

Scripture: Ephesians 6:15-16

I. Suiting Up For Battle

A. Feet Shod with the Gospel of Peace

1. Historical Portrait

a) The Importance of Good Footwear

(1) Sandals with glass or nails embedded in the bottom for traction and stability

(a) Phalanx fighting

(i) Advancement

(ii) Anchorage

(2) Foot rot immobilizes an army

(a) Fear immobilizes an army

2. Heavenly Precept

a) Preparedness to evangelize

(1) Advancing Army

(a) Matthew 28:19-20

(b) 2 Timothy 4:2

(c) 1 Peter 3:15

b) Peace experienced

(1) Anchored army

(a) Eph. 6:11, 13-14

(b) Ps. 1:3

(c) 1 Cor. 16:13

(d) Gal. 5:1

(e) Phil. 4:1

(f) 2 Thess. 2:15

(g) 1 Peter 5:12

3. Here and Now Practicality

a) When we are called to advance the kingdom we must be prepared to do so through the good news

that peace with God is available through the Gospel

b) Being anchored in the Gospel reminds us that we are at peace with God

(1) We are now allies and no longer adversaries

B. Faith as a Shield

1. Historical Portrait

a) Types of shields

(1) Smaller shield for deflecting blows

(2) Larger shields for deflecting arrows

2. Heavenly Precept

a) Defending oneself from temptation through faith in God

(1) Faith in what?

(a) Grace of God (1 Peter 5:12)

(b) Christ has set you free (Gal. 5:1)

(c) Sanctifying and glorifying work of the Lord (Phil. 3:12-21)

(d) Word of the Lord (2 Thess. 2:15)

(2) Faith is only as reliable as the trustworthiness of its object

(a) Faithful to call you (1 Cor. 1:9)

(b) Faithful to sanctify you (1 Thess. 5:24, 23)

(c) Faithful to provide an escape from temptation (1 Cor. 10:13)

(d) Faithful to strengthen and guard you (2 Thess. 3:3)

3. Here and Now Practicality

a) When we place our faith in God we can experience victory over worldly (Satanic) temptations and attacks