

# Part #4 – Equipped and Ready

Ephesians 6:16-20

# **Series Summary**

Have you ever felt like you were struggling spiritually? Have you ever felt like you were being attacked from a spiritual perspective? This series discusses the importance of recognizing the spiritual attack that you face as a Christian and teaches you how to overcome these attacks by putting on the strength of the Lord through the Armor of God. Here is what we will examine in this series...

- We will identify the different parts of the Armor of God for you...
- We will teach you why the Armor of God is important for your life...
- We will equip you with the tools you need to utilize the Armor of God in a daily basis...

## **Series Theme Passage**

**Ephesians 6:13** (HCSB) – This is why you must take up the full armor of God, so that you may be able to resist in the evil day, and having prepared everything, to take your stand.

## Main Passage

**Ephesians 6:16-20** (ESV) – <sup>16</sup> In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; <sup>17</sup> and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, <sup>18</sup> praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints, <sup>19</sup> and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, <sup>20</sup> for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak.

### Big Idea - Equip Yourself With the Armor of God to Endure Until the End

#### Four Essential Elements of the Armor of God

# Element #1 - Shield of Faith: Trust in the Provision of God Not the Philosophy of Man

**Ephesians 6:16** (ESV) – <sup>16</sup> In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one...



■ **Key Point:** The first element that we examine is known as the "Shield of Faith." As you arm yourself with this element of the Armor of God then you come to the realization that trust in the provision of God and obeying His Word are essential principles of faithfulness that are needed to stand against the enemy.

### Element #2 - Helmet of Salvation - Saved through Christ Alone

**Ephesians 6:17a** (ESV) -17a and take the helmet of salvation...

■ **Key Point:** The second element that we examine is known as the "Helmet of Salvation." As you arm yourself with this element of the Armor of God then you come to the realization that the hope of eternal life as found through Christ alone is necessary in order to stand against the enemy and endure until the end.



### **Element #3 – Sword of the Spirit – The Word of God is Our Defense**

**Ephesians 6:17** (ESV)  $-^{17b}$  ...and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God...

■ **Key Point:** The third element that we examine is known as the "Sword of the Spirit." As you arm yourself with this element of the Armor of God then you come to the realization that it is the only portion of the Armor of God that is actually utilized as a weapon. The Sword of



the Spirit is recognized as the "Word of God." It can be used in an offensive and defensive manner as shown by Jesus Christ as He was tempted by the enemy in Matthew chapter four.

### Element #4 - Steadfast Prayer - Prayer Undergirds Perseverance

**Ephesians 6:18-20** (ESV) – <sup>18</sup> praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints, <sup>19</sup> and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, <sup>20</sup> for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak.

■ **Key Point:** The final element that we examine is discovered as every Christian realizes that every element of the Armor of God must be undergirded with prayer in order to persevere until the end.

## **Memory Verse**

**Ephesians 6:16** (ESV) – In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one...

# Challenge

Remind yourself that your responsibility, before the Lord, is to apply the truths you have discovered in the Word of God. As you reflect on this message, help others discover more about Jesus this week by...

- Inviting others to a Sunday Morning Service
- Handing out one of the "Armor of God" handouts from the foyer
- Asking others how you could pray for them