

My Favorite Scripture Battle Ready Believers

Ephesians 6:10-11 (12-18)

(KEY VERSE)

Finally, be strengthened by the Lord and by His vast strength. Put on the full armor of God so that you can stand against the tactics of the Devil.

For our battle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the world powers of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavens. 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.

Stand, therefore, with truth like a belt around your waist, righteousness like armor on your chest, and your feet sandaled with readiness for the gospel of peace.

In every situation take the shield of faith, and with it you will be able to extinguish the flaming arrows of the evil one.

Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is God's word.

With every prayer and request, pray at all times in the Spirit, and stay alert in this, with all perseverance and intercession for all the saints.

Principle: We stand in the Lord's vast strength.

Examples of the Lord's vast strength from Bible events
The Red Sea crossing under Moses' leadership (*Exodus 14*)
Elisha in Dothan surrounded by King of Aram's army (*2 Ki. 6*)

2 Kings 6: 16, 17

Elisha said, "Don't be afraid, for those who are with us outnumber those who are with them."

Then Elisha prayed, "LORD, please open his eyes and let him see." So the LORD opened the servant's eyes. He looked and saw that the mountain was covered with horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.

We are surrounded by the power of God.
We may not see His power, but everywhere we look, His power is present none-the-less.

Principle: We have a very real and influential opponent.

The Devil's tactics:

Tactic: To persuade us to doubt God's authority and integrity.

Genesis 2:17

"You must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for on the day you eat from it, you will certainly die."

Genesis 3:1-5

Tactic: To confuse us regarding what temptation is.

James 1:13

No one undergoing a trial should say, "I am being tempted by God." For God is not tempted by evil, and He Himself doesn't tempt anyone."

Tactic: To give us appealing temptations.

1 John 2:16

Everything that belongs to the world – the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride in one's lifestyle – is not from the Father, but is from the world.

The three categories of temptations: pleasure, power, pride.

The Devil has allies.

The Devil's allies can disguise themselves.

2 Corinthians 11:13-15

Such people are false apostles, deceitful workers, disguising themselves as apostles of Christ. And no wonder! For Satan himself is disguised as an angel of light. So it is no great thing if his servants also disguise themselves as servants of righteousness. Their destiny will be according to their works.

Be aware that the Devil is actively using his minions to delude and deceive us into moving ourselves away from God, thus we must be personally immersed in God's Word in order to discern what is true.

Principle: We are equipped to engage our opponent.

Belt of truth

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

(John 14:6)

"I was born for this and, and I have come into the world for this: to testify to the truth.

Everyone who is of the truth listens to My voice."

(John 18:37)

Pilate was looking at Truth (Jesus) and missed it. To have the protective presence of Truth, you must know Jesus.

Chest armor of righteousness

The righteousness of Jesus enables us to have personal righteousness which protects the purity of our hearts.

Sandals of gospel readiness
We should always be ready to give the good news of Jesus.

Shield of faith
Our faith in Jesus will deflect efforts to make us surrender, enabling us instead to stand with courageous conviction.

Helmet of salvation
A worship lifestyle protects our thoughts and focuses our purposes on Jesus.
(Romans 12:1, 2)

Sword of the Spirit (God's Word)
The better we know our weapon (the Bible), the more confidence we will have in defeating attacks against us.

Principle: We stand watch with vigilance.

Ezekiel 33:7, 8

As for you, son of man, I have made you a watchman for the house of Israel. When you hear a word from My mouth, give them a warning from Me. If I say to the wicked: Wicked on, you will surely die, but you do not speak out to warn him about his way, that wicked person will die for his iniquity, yet I will hold you responsible for his blood.

Ezekiel 33:18, 19

When a righteous person turns from his righteousness and commits iniquity, he will die on account of this. But when a wicked person turns from his wickedness and does what is just and right, he will live because of this.

Our vigilance begins with our prayer experience.
We need to be especially focused with Kingdom prayers.

The vigilance of prayer keeps our eyes open and reminds us to be good soldiers of the Lord.

What do I do with this today?

Memorize and wear verses:

Ephesians 6:10, 11

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