

# Be Clothed with the Whole Armor

In the world ye shall have tribulation, but be of good cheer,  
I have overcome the world. John 16:33 (KJV)

## Lesson I



**Why did Paul, the Apostle of Yahshua ha Mashiach/Jesus Christ address the necessity of being armed in his letter to the Ephesians?** First of all, Ephesians is not a book, but a letter sent by Paul to the believers in Ephesus. At one point in time, Paul taught the believers in Ephesus for several years. As Paul's ministry to the Gentiles progressed, persecution against him increased, and now [at the time of the Ephesian letter] Paul is within a Roman prison. Paul's imprisonment was favored with much grace from Yahshua, the Son of the One True and Living GOD, who caused Paul to have freedom to teach and to write letters to the Gentile believers, **and all this was continued while he was in prison!** Other letters written by Paul while in prison: Philippians, Colossians, and Philemon.

The influence of temptations within a mega port city such as Ephesus was reason enough for new and seasoned believers in Yahshua to **be armed with spiritual armor**. Ephesus had a population of about a half million people; A place of prosperity, commerce and filled with idolatry and insurmountable evil. **Apostle Paul concludes his letter with a strong passionate emphasis regarding spiritual warfare, and how to combat the wiles (trickery) of the devil.**

Finally, my brethren, **be strong in the LORD, and in the Power of His Might**. Put on the **WHOLE** armor of GOD that **ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil**. **We wrestle not against flesh and blood**, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the **WHOLE armor of GOD** that **ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand**. (Ephesians 6:10-12) KJV

**Stand** therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the **breastplate of righteousness**; And your **feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace**; above all, **taking the shield of faith**, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. Take the **helmet of salvation**, and the **sword of the Spirit**, which is the **Word of GOD**. **Praying always** with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit. **Watching** thereunto with all perseverance and supplication **for all saints**. (Ephesians 6:10-18) KJV

### Quench all Fiery Darts!

- Loins girded with Truth
- Breastplate [protective covering] of Righteousness
- Feet shod with the Gospel of Peace
- Shield [safeguard] of Faith [gospel conviction]
- Sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of GOD
- Helmet [head covering] of Salvation [deliverance] John 3:16-18
- Pray and not faint Luke 18:1

### Significance of being Girded with Truth

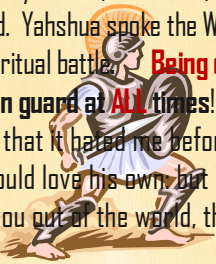
Apostle Paul begins with **Truth**. The belt represents confidence. It is imperative that every believer in Yahshua ha Mashiach/Jesus Christ be girded [should already be in place] with truth. Yahshua explained to His disciples: **I am the Way, the Truth and the Life**. John 14:6 (KJV) As believers, we must abide in Yahshua. He is the **True Vine**, and we are the branches. Our Holy Father, which is in Heaven, is the **Vinekeeper** (John 15) KJV Also read Isaiah chapter 5

**This is not a wrestling match against a human opponent. We are wrestling with rulers, authorities, the powers who govern this world of darkness, and spiritual forces that control evil in the atmosphere.**

**Ephesians 6:12 (GW)**



Being girded (**fastened**) to Yahshua, means we hear His voice. ..Every one that is of the truth hears my voice. (John 18:37) KJV What is Yahshua saying? Begin by studying His Word. Yahshua spoke the Words of the One True and Living GOD. Get prepared for spiritual battle. **Being complacent in battle is dangerous. Soldiers must be on guard at ALL times!** Yahshua stated: If the world hates you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you. If ye were of the world, the world would love his own; but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. John 15:18-19 (KJV)



As for a soldier, being prepared for battle is vital. In the days of Paul, a Roman soldier kept all loose fitting garments in place with the aid of girding. If the soldier was in actual battle with the enemy, loose fitting garments and other attachments would interfere with his defense. **In spiritual warfare, cares of this life e.g. lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes and the pride of life, and an anxious mindset and worries interferes with and hinders our defense.** What is our spiritual girding? Abiding in Yahshua the True Vine is the same as being girded with His Truth. We are prepared with the Holy Word of Yahweh, when we abide in Yahshua (John 15) In essence, **we are to remove hindrances** e.g. too tired to study the Word of Yahweh, too tired to pray, too busy to be alone with Him. Too tired and too busy are prime examples of hindrances which causes one to become unprepared and **overthrown** by the enemy. We should also **"lay aside every weight that easily beset us"** (read Hebrews 12:1-3 & Hebrews chapter 11 as a reference to the "cloud of witnesses"). **NOTE:** As for the One True and Living GOD, **His way is perfect (undefiled); the Word of the LORD is tried; He is a buckler (shield, protector) to all those that trust in Him. Who is GOD save the LORD, or who is a Rock save our GOD? It is GOD that girds me with strength, and makes my way perfect. (Psalm 18:30-32) KJV** King David wrote Psalm 18 to praise the One True and Living GOD, who had saved him from his enemies and from the evil of the rejected King Saul.

