

## **Spiritual Warfare 3**

### **The Belt of Truth**

#### **Eph 6:10-14**

10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. 11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able **to stand** against the wiles of the devil. 12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. 13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, **to stand**. 14 **Stand** therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness,

#### **Re-cap of Last Week –**

Be Strong

In the Power of HIS might

Put on the WHOLE Armor

#### **Key Text: Eph 6:14**

Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness,

The Other study ended with V. 13 which is "And having done, to stand" and it begins with the same command in Verse 14 – "Stand Therefore"

#### **The First Stand means to...**

In V. 13 – To raise, in sense of a LAMPSTAND

The Second in V.14 - means to be in steadfastness by faith.

#### **Point One: Stand Therefore**

The command here is to be STEADFAST, Persevering. Most of the time we are overcome by our own impatience. We desire quick fixes, quick revival, and quick victories. If that was the way, then we would never develop character.

Prepare yourselves for combat, be willing to go the distance. We have to be 12 round fighters. God desires to make us golden fighters, not fighters of hay, wood and stubble, that disintegrates in the fire.

Few things are impossible to diligence and skill. . . . Great works are performed, not by strength, but perseverance.

■ Samuel Johnson

To stand firm is the central command of the passage in which it was mentioned 3 times. what good is all the armor and the skill if we are runners on the inside. "And the flag was still there".

### **Point Two: Girded with the Belt of Truth**

The belt in early armor is what held everything together. If you unlocked the belt your armour would fall to pieces. What a beautiful analogy of the need of TRUTH.

We are established by truth. Without the truth of the Gospel, we would fall apart. If someone was to disprove the Word of God for being the creation of Man's insecurity then all of Christianity would fall apart.

In the Past many have tried to disprove this book, historically, scientifically and socially, not only did it pass with flying colors, but converted many professors in the process.

This Belt of Truth is what holds our faith in Place. Without we run down the road of uncertainty pulling up what we believe is right, tripping along the way.

### **What is truth?**

Ps 119:160

The entirety of Your word is truth,

And every one of Your righteous judgments endures forever.

### **Acts 17:11-12**

11 These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so.

12 Therefore many of them believed, and also not a few of the Greeks, prominent women as well as men.

**This Bible must be truth to us, or we will never experience it's power....**

I was a new convert when a older brother in the Lord began to complain to my Pastor of his hardships, My pastor quietly grabbed his bible as he was listening intently and then through it into the Garbage can. We were all amazed, but his point was clear, what good is this word if you don't believe it.

Paul makes it clear that this is first element of our Armour. TRUTH! Without it, why even dress up, why fight, if we don't even believe what we say we believe?

What has converted you? Are you converted by the WORD?

We have to be more than just doctrinally converted (turned you). Or maybe some of us are only born again theological denominational teaching and not truly relying on the WORD OF GOD as truth.

Are we really saved and have had an experience with the LIVING WORD or have we just accepted Christianity as a cleaner, safer lifestyle?

The Word of God is able to Change you, and if you believe it, it will change your whole being.

### **Ps 19:7-8**

7 The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul;

The testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple;

8 The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart;

The commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes;

We must allow the Word of Truth to Transform our mind.

### **Rom 12:1-2**

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

In the midst of Warfare the belt of truth is to continually transform our mind, it is an ongoing process.

As we rely on the truth of God's word we won't fall apart.

### **The Power of Truth –**

**It is able to take us into Heaven...**

*Jesus Put it simply since He is the WORD –*

**John 14:6**

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

Ps 15:1-2

LORD, who may abide in Your tabernacle?

Who may dwell in Your holy hill?

2 He who walks uprightly,

And works righteousness,

And speaks the truth in his heart;

**Point Three: having put on the breastplate of righteousness,**

This is the closest piece of armor that is to directly to protect our heart. This piece of armor is designed to protect our inward. Who you are is what you think you are. As a man thinks in his heart so is he.

In this area of man we find the realm of identity, and the realm of the will. And when these are attacked and injured it can cripple us severely.

**Prov 13:12**

Hope deferred makes the heart sick, But when the desire comes, it is a tree of life.

Your heart is the realm of Desire, Jesus said the flesh is weak but the Spirit is WILLING.

**And we might wonder why** it is called a "Breastplate of Righteousness." What does righteousness have to do with the will and identity?

**Def: Righteousness** – dikaiosune (dik-ah-yos-oo'-nay); from NT:1342; equity (of character or act); specially (Christian) **justification:**

**Def: Justification** – ikaioo (dik-ah-yo'-o); from NT:1342; to render (i.e. show or regard as) just or innocent:

It is very difficult to perform or to fight when you are under the banner of accusation. It is hard to fight for a kingdom when you feel divided from the kingdom.

It is very important that we function with an understanding of righteousness. That we are right standing with God, enjoy the strength of the Lord in the midst of Justification. We feel worthy to be in the army of God.

God does not justify us because we are worthy, but by justifying us makes us worthy.

Thomas Watson (C. 1557-1592)

**Titus 3:7**

that having been justified by His grace we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Let the word of God keep you together – Truth

As you stand of His word and you know who you are – Righteous in the Eyes of Christ.

Know who we are and who we are fighting for...