

Series: The Wealth of Christ the Walk of the Christian

YOUR FEET SHOD

EPHESIANS 6:15

Text: Ephesians 6:15

Ephesians 6:15

¹⁵ *And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;*

Introduction:

As we have been considering the Armor of God over the last few weeks it is evident especially in this verse that the Christian is intended to be mobile as God has provided us with the shoes that is needed for such.

God has provided us with a helmet – we are to be thoughtful.

God has provided us with a breastplate – we are to guard our heart.

All of this armor is given to us as we go forward in this life.

I would also note that there is no protection provided for retreat.

We are to be moving forward, and then having done ALL we are to stand.

The word stand is a military term. It means to hold our position during an attack.

After we have done all then we are not to surrender the ground that was gained.

Note what why these shoes are so important.

1. WHY THESE SHOES ARE REQUIRED (VS. 15)

Ephesians 6:11

¹¹ ***Put on the whole armour of God***, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

Ephesians 6:13-15

¹³ Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. ¹⁴ Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; ¹⁵ ***And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;***

Not we are to put on the whole armor of God.

We take shoes for granted, but they are a very important part of our apparel. We have different shoes

for nearly every kind of activity. I have dress shoes, casual shoes, work shoes, and shoes that I wear when I referee and umpire.

What I am doing on a given day determines the type of shoes I put on.

- They protect our feet.
- They keep our feet warm.
- They keep our feet dry.

Think about how important shoes are to certain professions.

- Construction workers would be crazy to try and do their job without proper footwear.
- Could you imagine a football player walking onto the field without his cleats?
- Could you see a baseball player doing that? What about a tennis player?

It doesn't happen because athletes understand just how important the right shoes are to what they do.

As important as shoes are to an athlete, a construction worker, a business man, a housewife, or even a toddler, they are even more important to a soldier.

The Roman soldier, is the image Paul is using to illustrate “the whole armor of God,” wore leather boots that protected the feet and ankles.

These boots were a half boot that allowed the soldier to advance toward the enemy undistracted about what they might step on. This piece of the armor was essential to the Roman soldier’s “preparation” for battle.

These boots usually had hobnailed soles.

The soles had bits of metal, or nails, driven through them. These hobnailed soles gave the Roman soldier great traction as he climbed hills, and fought on uneven terrain. The boots worn by the Roman soldier gave him great stability as he engaged the enemy.

- The soldier’s life could depend on his shoes.
- Soldiers are required to march long distances, fight battles in all types of environments, walk through jungles, over rocks, cross stream beds filled with sharp, jagged rocks, and cross burning desert sands.

- If a soldier's feet become swollen, tender, cut, or blistered, that soldier would be greatly hindered in the day of battle.
- That soldier might not be able to stand and fight.
- He might not be able to march.
- He might not be able to properly handle his weapons.
- He certainly could not advance on the enemy.
- Sore feet would undermine the soldier's ability to stand firm.

If we are going to stand against "the wiles of the devil," we must have on the proper spiritual footwear. We can be "girt about with the truth," and we can have on "the breastplate of righteousness," but if we neglect to have our "feet shod with the preparation of the Gospel of peace," we are destined to stumble and fall.

Note not only why these shoes are required but also:

2. WHAT THESE SHOES REPRESENT (VS. 15)

Ephesians 6:15

¹⁵ *And your feet shod with the **preparation** of the gospel of peace;*

The word “preparation” refers to “being ready.”

This same word is used in Titus 3:1:

Titus 3:1

¹ *Put them in mind to be subject to principalities and powers, to obey magistrates, **to be ready** to every good work,*

A soldier’s boots allows him to be ready for whatever he faces.

A good pair of boots makes him ready to march, to stand, to climb, to fight, or whatever else he may be called on to do.

That same readiness should mark the people of God.

We too as Christians need to be ready. Ready to

- Seize Every Opportunity

2 Timothy 4:2

² Preach the word; **be instant in season**, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.

Romans 1:15

¹⁵ So, as much as in me is, **I am ready** to preach the gospel to you that are at Rome also.