### Significance of the Breast Plate of Righteousness

The Roman soldier's chest area was protected with an iron breastplate, to protect his vital organs i.e. the heart. **The Holy Scripture states:** Keep thy heart with all diligence, for out of it are the issues of life. Proverbs 4:23 (KJV) If the heart was thrust through by a dart or sword, the soldier fell dead. The soldier had to make a concentrated effort to protect his heart. The iron breastplate was made of hard metal, and could not be pierced. In the 21<sup>st</sup> century, soldiers are armed with bullet proof vests, which cover vital organs. As believers in the One True and Living GOD and in His Son Yahshua the Mashiach, we are to keep our hearts with all diligence.

**The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked, who can know it** (Jeremiah 17:9). Consider what Jesus taught regarding the heart: **Out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness; All these evil things are within, and defile the man. Mark 7:21-23 (KJV)** The above are the very wicked attributes that we as believers must guard against. There is a remedy for those who are weak and worn from battle: **He [The Almighty GOD] gives Power to the faint, and to them that have no might, He increases strength. Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall, but they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount with wings as eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint. Isaiah 40:29-31 (KJV)**

**NOTE:** Righteousness is aligning one's life with the Word of GOD, whose Name is Yahweh. Righteousness is to **Love the LORD thy GOD, with ALL thy heart, with ALL thy soul, and with ALL thy might.** (Deuteronomy 6:5). Jesus quotes the same scripture passage within the New Testament. (read Mark 12:30)

### Significance of Feet Shod with the Gospel of Peace

**How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that brings good tidings that publish peace; that brings good tidings of good that publish salvation; that says unto Zion, thy GOD reigns! (Isaiah 52:7) KJV**

The gospel of peace is the believer's message regarding Yahshua's life, death and resurrection. Consider the following message of the Apostle Paul to the Corinthians: Therefore seeing we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we faint not, but have renounced the hidden things of dishonesty, not walking in craftiness, nor handling the Word of GOD deceitfully, but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of GOD. If our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost, in whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, **lest the "Light" of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of GOD, should shine unto them.**

We preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the LORD; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake. GOD, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the Light of the knowledge of the Glory of GOD in the face of Jesus Christ. We have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the Power may be of GOD, and not of us. (II Corinthians 4:1-7) KJV

**Many sorrows shall be to the wicked, but he that trusts in Yahweh/LORD, mercy shall compass him about. Psalms 89:10 (KJV)**



## Why are Attacks Happening?

**Yahshua stated:** If the world hates you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you. If ye were of the world, the world would love his own, but because ye are not of the world, **but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hates you.** Remember the Word that I said unto you, **the servant is not greater than his Lord.** If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you; if they have kept my saying, they will keep yours also. **All these things will they do unto you for my Name's sake, because they know not Him that sent me.** John 15:18-21 (KJV)

Yahshua told His disciples that they were not above their Master. In other words, if Jesus suffered the afflictions of the cross, we will need to take up our cross and follow Him. Mark 8:34-35 Jesus' disciples grievously suffered and died horrendous deaths, all but one [John], who was placed on the isle of Patmos to be eaten by wild animals. By the grace of King Yahshua, John was not eaten by wild animals, but received an awesomely amazing revelation! Because of their belief in Him, and for preaching and teaching the good news of the Kingdom of GOD, Jesus' disciples were persecuted, along with other believers.

**NOTE:** Believers are attacked because of their belief in Yahshua and all that He represents regarding the Kingdom of the One True and Living GOD.

## Beware

**Be sober, be vigilant;** because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walks about, seeking whom he may devour. **WHOM RESIST STEADFAST IN THE FAITH** knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world. (1 Peter 5:8-9) KJV

## The Just shall live by Faith

**Our shield of faith should be functioning at 100% at all times!** We must have full confidence in the Word of Yahweh our GOD. The Holy Scripture state that **"NO WEAPON THAT IS FORMED AGAINST THEE SHALL PROSPER** and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their righteousness is of me, says the LORD. (Isaiah 54:17) KJV

**Fret not** thyself because of evildoers, neither be thou envious against the workers of iniquity. They shall soon be cut down like the grass, and wither as the green herb. (Psalm 37:1) KJV

**Yahshua stated: Thy faith hath saved thee!** Everything is possible for him who believes (Mark 9:23) KJV **We know that ALL things work together for good to them that love GOD, to them who are the called according to His purpose. (Romans 8:28) KJV What shall we then say to these things? If GOD be for us, who can be against us? (Romans 8:31) KJV**



## The Sword of the Spirit

The sword of the Spirit is the Word of GOD. Consider the following scripture passage: **The Word of GOD is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.** (Hebrews 4:12) KJV

**Let the high praises of GOD be in their mouth, and a two-edged sword in their hand!** (Psalm 149:6) KJV

**CONT'D IN LESSON II**



**Be ye doers of the Word, and not hearers only. James 1:22 (KJV) It is WRITTEN, man shall not live by bread alone, but by every Word that proceeds from the Mouth of GOD. Matthew 4:4 (KJV)**