

Put On the Full Armor

THE ARMOR OF GOD



Helmet of Salvation

Shield of Faith

Breastplate of
Righteousness

Sword of the Spirit

Gospel of Peace

Belt of Truth

ROSE
PUBLISHING

Background Information

The description of the armor of God is found in the New Testament book of Ephesians. This is a letter written by the apostle Paul to the followers of Jesus in the city of Ephesus (in Turkey today). The letter was written around AD 60–62, while Paul was under house arrest in Rome for preaching about Jesus. He was in contact with the Roman palace guards and knew the kind of armor they wore.

Who Was Paul?

Paul was an apostle of Jesus Christ. As a young man, he persecuted followers of Jesus by having them arrested and jailed. One day, on his way to Damascus, a bright light appeared and blinded him. Jesus spoke to him from heaven and told him to take his message to the gentiles and the Jews. Paul was converted and baptized. He went on many missionary journeys and wrote letters to believers in the churches in various cities.

Life in Ephesus

Ephesus was the center of worship for the goddess Diana (Artemis), and there was a large, famous temple dedicated to her. The area was a major port city of the Roman Empire, and businesses made money by selling silver idols and souvenirs to visitors.

When Paul went there to preach about Jesus, people listened and many became Christians. Some sorcerers who turned to Jesus came together and burned their magic books (worth 50,000 pieces of silver). Local silversmiths and other merchants worried that too many people would become Christians, so they started a riot against Paul and his coworkers (Acts 19:17–41). The riot was put down and a church started in Ephesus.

Later, Paul wrote to the new believers in Ephesus encouraging them to stand firm against the old influences and be devoted to God in love and unity.

Paul wrote the book of Ephesians from Rome in Italy to the church of Ephesus in Asia.





FEET PREPARED — WITH THE — GOSPEL OF PEACE

*Your feet fitted with the readiness that comes
from the gospel of peace.*

—Ephesians 6:15

Marching was an essential part of a soldier's life, and no soldier could march far without sturdy shoes. Even before the Roman era, the breaking of a soldier's shoe was a metaphor for weakness or defeat (Isa. 5:27). The Roman soldier's shoes were fashioned from thick leather and studded through the soles with hobnails.²

The studded soles enabled the soldier to stand firm. They kept the soldier's feet from slipping in battle. Without his shoes, a Roman soldier could not maintain his position against his enemies.

The Greek word rendered "preparation" or "readiness" in Ephesians 6:15 can also be translated as "prepared foundation." In other words, a firm basis for a soldier's feet.

*In Christ we who are many form one
body, and each member belongs to
all the others.*

ROMANS 12:5

The gospel of peace is the good news that we can have peace with God. Before we turned to Jesus, we wanted to live for ourselves. We did not care about God's plans. We were in conflict. But God loves us and made a way of being reconciled with him and living in peace.

The word *peace* has several other uses:

- Absence of conflict among Christians. The Lord wants believers to live in peace and unity with one another (1 Thess. 5:13; John 13:35).
- Absence of worry. This peace is the confidence that God has everything under control.

All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. —2 Cor. 5:18–19

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. —Philippians 4:6–7

caligae—boot, shoe, sandal

caligati—"boot men"³

Personal Prayer

I am ready to take my stand against the powers of darkness.

Lord, please help me to stand against the spiritual forces of evil that want to destroy me, my family, and the church.

I buckle the belt of truth around my waist.

Help me be a person of truth and reliability. Please give me the words to say when people ask why I follow Jesus.

Help me tell about Jesus' death and resurrection and your promise of eternal life to those who believe in Jesus.

I take the breastplate of righteousness.

Thank you for giving me your righteousness. Because I am not perfect, you graciously protect me with your own righteousness because I believe in Jesus Christ.

I stand firmly on feet prepared with the gospel of peace.

*Help me to resist temptation and stay away from people, places, and situations that tempt me.
Help me to live in peace with my family and other believers as much as it depends on me.*



I lift up the shield of faith.

Help me to hold up the shield and stop the arrows of doubt, despair, and hopelessness that the enemy shoots at me.

I place upon my head the helmet of salvation.

Help me to know that no matter how tough life is, Jesus has conquered sin, and I live with the assurance that I will one day be with you in heaven.

