

THE SPIRITUAL WARRIOR

Ephesians 6:10-20; Isaiah 59:16-17

SWORD OF THE SPIRIT— THE WORD OF GOD

The sword (Greek—Machaira, a short sword was the only OFFENSIVE piece of armour worn by the warrior. Being a “short sword”, it could only be used in close combat. It demonstrates that we must be proficient in our handling of the Word of God — 2 Cor. 10:4-5; Heb. 4:12.

BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

The Breastplate (Greek—Thorax) consisted of two parts; one covering the front of the body and the other the back. It guarded the heart and other vital organs frequently regarded as the seat of the EMOTIONS. It represents RIGHTEOUSNESS, and the two parts of the Breastplate answer to the two aspects of Righteousness:—

1. **Imputed** Romans 3:22-26; Psalms 32:1-2.
2. **Manifested** (in faith and love) 1 Thess. 5:8.

LOINS GIRDED WITH TRUTH

The Girdle (Greek—Zoma) went about the loins and served to brace the armour tight to the body. It represents TRUTH, which is firstly a MENTAL condition (1 Peter 1:13) and is essentially the foundation upon which our spiritual warfare is based—John 18:37.



HELMET OF SALVATION

The Helmet (Greek—Periképhalaia, from peri “around” and kephale “the head”). In Thess. 5:8, it is styled the HOPE of Salvation. Paul states in Romans 8:24-25, that we are SAVED by THE HOPE.

SHIELD OF FAITH

The Shield (Greek—Thureos) was a large oblong shield used for heavy combat. It covered the whole forepart of the body, and being constructed of wood covered with hide, was particularly suitable for extinguishing “fiery darts” fired by the wicked. This symbol represents the TRIAL OF FAITH which each saint must endure before his character can be perfected (1 Peter 1:7).

FEET SHOD WITH THE GOSPEL OF PEACE

This illustrates the TRUTH IN ACTION. It is reminiscent of Isaiah 52:7, which Paul quotes in Romans 10:15.

“PUT ON THE WHOLE ARMOUR OF GOD”