

Ephesians: Unsearchable riches of Christ

Study 33: We are at war: Be armed (Part I)

READ Eph 6:14-15 and **LISTEN** to Pastor Craig Baxter's [sermon](#).

Living a life pleasing to the Lord and engaging in the mission of the church is not easy because there are powerful supernatural beings that strategise and attack. Because of this, God makes available his power and divine resources to believers so they can resist the assaults of these hostile spirits and advance God's kingdom into the world. Believers are therefore called to be strong in the Lord and His power and put on six indispensable pieces of God's armour.

Main lesson: Because we are at war with the spiritual forces of evil we must be armed with the armour of God to maintain our testimony and extend God's glory

Questions:

1. What role did the belt play for the soldier and what role does the belt of truth play for believers today?
2. Why is knowing and living the truth important? See Eph 4:14, 17-21; James 4:17; Luke 12:47-48; 1 Pet 5:8.
3. What was wrong with Peter's actions in Gal 2:11-21? How could we fall into the same error?
4. Consider the breastplate of righteousness (v. 14b). Righteousness means right standing before God. How does a person become righteous in God's sight? See Rom 3:21-22; 2 Cor 5:21; 1 Cor 1:30-31.

5. Explain how Satan could take advantage of our lack of understanding or appreciation of our righteousness in Christ.
6. Righteousness also means righteous conduct. Is it realistic to expect a Christian to live a righteous life? Explain. See Eph 4:24; Rom 6:16-23; 8:1-11; 1 John 3:7-8.
7. How does righteous conduct protect your heart and mind?
8. Explain how Satan can attack if we are not wearing the breast plate of righteous living? Use examples (personal or otherwise) when this has not been applied.
9. How did Christ fit Himself with the gospel of peace as described in Eph 2:12-14, 17?
10. In what ways have you been involved in advancing God's gospel as a soldier in His army? How could you do this more?
11. Are you prepared to do battle in spiritual warfare both to defend and attack? What will you do today, and in the future, to prepare yourself better so that you will be ready at a moment's notice to engage?

STOP AND PRAY:

Praise: the Lord for His rule and reign in overthrowing the enemies of sin and Satan

Thank: God for providing His righteousness as your covering for your sin

Pray: that you might better appropriate the armour God provides and stand firm