



“How We Are Identified”

Carry the Light
Eph. 6:14

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

Review

Our theme for 2017 is “Carry the Light.” We must “carry the light” while engaged in spiritual warfare.

The conduct of a true Christian, one who is genuinely “born again,” is the outcome of a doctrinal foundation. We are **“living out our faith,”** and our testimony indicates the quality of it, be it good or bad.

As I believe, therefore I live.

We need to believe that spiritual warfare is real, face it, fight it, & live victoriously!

I. THE REALITY OF SPIRITUAL WARFARE

II. THE REASON FOR SPIRITUALWARFARE

III. THE RUSE OF SPIRITUAL WARFARE

Last week we began a new perspective:

IV. THE RESPONSE TO SPIRITUAL WARFARE

A. A Word of Encouragement, 6:10

Eph. 6:10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.

B. A Word of Enlightenment, 6:11

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

C. A Word of Enablement, 6:12-17

Eph. 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*.

1. The Arena, 6:12

a. The Opportunity – 12a “For we wrestle...”

b. The Opposition – 12b-e “...against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high *places*.”

2. The Armor, 6:13-17

A few weeks ago we looked at the “Arena,” and last week we begin looking at the armor. In Eph. 6:13, we begin with the demand.

a. The Demand, 6:13

Eph. 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.

- The Identification of the Believer
 - The Challenge before Us – “Wherefore...” (Referring to Eph. 6:10-12)
 - The Conquering THROUGH us – Eph. 6:10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.

The armor is worthless without God’s power working through us!

We are identified by the conduct of our lives, as God is working through us.

- The Inspiration to the Believer
 - The Charge to Us – “...take unto you...”

The imperative command issued by our Commander in Chief.

- The Completeness available for us – “...the whole armour of God...”

The armor is “of God” – not of human ingenuity.

We need it all – “...the **WHOLE** armour of God...”

- The Capability for us – “...that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day...”
- The Conviction in us – “...and having done all, to stand.”
- A weak, worldly Christian is divided within himself over how to live a life pleasing to the Savior.
- Such a believer is vulnerable to spiritual instability and failure.

Last week we looked at “The Demand,” in verse 13. This morning we begin by looking at the armor of God. Note that regarding the whole armor, six pieces, are listed – five are defensive and one that is both defensive and offensive. There is nothing for the backside. We are to face our enemy and engage him. Our goal is to be victorious through Christ!

- The primary subject this morning is TRUTH. Our enemy is the devil.

Jn. 8:44 Ye are of *your* father **the devil**, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because **there is no truth in him**. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for **he is a liar, and the father of it**.

- The ultimate weapon against Satan is THE TRUTH.

This morning we begin looking at “The Description,” particularly in the first part of verse 14 regarding truth.

According to Stefanie Hose, in her article on *The Roman Military Belt*, “The truly distinguishing factors of the military dress were the sandals and the military belt.”
[http://www.academia.edu/212354/The Roman Military Belt](http://www.academia.edu/212354/The_Roman_Military_Belt)

Roman Soldiers Clothing - Military belt (Cingulum militare)

Description: The Military belt (cingulum militare) was worn around the waist of the soldier and acted as a holder for his dagger and the apron that hung from the front portion of the belt.

<http://www.tribunesandtriumphs.org/roman-clothing/roman-soldiers-clothing.htm>

b. The Description, 6:14-17

(1) What we sow, 6:14a
“Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth...”



<http://www.freebiblestudyguides.org/bible-teachings/armor-of-god-belt-of-truth.htm>

- **The Prominence of the girdle.**

- All truth is God's truth.
- Truth is absolute.
- The reality of everything that is to be known must be dependent upon what is true.
- Arrival in heaven is dependent upon one's application of truth.
- Living life that is pleasing to God is dependent upon application of truth.

- Having hope when facing the battles of life requires knowing truth.
- Living with confidence in a chaotic world requires knowing and applying truth.
- Life is a perpetual battle between truth and the enemies of truth.
- The first article of defense for the Christian soldier is TRUTH!
- **The Principle of the girdle**

Original Word: ὀσφύς

Transliteration: osphus

Definition: the loins.

osphýs – properly, the hip (reproductive area); used figuratively in 1 Pet 1:13 of the "reproductive" (creative) capacity of the *renewed mind* (cf. Ro 12:1-3).

(*osphýs*) is "the seat of generative power (Heb 7:5,10, *Abbott-Smith*). "To smite the loins" referred to a fatal blow – "forever ending" anything that would (could) come from the slain.

<http://biblehub.com/greek/3751.htm>

- The Principle of the girdle
 - The girdle's location – "loins" – represents the power of reproduction.

Act 2:30 Therefore being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oaths to him, that of **the fruit of his loins**, according to the flesh, he would raise up Christ to sit on his throne;

Heb. 7:5 And verily they that are of the sons of Levi, who receive the office of the priesthood, have a commandment to take tithes of the people according to the law, that is, of their brethren, though they come **out of the loins of Abraham: ...**

10 For he was yet **in the loins of his father**, when Melchisedec met him.

- The believer needs truth in order for spiritual reproduction.

1 Pet. 1:23 **Being born again**, not of corruptible **seed**, but of **incorruptible, by the word of God**, which liveth and abideth for ever.

- The believer needs truth to enable stamina for the battle of life.

1 Pet. 1:13 Wherefore **gird up the loins of your mind**, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ;

Rom 12:1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, *which is your reasonable service.*

2 And be not conformed to this world: but **be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind**, that ye may prove what *is* that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

- **The Purpose of the girdle.**

- 1) The girdle was used for advancing, to be fit for the battle.

Heb. 12:1 Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset *us*, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,

2) The girdle was used for attacking, to support the other weaponry.

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

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.

3) The girdle was used for attaching, holding everything together.

Col. 3:12 Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering;

13 Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also *do ye*.

14 **And above all these things *put on* charity, which is the bond of perfectness.**

Conclusion

Deut. 32:4 *He is the Rock, his work is perfect: for all his ways are judgment: a **God of truth** and without iniquity, just and right is he.*

1 Sam. 12:24 Only fear the LORD, and **serve him in truth with all your heart:** for **consider how great things he hath done for you.**



THE ULTIMATE GIRDING OF TRUTH:

Jn. 17:17 Sanctify them through thy truth: **thy word is truth.**

1 Jn. 5:6 This is he that came by water and blood, *even* Jesus Christ; not by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit that beareth witness, because **the Spirit is truth.**

Jn. 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, **I am** the way, **the truth**, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

Luke 12:35 Let your **loins be girded** about, and **your lights burning;**

