

Scripture: Ephesians 6:17

I. Suiting Up for Battle III

A. Salvation as a Helmet

1. Historical Portrait

a) Metal or thick leather with metal overlays

(1) Protect the head

(2) Priority

2. Heavenly Precept

a) Can't mean salvation in the sense of getting saved since the directive is being given to people who are already saved

b) Contents of Salvation

(1) Justification

(a) The first aspect of salvation occurs when we believe and surrender - past action with ongoing effects

(2) Sanctification

(a) The growth and maturity process of salvation - current action

(3) Glorification

(a) The fulfillment of salvation when God fulfills his promise to give us new bodies and welcome us into his intimate presence where there is no more struggle with sin - future action

(b) At this point the spiritual warfare is over and true peace will be experienced

c) Context

(1) Paul's other use of this type of symbolism

(a) 1 Thess. 5:8

(i) Thessalonian church was undergoing persecution and spiritual warfare

(2) Peter's description of such a "hope of salvation"

(a) 1 Peter 1:3-9

3. Here and Now Practicality

a) The helmet of hope of salvation defends us against discouragement

b) The helmet of hope of salvation defends us against doubt

B. Sword of the Spirit which Is Scripture

1. Historical Portrait

a) Offensive Weapon

(1) 6-18" sword worn by every member of the army