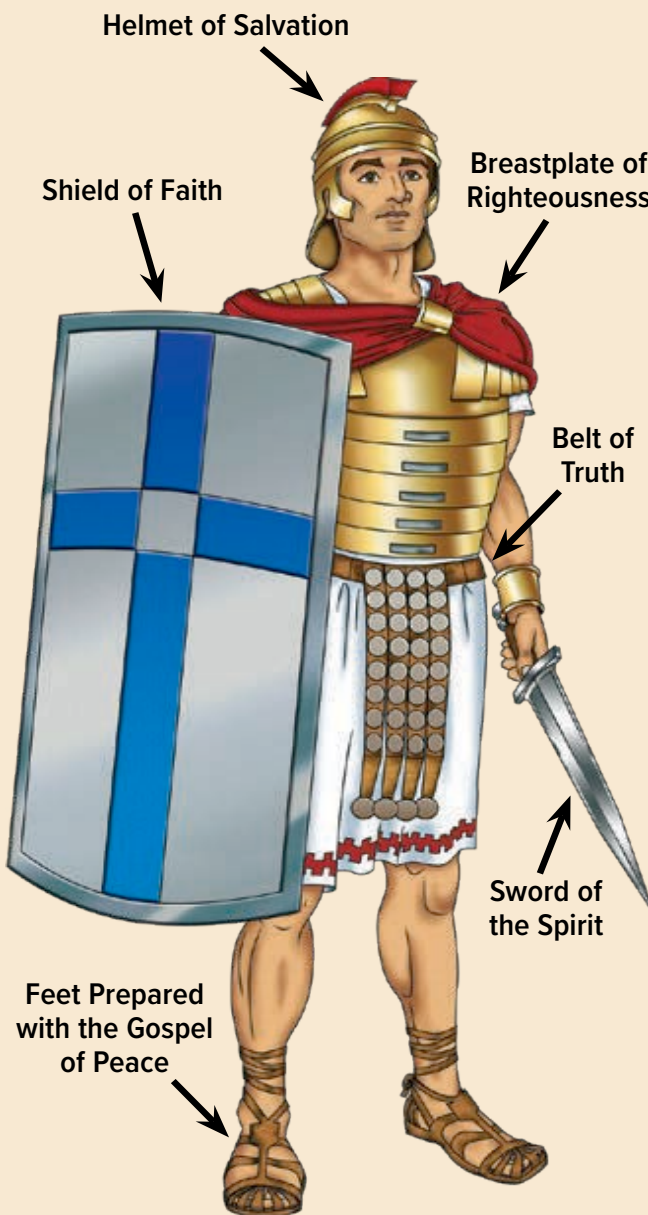
I use the sword of the Spirit, the Word of God.

*Thank you for giving me your Word, the good news of Jesus Christ.
Help me to tell others about you.*

I stand guard against the powers of darkness.

Help me to resist temptations and to guard myself from vulnerable positions. I will pray persistently for my fellow believers. Amen.

Ephesians 6:10–18



v. 10–11: Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.

v. 12: For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

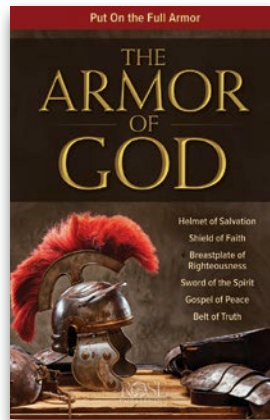
v. 13: Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.

v. 14–15: Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace.

v. 16: In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one.

v. 17: Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

v. 18: And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.



The Armor of God Pamphlet

Dig into an illustrated and historically accurate outline of the six components of the Armor of God in this easy-to-read pamphlet!

The Armor of God pamphlet helps teachers and leaders bring the Apostle Paul’s message to the Ephesians (6:10-18) to life. This bestselling pamphlet provides historically accurate background of a Roman centurion’s armor, and then draws vital correlations to the spiritual armor God gives his children: the Belt of Truth, the Breastplate of Righteousness, the Gospel of Peace to be worn on the feet, the Shield of Faith, the Helmet of Salvation, and the Sword of the Spirit. Full-color and glossy, this pamphlet helps your students learn to “stand firm in the faith.”

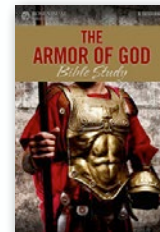
Pamphlet 978-1-5963-6029-7 \$4.99



The Armor of God Wall Chart

This large classroom-size *The Armor of God* wall chart illustrates the well-known passage from Ephesians 6:10-18. It is perfect for Bible studies, Sunday school lessons, and homeschooling, and can be hung in church offices, classrooms, and bedrooms. This chart is laminated for durability. Don’t settle for an *Armor of God* wall chart that doesn’t show REAL Roman armor!

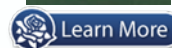
Wall Chart 978-9-90198-240-0 \$16.99



The Armor of God Bible Study

Enjoy digging deeper into Ephesians 6 and find out the meaning of each piece of the armor of God, its historical background, and its application to your spiritual battles today with this full-color Bible study book. Using historically accurate illustrations of Roman armor, this 6-session study pulls out relevant insights and applications, showing you how to be equipped to fight the good fight of faith

Softcover 978-1-62862-755-8 \$11.99



Perfectly Suited

What do you do when your own mind turns on you? Fear, anxiety, and the critical voices in your head can be overwhelming—even if you believe Christ died to free you from those things. *Perfectly Suited* explores the Armor of God through the lens of personal struggle, showing how the ancient metaphor for God’s spiritual protection is powerful enough for his embattled children in every generation.

Softcover 978-1-4964-6594-8 \$16.99



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