

A full suit of medieval plate armor stands in the center of the image. The armor is highly detailed, featuring a helmet with a visor, a breastplate with decorative elements, and gauntlets. The knight is holding a sword in the right hand and a shield in the left. The background is a deep red with a cracked, stone-like texture. Behind the knight is a large, dark red bat-like symbol with spread wings. The overall mood is dramatic and powerful.

“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

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. 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.

b. The Description, 6:14-17

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

- **The Prominence of the girdle.**
 - All truth is God's truth.
- **The Principle of the girdle**
- **The Purpose of the girdle.**

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

Prov. 23:7 For **as he thinketh in his heart, so *is* he...**"



The breastplate is there in case your shield of faith misses a fiery dart!!!

(2) What we show, 6:14b "...and having on the breastplate of righteousness;"

• The Protection by Having on the Breastplate of Righteousness



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

- The Breastplate is designed to protect the heart.

Prov. 4:23 **Keep thy heart with all diligence**; for out of it *are* the issues of life.

Mt. 15:18 But those things which proceed out of the mouth come forth from the heart; and they defile the man.

19 For **out of the heart** proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies:

- The Breastplate Symbolizes the Righteousness of Christ.
- The Breastplate of Righteousness Symbolizes Salvation.
- Man's self-righteousness is a snare, and is not for safety.

Rom. 10:3 For they **being ignorant of God's righteousness**, and going about to establish their **own righteousness**, have not submitted themselves unto **the righteousness of God**.

4 For Christ *is* the end of the law for **righteousness to every one that believeth. ...**

10 For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Phil. 3:9 And be found in him, **not having mine own righteousness**, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, **the righteousness which is of God by faith:**

- The righteousness of man is insufficient for salvation.

Isa. 64:6 But we are all as an unclean *thing*, and **all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags**; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.

Titus 3:5 **Not by works of righteousness which we have done...**

- Salvation is completely dependent upon the Righteousness of Christ!

Rom. 4:3, 6, 11, 13, 22, Jas. 2:23, Gal. 3:6, Rom. 3:22, 2 Cor. 5:21, Eph. 1:6

What we considered last week is definitely a prerequisite to understanding what this passages means for us today. The breastplate represents protection of the heart and vital organs, and nothing is more important for our hearts than to know the imputation of righteousness, by faith, which secures salvation in our hearts for all of eternity!

Knowing the doctrine of salvation leads not only to our assurance of faith, but also to the application of truth manifested in “having on the breastplate of righteousness” which manifested by how we live our lives.

As I believe, therefore I live.

- Salvation represents our sonship with the Heavenly Father.

1 Jn. 3:2 **Beloved, now are we the sons of God**, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.

- If we are the sons of God, we should live like the Son of God.

1 Jn. 2:6 He that saith he abideth in him **ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.**

- The Breastplate Symbolizes the Righteousness of Christ.

θώραξ

thórax; of uncertain affinity; the chest ("thorax"), i.e. (by implication) a corslet:—breast-plate.

<https://www.blueletterbible.org/lang/lexicon/lexicon.cfm?Strongs=G2382&t=KJV>

Original Word: δικαιοσύνη

Transliteration: dikaiosuné

Definition: (usually if not always in a Jewish atmosphere), justice, justness, righteousness, righteousness of which God is the source or author, but practically: a divine righteousness.

dikaiosýnē ("divine approval") is the regular NT term used for *righteousness* ("God's

judicial approval"). *dikaiosýnē* ("the approval of God") refers

to **what is deemed right by the Lord (after His examination),**

i.e. what is approved in His eyes. <http://biblehub.com/greek/1343.htm>

Having on the breastplate of righteousness is the application and influence in our lives of the girdle of truth.

We have looked at imputed righteousness and self-righteousness. Today, we will consider *practical righteousness*.

- **The Proof of Having on the Breastplate of Righteousness**
 - The Breastplate Symbolizes the Righteousness of a Christian.

Phil. 1:11 **Being filled with the fruits of righteousness**, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God.

Eph. 5:9 (For the **fruit of the Spirit** is in all goodness and **righteousness** and truth;)

2 Cor. 9:10 Now he that ministereth seed to the sower both minister bread for *your* food, and multiply your seed sown, and **increase the fruits of your righteousness;**)

Rom. 6:16 Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of **obedience unto righteousness?**

18 Being then made free from sin, **ye became the servants of righteousness.**

19 I speak after the manner of men because of the infirmity of your flesh: for as ye have yielded your members servants to uncleanness and to iniquity unto iniquity; even so now **yield your members servants to righteousness unto holiness.**

Col. 3:10 And have **put on** the new *man*, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him: ...

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

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

Rom. 13:12 The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore **cast off** the works of darkness, and let us **put on the armour of light**.

We ought to put off the old man and put on the new man because **it is the nature and character of the new man to be like Christ** (2 Cor. 5:17).

- The Breastplate Symbolizes Righteousness that is Consistent.

“...having on...” implies consistency.

1 Jn. 2:29 If ye know that he is righteous, ye know that **every one that doeth righteousness is born of him.**

1 Jn. 3:7 Little children, let no man deceive you: **he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous. ...**

10 In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: **whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother.**

Eph. 4:24 And that ye **put on** the new man, which after God is **created in righteousness** and **true holiness**.

Food For Thought - Who am I?

You may know me.
I'm your constant companion.
I'm your greatest helper.
I'm your heaviest burden.

I will push you onward or drag you down to failure.
I am at your command.
Half the tasks you do can be turned over to me.
I'm able to do them quickly, and
I'm able to do them the same every time.

I'm easily managed... all you have to do is to be firm, with me.
Show me exactly how you want it done
After a few lessons, I'll do it automatically.

I am the servant of all great men and women,
And, of course, servant of all the failures as well.
I've made all the great individuals who have ever been great.
And I've made all the losers, too.
I work with all the precision of a computer
and the intelligence of a human being.
You may run me for profit, or you may run me to ruin.
It makes no difference to me.

Make me a strong part of your life.
Be easy with me and I will destroy you.
Be firm with me and I'll put the world at your feet.
Who am I?

I am HABIT.

<http://seeandgetinspired.blogspot.com/>

<http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-NRtrXFhIICl/TpT338qc8oI/AAAAA AAAAvM/01J ISuaZ1c/s1600/I%2Bam%2BHABIT.jpg>

- The Breastplate Symbolizes Righteousness that is a Conviction.

Heb. 5:13 For every one that useth milk *is* unskilful in **the word of righteousness**: for he is a babe.

14 But strong meat belongeth to them that are of **full age**, *even* those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.

- The shallow worldliness of today's Christianity is due to gross spiritual immaturity or lack of salvation!

2 Cor. 6:14 Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for **what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness?** and what communion hath light with darkness?

- A spiritual Christian is a separated Christian.

Heb. 12:11 Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth **the peaceable fruit of righteousness** unto them which are exercised thereby.

1 Tim. 6:11 But thou, **O man of God**, flee these things; and **follow after righteousness**, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness.

2 Tim. 2:22 Flee also youthful lusts: but **follow righteousness**, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

- A spiritual Christian lives a life of holiness!
- The Breastplate Symbolizes Righteousness that is Crowning.

2 Tim. 4:8 Henceforth there is laid up for me a **crown of righteousness**, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.

Conclusion

Eph. 4:22 That ye **put off** concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts;
23 And be renewed in the spirit of your mind;
24 And that ye **put on** the new man, which after God is **created in righteousness** and **true holiness**.

