of the enemy and the heavenly country by a vigorous fight of faith, and “STAND” until the trumpet blows and calls us Home.