1 Timothy 6:17-18

¹⁷ Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not highminded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy; ¹⁸
That they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate;

1 Peter 3:15

¹⁵ But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: **and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you** with meekness and fear:

Note not only why these shoes are required and what they represent but also:

3. WHAT THESE SHOES RENDER (VS.15)

Ephesians 6:15

¹⁵ *And your feet shod with the preparation of the **gospel of peace**;*

The “Gospel of Peace” refers to the glorious news that, through our relationship with Jesus Christ, we are at peace with God.

It wasn’t always that way. Before we were saved, we were the enemies of God.

Romans 5:6-10

⁶ *For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die. ⁸ But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. ⁹ Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him. ¹⁰ For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.*

When an individual gets saved they are reconciled back to God.

Romans 5:10-11

¹⁰ *For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.* ¹¹ *And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement.*

When we are reconciled back to God, He declares us to be at peace with Him.

Romans 5:1

¹ *Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:*

Colossians 1:21-22

²¹ *And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled* ²² *In the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unproveable in his sight:*

So, having our “feet shod with the preparation of the Gospel of peace” means that we stand in the absolute confidence that God loves us, that He has forgiven us, that we are united with Him, that He fights for us, and that all is well with our souls. It is the confidence that we are saved.

When we have that confidence, and when we possess the peace of God in our hearts, we are “ready” to “stand” against any enemy that comes against us.

Illustrations:

- The children of Israel, under the leadership of Gideon, witnessed the Lord reduce the size of their army from 32,000 to 300. Those 300 men placed their confidence in the Lord and followed Him into battle. They saw the Lord defeat the Midianite army without the use of a single weapon. All those men did was break clay jars, allowing a lamp inside to shine, blow a trumpet, and cry “The sword of the Lord and of Gideon.” Their faith in the Lord’s promise gave them the confidence to stand, Judges 6
- In 2 Chronicles 10 the people of Judah were about to be invaded by the powerful armies of the Ammonites and Moabites. They were afraid. But, the Lord spoke to King Jehoshaphat and said:

2 Chronicles 20:15

¹⁵ *And he said, Hearken ye, all Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem, and thou king Jehoshaphat, Thus saith the LORD unto you, **Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle is not yours, but God's.***

Verses 18-23 tells us what happen next:

2 Chronicles 20:18-23

¹⁸ And Jehoshaphat bowed his head with his face to the ground: and all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem fell before the LORD, worshipping the LORD. ¹⁹ And the Levites, of the children of the Kohathites, and of the children of the Korhites, stood up to praise the LORD God of Israel with a loud voice on high. ²⁰ And they rose early in the morning, and went forth into the wilderness of Tekoa: and as they went forth, Jehoshaphat stood and said, Hear me, O Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem; Believe in the LORD your God, so shall ye be established; believe his prophets, so shall ye prosper. ²¹ And when he had consulted with the people, he appointed singers unto the LORD, and that should praise the beauty of holiness, as they went out before the army, and to say, Praise the LORD; for his mercy endureth for ever. ²² And when they began to sing and to praise, the LORD set ambushments against the children of Ammon, Moab, and mount Seir, which were come against Judah; and they were smitten. ²³ For the children of Ammon and Moab stood up against the inhabitants of mount Seir, utterly to slay and destroy them: and when they had made an end of the inhabitants of Seir, every one helped to destroy another.

Judah experienced a great victory because they took God at His Word and stood in their confidence in Him.

Our confidence in the day of battle does not rest in our own power, but in the promises of God. Here is what He promises His children:

Romans 8:31-39

³¹ What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? ³² He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things? ³³ Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth. ³⁴ Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us. ³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ³⁶ As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. ³⁷ Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. ³⁸ For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, ³⁹ Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

These promises are the shoes that give us the ability to stand in the “evil day.”

The truth that we are loved by the Lord gives us the confidence to stand

The truth that we are saved by His grace, gives us the confidence to stand

The truth that we are His children gives us the confidence to stand

The truth that we in His tender care, and that He has promised to stand with us, to protect us, to keep us, and defend us, gives us confidence to stand

Close:

The question is this – Are our feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace?

Again as we have said many times – God doesn't dress us, He instructs us to put on the armor of God.