

New
Vermillion
4-17-42

The Christian and Armament Revival
11/13/60
Bridew
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W. L. Union
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A. M.

Scripture Lesson: - Eph 6: 10-18.

Text: - Eph 6: 13. "The Whole Armors of God".

Int. - Paul ^{indicated} defines the Christian's armament after he has pointed out his foes. Very sensible. We must know our foes, before we can know what armament is needed for the combat.

The Antagonist is the devil; it is against his wiles that we must fight. Jesus assumed the personality of Satan; to him he was no figure of speech. To many today the devil and all of his workings are only a profane jest.

To Jesus he was the father of lies and a murderer. In John 8: 44, He was also the author of sin. 1 John 3: 8. Spiritual wickedness. The popular idolatry of Paul's day, with their horrible rites and human orgies were work of Satan.

Our struggle not against flesh and blood - not human foes. They assail the will and

Conscience; they follow us into regions of spiritual thought, of prayer and meditation.

These more dangerous than visible enemies. Paul had these, Alexander the coppersmith; the Jew from Asia; Demetrius the silversmith.

The Church need never fear material antagonists.

Against these spiritual foes we need a spiritual armament. Seven weapons - some defensive - some offensive.

I. The Girdle of Truth.

Slackful
Christianity.

1. Military girdle in Paul's day. Bound up loose trailing garments. Has its successor in military belt of today. Peace permits of relaxation, but in war the alert attitude is needed.

2. Truth - a mind made up. Intellectual conviction

men who are persuaded, men of
sure knowledge, definite and
decided purpose - loins girded
with truth. - no doubt - no uncertainty
no hesitancy, but a deep conviction
of the truth as it is in Christ Jesus.

II. The Breastplate of Righteousness.

1. This is chief piece of defen-
sive armor.

2. Righteousness - "the state of
one who is right with God and
with God's law, the righteousness
of "standing" and "character". The
righteousness that is of God by
faith. -

who may
look the
Commandments
is the face
and say
"these & keep"

The devil will bring up your old
sins - you can say - I was
justified three faiths. - God has
blotted them out. -

He will say - you were never
forgiven - you can say - "I know
I was", for I have done right-
eousness since.

The devil does not hesitate to attack
the most godly & holy. He assail-
ed Jesus, and accused him
of unrighteousness.

III. Feet Shod with Preparation of Gospel of Peace.

- "Carry
only
good
news"
1. Feet important to a soldier.
 2. Shod with this, are feet that carry gospel. Readiness to carry good news. Evangelistic zeal, the zeal to witness for Christ. your testimony as to what he has done for you. what he does for you now.

This is one of safeguards, we defend ourselves against the opponents by witnessing to them of Christ.

IV. Shield of Faith,

1. Describe old shield, they were $2\frac{1}{2} \times 4$ ft. - Placed together they formed a wall.
2. Fiery darts. - of wicked one - darts of criticism; darts of persecution; fiery darts of slander or threats! of unjust reproach - shafts of hatred; of suspicion - Against these the shield of faith. -
3. Faith answers - "Who shall

Darts that hurt people's feelings.

Conclusion: - The dangers of the Christian are many. They have a common origin and character in all Christians. Stand, is the watchword of for this battle. Take the helmet of salvation. Salvation is the defense needed for "an Evil day". The warrior is defenseless in that day, if he does not have the assurance of salvation. The human warrior, if he has the helmet of salvation, it becomes the sign of his protection of God.

VI. The sword of the Spirit. The sword of the spirit shall be put into his right hand. This sword is the word of God. It is the guarding and smiting word, to be used in conflict with our spiritual foe.

Paul used the inspired word of God in his conflict with Elymas, the sorcerer, and when he defended his gospel against the Judaizers of Galatia and Corinth. The church must use weapons that are spiritual, not carnal weapons, but weapons that are mighty to cast down strongholds, and to bring down every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God.

VII. We have surveyed the Christian soldier with his harness on. From head to foot he is clothed in arms of the supernatural. No weapon of defense or offense is lacking, that spiritual combat needs. But all these weapons are to be held together with prayer. The apostle says, "with all prayer and supplication at every time in the Spirit." Christian prayer is always in the Spirit, being offered in the grace and power of the Holy Spirit. We must pray for ourselves, we must pray for all the servants of

Christ, we must pray for the vast multitude of saints throughout the earth.

Conclusion:- The dangers of the Christian are many. They have a common origin and character in all Christian communities. Let our prayers be for the whole group of Christian soldiers. Let us, at the throne of grace, forget our sectarian divisions. Let us have access, in one spirit, to the Father. Let us realize his presence in our communion with all his children.

VI. The sword of the Spirit. The sword of the Spirit shall be put into his right hand. This sword is the word of God. It is the guarding and smiting word, to be used in conflict with our spiritual foes. Paul used the inspired word of God in his conflict with Hymenaeus, the sorcerer, and when he defended his gospel against the Judaizers of Galatia and Corinth. The church must use weapons that are spiritual, not carnal weapons, but weapons that are mighty to cast down strongholds, and to bring down every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God.

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