

## **EPHESIANS 6:14 TRUTH & RIGHTEOUSNESS**

### **REVIEW:**

### **INTRO:**

- When we look and consider these verses in Eph. 6, Paul creates in our minds eye detail of the fully equipped Roman soldier, the warrior.
- We see the soldier with three distinct types of fighting equipment.
- Accessories armor, weapons,. (belt, shoes, breastplate, shield, helmet, and sword.
- All under the heading, "the armor of God."
- And all held together and made effective by prayer. VS 18

### **Read Eph. 6...**

**Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness,**

- This verse begins with "STANDING." One sees a soldier on the battlefield Holding his position, holding the line.
- He is not cowering, he is not retreating, and he is not fainting.
- His mind is made up, he is resolute, unmovable, he is purposed and committed to this warfare and the outcome of final victory under his Sovereign Commander.
- Whatever else is happening around him, he is standing regardless of the cost to himself!
- Will this be, is this my attitude toward the world the flesh, the devil,
- My attitude in the Christian life?
  - 1 Cor. 15:58; Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.
- There can be no triumphant standing without the taking up of armor.

**We now look at two pieces of the armor, the equipping for successful warfare. Each has two branches to explore.**

### **1) GIRD YOUR WAIST WITH TRUTH.**

- **To gird about:** To gird around, to fasten firm to wrap, with a belt.
- the tense is continuous, having girded and still girded.
- I must gird myself.
- **TRUTH:** That which is true. What is true in things appertaining to God and the duties of man.
- Truth is that which is true, eternally true.
- Personal knowledge of truth binds and upholds our resolve and commitment and our convictions, especially in battle and crisis.

- See how important truth is, coming first.
- What does this verse say about "truth?"
- Will I stand on what God has says, on what I know the character of God to be.
- Will I weigh things in the light of scripture and eternity?
- That which hinders the Christian and the work of the Lord is gathered up and tucked in, controlled, harnessed in this belt of truth.
- This belt holds in place and harnesses anything that may hinder my ability to fight the good fight. Any hindrance that may cause me to fail, to stumble.
- As a runner or wrestler just before the contest readies himself so as not to be hindered by anything.
- A Roman soldier always readied himself for battle by synching up his clothing into this belt.

### **WHAT IS THIS BELT THAT PREPARES ME FOR BATTLE?**

#### **BRANCH 1**

##### **a. Objective or absolute Truth:**

- We must know truth so as not to be carried away by every wind of doctrine. Eph. 4:14
- 1 Tim. 4:1; Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons,
- The Christian warrior must know truth. What is true about God, (Eden)
- What is true about man,
- What is true about himself,
- What is true about the enemy.
- what is true about life,
  - 1 Tim. 3:14, 15, These things I write to you, though I hope to come to you shortly; <sup>15</sup> but if I am delayed, *I write* so that you may know how you ought to conduct yourself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth. <sup>16</sup> And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifested in the flesh, Justified in the Spirit, Seen by angels, Preached among the Gentiles, Believed on in the world, Received up in glory.
- 1 Peter 3:15; But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always *be* ready to *give* a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear;

## BRANCH 2

### b. Personal, practical Truth:

- One who forsakes hypocrisy and sham. What you see and what I say is what you get.
- To be without hypocrisy, to live in truth, make it yours by obedience. Live truth, be truth.
- 3 JN. 3, 4; <sup>3</sup> For I rejoiced greatly when brethren came and testified of the truth *that is* in you, just as you walk in the truth. <sup>4</sup> I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth.
- We must embody what we preach, what we say we believe.
- This is what made the words of Christ so powerful to the devil in His temptations in the wilderness and throughout His whole earthly life.
  - Mt.4; 4But He answered and said, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.'
  - Mt. 4:7, Jesus said to him, "It is written again, 'You shall not <sup>[a]</sup>tempt the LORD your God.'
  - Mt. 4: 10, away with you, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.'
- The devil knows a phony. The seven sons of Sceva. Acts 19 11-20..
- This is a picture of self-discipline. A task we comfortable Americans hate.
- It is the ordered life.
  - **1 Col. 9:24-27**, 2 Tim. 2:3, Mt. 16:24
- What use would the rest of the armor be if we are undisciplined?
- Without training the athlete would soon lose and be a failure.
- This belt symbolizes the same resolve and commitment as that of "standing."
  - Lk. 12:35; "Let your waist be girded and *your* lamps burning;