



RCC Phoenix – 1.23.22 – Armor of God (Week 3)

Week 1 – We identified our role as _____

Week 2 – We identified our _____ and his _____

This week we will start looking at the armor God has given to us as His children

Ephesians 6:10-18 NLT

A final word: Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on all of God’s armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil. For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places. Therefore, put on every piece of God’s armor so you will be able to resist the enemy in the time of evil. Then after the battle you will still be standing firm. Stand your ground, putting on the belt of truth and the body armor of God’s righteousness. For shoes, put on the peace that comes from the Good News so that you will be fully prepared. In addition to all of these, hold up the shield of faith to stop the fiery arrows of the devil. Put on salvation as your helmet, and take the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere.

The Belt of Truth

- Protected the soldier’s _____
- Kept the _____ in place
- Held the weight of the _____

What is truth?

Our culture prioritizes _____ over _____

A. What are some lies our culture promotes?

Lie 1: _____ Responsibility Doesn’t Matter

Proverbs 21:20 ESV

Precious treasure and oil are in a wise man’s dwelling, but a foolish man devours it.

Proverbs 22:7 NLT

Just as the rich rule the poor, so the borrower is servant to the lender.

Lie 2: A human being can be something other than a _____ or a _____.

Genesis 5:1-2 NLT

This is the written account of the descendants of Adam. When God created human beings, he made them to be like himself. He created them male and female, and he blessed them and called them “human.”

Lie 3: The idea of _____ is ridiculous.

Psalm 14:1-2 NLT

Only fools say in their hearts, “There is no God.” They are corrupt, and their actions are evil; not one of them does good! The Lord looks down from heaven on the entire human race; he looks to see if anyone is truly wise, if anyone seeks God.

We need to re-evaluate the posture of our heart if we are more angry about losing “America’s good ‘ol days” than we are heartbroken for the people who have been deceived by the enemy of God.

Our leader and enlisting officer, Jesus Christ, defined His own purpose on Earth:

Luke 19:10 NLT

“For the Son of Man came to seek and save those who are lost.”

If we are God’s people, if we are following Jesus, we are to make an appeal to _____
_____ to come back to God instead of hurry them down the corridor of hell because we are uncomfortable with their sin.

2 Corinthians 5:19-21 NLT

“For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people’s sins against them. And he gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation. So we are Christ’s ambassadors; God is making his appeal through us. We speak for Christ when we plead, “Come back to God!” For God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin, so that we could be made right with God through Christ.”

How do we deal with people who believe a lie?

We must live in a way that’s attractive, show them the truth, operate in love and continue to point people to Jesus.

1 Peter 2:2-13 AMP

Beloved, I urge you as aliens and strangers [in this world] to abstain from the sensual urges [those dishonorable desires] that wage war against the soul. Keep your behavior excellent among the [unsaved] Gentiles [conduct yourself honorably, with graciousness and integrity], so that for whatever reason they may slander you as evildoers, yet by observing your good deeds they may [instead come to] glorify God in the day of visitation [when He looks upon them with mercy].

B. What is truth?

- _____

John 14:6 NLT

Jesus told him, “*I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me.*”

- _____ in Christ set us free from _____

John 8:31-36 NLT

Jesus said to the people who believed in him, “You are truly my disciples if you remain faithful to my teachings. And you will know the truth, and *the truth will set you free.*” “But we are descendants of Abraham,” they said. “We have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean, ‘You will be set free’?” Jesus replied, “I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave of sin. A slave is not a permanent member of the family, but a son is part of the family forever. So *if the Son sets you free, you are truly free.*”

- The Holy Spirit _____ us into _____

John 16:12-13 NLT

“I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the *Spirit of truth* comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come.

- _____

Psalms 119:160 NLT

The very *essence of your words is truth*; all your just regulations will stand forever.

2 Timothy 2:14-15 ESV

Remind them of these things, and charge them before God not to quarrel about words, which does no good, but only ruins the hearers. Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the *word of truth*.

James 1:16-18 NLT

So don't be misled, my dear brothers and sisters. Whatever is good and perfect is a gift coming down to us from God our Father, who created all the lights in the heavens. He never changes or casts a shifting shadow. *He chose to give birth to us by giving us his true word.* And we, out of all creation, became his prized possession.

John 17:14-19 NLT

I have given them your word. And the world hates them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. I'm not asking you to take them out of the world, but to keep them safe from the evil one. They do not belong to this world any more than I do. Make them holy by your truth; teach *them your word, which is truth.* Just as you sent me into the world, I am sending them into the world. And I give myself as a holy sacrifice for them so they can be made holy by your truth.

Colossians 1:3-5 NLT

We always pray for you, and we give thanks to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. For we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and your love for all of God's people, which come from your confident hope of what God has reserved for you in heaven. You have had this expectation ever since you first heard the *truth of the Good News.*

How do we put on the belt of truth?

We operate our _____ from the foundational principles that faith in Jesus is the only thing that leads us to salvation & freedom from sin, that Scripture is true, that God's Spirit leads us into all truth.