

Call to Duty – Spiritual Warfare – 4

Ephesians 6:11

11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

- People are not the enemy
- We wrestle with principalities that try to distract us from focusing on the author of our faith – Jesus
- 4 times STAND is repeated – Vs. 11-14

The devil does not have the same attributes as God

God is omniscient – all knowing

God is omnipotent – all powerful

God is omnipresent – Everywhere all the time

No Slide: 1 John 2:15-16

Lust of the flesh – Lust of the eyes – Pride of life

No Slide: 1 Corinthians 10:1-11

- Don't be ignorant of our fathers – our admonition
- Lusted – became idolaters – Sexually immoral
- Complained about leaders and lusted for power
- Take Every thought captive – Vs. 4, 5

Matthew 6:24 (Idolatry)

24 "No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon. NKJV

(Last Session) The Belt of Truth

No Slide: Ephesians 6:14 NKJV

14 Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth.

The belt is the truth of the word of God

If I don't have much truth in my life I won't be able to hold the armor together

We wrestle with darkness – truth expels darkness

Psalm 119:130

130 The entrance of Your words gives light;
It gives understanding to the simple. NKJV

It's like that in the areas of our minds where the light of God's word has not transformed our thinking

You may be free in your right standing

Yet you are bound in the area of finances or healing

When we are in the dark that is where fear and doubt enter

The more truth you receive the more victory you will see
manifest in your life – The truth sets you free

Romans 8:37

37 Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors
through Him who loved us. NKJV

2 Corinthians 1:20

20 For all the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him
Amen, to the glory of God through us. NKJV

The Breastplate of Righteousness

Ephesians 6:15

Having put on the breastplate of righteousness, NKJV

- The breastplate is for protecting your heart
- If you get stabbed in the heart chances are you will die
- This is true naturally as well as spiritually
- If the devil can get your heart it will shut down your faith
- Keep you heart – Proverbs 4:23 RSV “*Vigilance*”

1 John 3:21

21 Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence toward God. NKJV

- Attacks:
- You call yourself a Christian?
- You are such a hypocrite
- You are a lousy Christian
- You haven’t fasted enough
- You haven’t read enough Bible chapters
- Always something you have or have not done
- Righteousness is a gift!

Romans 5:17

17 For if by the one man's offense death reigned through the one, much more those who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.) NKJV

- You are not righteous or unrighteous by your actions – “In Christ”
- It’s based on what Christ has done

When we realize that we are righteous sin is destroyed

1 Corinthians 15:34

34 Awake [from your drunken stupor and return] to sober sense and your right minds, and sin no more. For some of you have not the **knowledge** of God [you are utterly and willfully and disgracefully ignorant, and continue to be so, lacking the sense of God's presence and all true knowledge of Him]. I say this to your shame. AMP

- When I lack the knowledge (power) of the grace of God I live in a sin consciousness
- When I am filled with the knowledge of Him I live righteous (I will not want to sin)

John 16:8-11

8 And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: 9 of sin, because they do not believe in Me; 10 of righteousness, because I go to My Father and you see Me no more; 11 of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged. NKJV

- I need a savior – my righteous acts are filthy rags
- I am righteous – Thank You Jesus
- Judgment has been accomplished

The Holy Spirit is not a “Fault Finder”

He continues to point us back to our righteousness

Philippians 3:9 NKJV

9 and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith.

Once you are made righteous you cannot be made
unrighteous
Our righteousness doesn't come from us and we can't keep
it through our actions
Even though we can't lose our righteousness we can lose
our consciousness of it
When we don't feel righteous we can become depressed or
oppressed
The Devil loves to make us feel that way
The Gospel sets us free from depression and oppression

Isaiah 54:14 NKJV

14 In righteousness you shall be established;
You shall be far from oppression, for you shall not fear;

Acts 10:38

38 how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy
Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and
healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was
with Him. NKJV

Isaiah 54:17

17 No weapon formed against you shall prosper,
And every tongue which rises against you in judgment
You shall condemn.

This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD,
And their righteousness is from Me,"
Says the LORD. NKJV

We need to remind ourselves...

I am the righteousness of God in Christ! 1 Corinthians 5:21

The Gospel of Peace

Ephesians 6:15

Stand Therefore... 15 and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; NKJV

Remain in “His peace”

John 14:27

27 Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. NKJV

This piece of armor is on our feet

Romans 10:15

15 And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written:

"How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace,

- *Who bring glad tidings of good things!" NKJV*
- *Am I always ready to bring the good news to people who need it?*
- *When we are living in His Peace we can share it with others*

Philippians 4:6-7

6 Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; 7 and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. NKJV – Finally VS. 8

The Devil can't stand a Christian that has the peace of God
They can not be shaken
The devil has no peace and he wants to disturb our minds
and agitate our emotions – making us like him
He wants us to become restless

Matthew 12:43

43 "When an unclean spirit goes out of a man, he goes through dry places, seeking rest, and finds none. NKJV

- Restlessness is from the devil
- Cast your cares...

Remember the Devil is seeking whom to devour
– 1 Peter 5:8

The verse before that says...

1 Peter 5:7

7 casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you. NKJV

- When we learn to cast our cares upon the Lord the devil cannot agitate our mind and emotions
- We cast our cares and receive His peace

Remember we can walk on serpents – Gospel Shoes

Luke 10:19

19 Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you. NKJV

God wants to lead us by the Holy Spirit through His peace
Sometimes things may make sense but if I don't have peace
I don't do them

Sometimes things don't make sense but I have peace
I do them

Colossians 3:15 NKJV

15 And let the peace of God rule in your hearts,

Jesus said – Peace I leave with you, John 14:27

- Leave – To bequeath – an inheritance
- Jesus left us His peace as an inheritance
- Peace – Shalom – “Well being, health, prosperity”
- It also denotes the absence or end of strife to be untroubled or safe – WOW!

Story of the Shunammite woman – She had God's peace
Elisha grants a well to do, elderly woman a son
The boy dies while working in the fields

2 Kings 4:21-25

21 And she went up and laid him on the bed of the man of God, **shut the door upon him**, and went out. 22 Then she called to her husband, and said, "Please send me one of the young men and one of the donkeys, that I may run to the man of God and come back."

23 So he said, "Why are you going to him today? It is neither the New Moon nor the Sabbath."

And she said, "It is well." 24 Then she saddled a donkey, and said to her servant, "Drive, and go forward; do not slacken the pace for me unless I tell you." 25 And so she departed, and went to the man of God at Mount Carmel. NKJV

2 Kings 4:28, 30, 32-37

28 So she said, "Did I ask a son of my lord? Did I not say, 'Do not deceive me'?"

30 And the mother of the child said, "As the LORD lives, and as your soul lives, I will not leave you." So he arose and followed her.

- Having done all to stand – stand therefore!
– Ephesians 6:11-14

32 When Elisha came into the house, there was the child, lying dead on his bed. 33 He went in therefore, shut the door behind the two of them, and prayed to the LORD. 34 And he went up and lay on the child, and put his mouth on his mouth, his eyes on his eyes, and his hands on his hands; and he stretched himself out on the child, and the flesh of the child became warm. 35 He returned and walked back and forth in the house, and again went up and stretched himself out on him; then the child sneezed seven times, and the child opened his eyes. 36 And he called Gehazi and said, "Call this Shunammite woman." So he called her. And when she came in to him, he said, "Pick up your son." 37 So she went in, fell at his feet, and bowed to the ground; then she picked up her son and went out. NKJV