



Carry the Light

“The Shield of Faith”

Eph. 6:16

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

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. (The first article mentioned.)**
Luke 12:35 Let your **loins be girded** about, and **your lights burning**;

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

- **The Protection by Having on the Breastplate of Righteousness**

(3) Where we go, 6:15 “And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;”



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

<http://www.freebiblestudyguides.org/bible-teachings/armor-of-god-shoes-of-preparation-gospel-of-peace.htm>

Why is it called the “gospel of PEACE”?

- A believer must first know the “peace WITH God.”
- A believer must know the “peace OF God.”
- When a believer has peace WITH God, then lives a life with the peace OF God, then that believer is ready to win the battles of spiritual warfare

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

Original Word: θυρεός

Transliteration: thureos

Definition: the heavy oblong Roman shield.

thyreós – properly, a gate or door (or "door-shaped"); used of the large, oblong ancient Roman *shield* (which looked like a *full door*), large enough to provide *full protection* from attack (used only in Eph 6:16).

thyreós ("full-body shield") refers to God's inworking of *faith* – i.e. "the *shield (/thyreós) of faith*" which protects the *whole* believer, covering their whole person in spiritual warfare.

<http://biblehub.com/greek/2375.htm>



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

The Roman *scutum* was of wood covered with linen and sheepskin.



<http://www.timetrips.co.uk/rom-art-scutum.htm>

This is a good example of what defense a church has that is in unity of love and concern for each other!

<http://madefrom.com/history/wp-content/uploads/sites/6/2015/03/testudo-formation-shields.jpg>



(4) What we do, 6:16 “ Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.”

- THE PRIORITY OF THE SHIELD “Above all...”
 - **The shield is the first line of defense.**

Our faith is responsible for all of the armor that we have, or will put on.

The shield is not worn on our bodies, but protects us before the other armor is needed.

Gen. 15:1 After these things **the word of the LORD came unto Abram** in a vision, saying, Fear not, Abram: **I am thy shield**, and thy exceeding great reward.

2 Sam. 22:3 **The God of my rock; in him will I trust: he is my shield**, and the horn of my salvation, my high tower, and my refuge, my saviour; thou savest me from violence.

Psa. 28:7 **The LORD is my strength and my shield**; my heart trusted in him, and I am helped: therefore my heart greatly rejoiceth; and with my song will I praise him.

- THE POSSESSION OF THE SHIELD "...taking..."
 - **The initiative of the believer must be activated.**

Jas. 2:17 Even so **faith, if it hath not works, is dead**, being alone.

18 Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and **I will shew thee my faith by my works. ...**

20 But wilt thou know, O vain man, that **faith without works is dead? ...**

26 For as the body without the spirit is dead, **so faith without works is dead** also.

When faith is dead, there are no works. If there are no works, then there is no love.

Gal. 5:6 "...but **faith which worketh by love.**"

Eph. 2:8 For **by grace are ye saved through faith**; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God:

9 **Not of works**, lest any man should boast.

10 For **we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works**, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

Faith, love and works are all interactively related:

1 Thess. 1:3 Remembering without ceasing your **work of faith, and labour of love**, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ, in the sight of God and our Father;

- THE PORTRAYAL OF THE SHIELD "...the shield of faith..."

Heb. 11:1 Now **faith is** the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

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 shield of faith is a portrayal of salvation and service.**

SALVATION – Eph. 2:8 For **by grace are ye saved through faith**; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God:
9 **Not of works**, lest any man should boast.

SERVICE – 2 Pet. 1:1 Simon Peter, **a servant** and an apostle of Jesus Christ, **to them that have obtained like precious faith with us** through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ:

Rev. 2:19 I know thy **works**, and **charity**, and **service**, and **faith**, and thy **patience**, and **thy works**; and the last *to be* more than the first.

- THE PURPOSE OF THE SHIELD "...wherewith ye shall be able to quench... fiery darts..."
 - **The purpose of the shield is for the believer's defense.**

Heb. 11:33 Who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, 34 **Quenched the violence of fire**, escaped the edge of the sword, **out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight**, turned to flight the armies of the aliens.

Dan. 3:17 If it be so, **our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace**, and he will deliver *us* out of thine hand, O king.

18 But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up. ...

21 Then these men were bound in their coats, their hosen, and their hats, and their *other* garments, and were **cast into the midst of the burning fiery furnace**.

22 Therefore because the king's commandment was urgent, and the furnace exceeding hot, **the flame of the fire slew those men that took up Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego**.

23 And these three men, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, **fell down bound into the midst of the burning fiery furnace**. ...

25 He answered and said, **Lo, I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire**, and they have no hurt; and the form of the fourth is like **the Son of God**.

- THE POTENTIAL OF THE SHIELD “...quench **all**...”
 - **The shield of faith is able to handle ALL things!**

1 Pet. 5:7 Casting **all** your care upon him; for he careth for you.

Phil. 4:13 I can do **all** things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

- THE PROTECTION OF THE SHIELD “...the fiery darts of the wicked.”



<http://www.thecsf.org/2017/01/26/the-shield-of-faith/>

1 Pet. 1:7 That **the trial of your faith**, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, **though it be tried with fire**, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:

Psa. 5:12 For thou, LORD, wilt bless the righteous; with favour wilt thou **compass him as with a shield**.

We have covered the following wiles that are also some of Satan's fiery darts.

- The “dart” of DOUBT
- The “dart” of DISOBEDIENCE
- The “dart” of DECEIT
- The “dart” of DISTRACTION
- The “dart” of DISCONTENTMENT
- The “dart” of DESTRUCTION = the Ultimate Goal of Satan
- The “dart” of DISCOURAGEMENT

- THE PRINCIPLE OF THE SHIELD

- Faith protects and preserves our eternal destiny while we engage life, for His glory!

Prov. 28:26 **He that trusteth in his own heart is a fool**: but whoso walketh wisely, he shall be delivered.

Psa. 3:3 But **thou, O LORD, art a shield for me**; my glory, and the lifter up of mine head.

Psa. 33:20 Our soul waiteth for the LORD: **he is our help and our shield.**

Prov. 30:5 Every word of God *is* pure: **he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him.**

Prov. 3:5 **Trust in the LORD with all thine heart;** and lean not unto thine own understanding.

6 In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

Conclusion

1 Jn. 5:4 For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and **this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.**

Rom. 10:17 So then **faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.**

In the first chapter of Spiritual Disciplines for the Christian Life, Donald Whitney opens with the insightful statement:

Discipline without direction is drudgery

Rom. 8:29 For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate **to be conformed to the image of his Son**, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.

