

# Helmet of Salvation & Sword of the Spirit Ephesians 6:17

Text: Eph 6:17

Ephes. 6:17

And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:

Introduction:

As we come to the close of these instructions we notice that the first and last have two pieces of armour listed.

Ephes. 6:14

Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;

It is impossible to have on the breast plate of righteousness until we have delt with and accepted truth.

Like the first the last items are paired together.

The helmet of salvation and the sword of the spirit. Again it is impossible to have one with out the other. We learn of salvation and about the Saviour from the Word of God.

These two the helmet and the sword are provided for different reasons.

The Helmet is for the protection for what we know.

God gives us a helmet to protect our thoughts from Satanic influence and interference. Truth is, Satan usually goes after the mind.

2 Cor. 4:4

In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

The protection that God gives us from the deceptions, denials, and distortions is the helmet of salvation. Without this protection, our thinking - brilliant as it may be - is open to the damning influence of Satan's rulers of darkness.

The sword is a provision given for our success in the battle. Napoleon once said, "The best form of defense is attack."

All of this armour with the exception of the last have been provided for our defense. The last, the sword of the spirit enables us to attack.

Ephes. 6:12

For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

Neither principalities, nor powers, nor the rulers of darkness, nor spiritual wickedness in high places, nor Satan himself withstand the Sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God.

The best answer to humanism is the Word of God.

The best answer to materialism is the Word of God.

The best answer to behavior psychology, liberal theology, cults, false religions is the Word of God.

The Word of God is like a sword.

*Hebrews 4:12*

*For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.*

Because the Word of God is the Sword of the Spirit it cuts through all Satan's ranks, deceptions, and devices. God's Word is the breath of God.

Are you downhearted?

*Jeremiah 15:16*

Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by thy name, O Lord God of hosts.

Are you I trying circumstances?

Jesus quoted when He was tempted with hunger:

Deut. 8:3

And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the Lord doth man live.

Matthew 4:4

But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

Notice as we consider the Sword of the Spirit or the Word of God and that which it does and provides for us.

## **1. GOD'S WORD GUIDES US**

Psalm 119:105-106

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.  
[106] I have sworn, and I will perform it, that I will keep thy righteous judgments.

### **A. Guides ... In Our Walk v105-106**

1. Our feet are set in the darkness of the world, but the Word is a lamp for them.
2. The picture is one of the lantern on a pole; it provided enough light for each step taken.
3. It provided enough light to show the path in front, but not a search light to reveal the end.

4. Only the light of the Word can illumine the path and keep us from stumbling and falling.

5. We find the way we are to go through the Word of God.

a. God's Word will not tell us which street to take to work.

b. God's Word will not tell us specifically who we are to marry, or what we are to do.

c. God's Word will not tell us everything that we shouldn't do.

d. But as we understand and learn the principles of God's Word.

e. It shines a light to direct us in our decisions and gives us the direction that we so desperately need.

6. Note v106

a. We need to make a commitment to God's Word.

b. The Word will not supernaturally keep us from making wrong decisions.

c. It will not miraculously block our path if we tend to go a different direction.

d. But if we will commit ourselves to it, we have the promise of God's direction.

Proverbs 3:5-6

Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. [6] In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

## B. Guides ... In Our Weakness v107

Psalm 119:107

I am afflicted very much: quicken me, O Lord, according unto thy word.

1. His afflictions came from the outside.
2. Believers are not immune to afflictions in this life, regardless of what some may say about it.
3. Again we see the psalmist recognizing that only God can deliver him from the trials of life.
4. Quicken = enliven or revive
5. Revival comes only from God and His Word.

## C. Guides ... In Our Worship. V108

Psalm 119:108

Accept, I beseech thee, the freewill offerings of my mouth, O Lord, and teach me thy judgments.

1. "Accept, I beseech thee..." our worship is offered unto God, and we should pray that it would be acceptable.
2. "...Freewill offerings of my mouth..." interesting way of putting it isn't it?
3. Our praise should always come freely from the heart, never forced.
4. "...Teach me thy judgments" as we worship God we also need to be open for His instruction through the Word.
5. Our worship experience will be unfulfilling if both are not included.
6. We offer worship and receive instruction.

## **2. God's Word Guards Us. V109-110**

Psalm 119:109-110

My soul is continually in my hand: yet do I not forget thy law. [110] The wicked have laid a snare for me: yet I erred not from thy precepts.

## A. By calming our fears. V109

1. "My soul is continually in my hand"
2. That phrase speaks of being in a fearful condition.
3. Similar to when David went against Goliath.

1 Samuel 19:5

For he did put his life in his hand, and slew the Philistine, and the Lord wrought a great salvation for all Israel: thou sawest it, and didst rejoice: wherefore then wilt thou sin against innocent blood, to slay David without a cause?

4. But in times of peril, God's Word is there to comfort and encourage.

## B. By hindering our foes. v110

1. The enemy is seen here laying traps and snares in an attempt to gain the victory.
2. But it is through God's Word that we can gain the advantage and avoid the snares.
3. We are not ignorant of the strategies of our enemy; and God's Word will protect us.

2 Cor. 2:11

Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices.

Ephes. 6:11



Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

### C. Our distress strengthens us in the faith.

1. The psalmist was in constant danger, his life was taken in hand against the forces of evil.
2. To cope with this situation he remembered the Word and its promises.
3. Our Lord has promised never to leave nor forsake His children.

## **3. God's Word Gladdens Us v111-112**

Psalm 119:111-112

Thy testimonies have I taken as an heritage for ever: for they are the rejoicing of my heart. [112] I have inclined mine heart to perform thy statutes alway, even unto the end.

### A. Our Happy Heritage. v111

1. God's inspired Word is a heritage from forefathers in the faith, who lived by it and preserved it for all generations.
2. Its examples are cause for us to rejoice as well.

3. The psalmist had trained to keep the Lord's statutes in his heart all his life and even forever.

4. Like Christ the Living Word, the Bible, the Written Word, will abide forever.

## B. Our Heavenly Home. v112

1. Faithfulness to the Word will keep us mindful of our ultimate destination.

2. There is an end to all of this...and it isn't 'six feet under' or becoming a part of some cosmic force of nature.

3. We have a home prepared for us and it is awaiting us along with loved ones and friends who have gone on before us.

4. There is cause to rejoice and there is cause to keep our shoulders to the wheel.

5. Paul reminds us of just that:

Galatians 6:9

And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

2 Thes. 3:13

But ye, brethren, be not weary in well doing.

***Close:***

God's Word Guides Us... God's Word Guards Us...

God's Word Gladdens Us...

What is our need tonight? Come and find all we need in Him.