

# Suit Up – Prepare for War

*You Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.*

Ephesians 6:14-17

*For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.*

Ephesians 6:12

## If you want peace, prepare for war.

### 1. TEMPTATION vs. BELT OF TRUTH

*Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior, and my hope is in you all day long.*

Psalms 25:5

*Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is – his good, pleasing and perfect will.*

Romans 12:2

### 2. WORTH vs. BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

*Christ is the culmination of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes.*

Romans 10:4

*Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.*

Hebrews 4:16

### 3. ANXIETY vs. SHOES OF PEACE

*Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another with psalms, hymns and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

Ephesians 5:18-20

*In peace I will lie down and sleep, for you alone, Lord, make me dwell in safety.*

Psalms 4:8

*Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to*

*God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

Philippians 4:6-7

#### **4. PRIDE vs. SHIELD OF FAITH**

*Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.*

Hebrews 11:1

*...God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble. So humble yourselves before God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.*

James 4:6-7

#### **5. SEPARATION vs. HELMET OF SALVATION**

*Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.*

Acts 4:12 NIV

*For I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from his love. Death can't, and life can't. The angels won't, and all the powers of hell itself cannot keep God's love away. Our fears for today, our worries about tomorrow, or where we are—high above the sky, or in the deepest ocean—nothing will ever be able to separate us from the love of God demonstrated by our Lord Jesus Christ when he died for us.*

Romans 8:38-39

#### **6. CONFUSION vs. SWORD OF THE SPIRIT (Word of God)**

*But whatever is good and perfect comes to us from God, the Creator of all light, and he shines forever without change or shadow.*

James 1:17

*God means what he says. What he says goes. His powerful Word is sharp as a surgeon's scalpel, cutting through everything, whether doubt or defense, laying us open to listen and obey. Nothing and no one is impervious to God's Word. We can't get away from it - no matter what.*

Hebrews 4:12-13 MSG

*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.*

John 1:1, 14

*Every word of God is flawless; he is a shield to those who take refuge in him.*

Proverbs 30:5 NIV

*...In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.*

John 16:33 NIV