

FIGHTING THE GOOD FIGHT

2 Timothy 4:7

I have fought a good fight, I have finished the race, and I have remained faithful.

God's Weapons

The War We Fight

2 Corinthians 10:3 We are human, but we don't wage war with human plans and methods.

4 We use God's mighty weapons, not mere worldly weapons, to knock down the Devil's strongholds.

5 With these weapons we break down every proud argument that keeps people from knowing God. With these weapons we conquer their rebellious ideas, and we teach them to obey Christ.

Ephesians 6:10 A final word: Be strong with the Lord's mighty power.

11 Put on all of God's armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies and tricks of the Devil.

12 For we are not fighting against people made of flesh and blood, but against the evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against those mighty powers of darkness who rule this world, and against wicked spirits in the heavenly realms.

13 Use every piece of God's armor to resist the enemy in the time of evil, so that after the battle you will still be standing firm.

Our Human Plans And Methods Are Puny

Our Foe Is Powerful

Our God Provides A Way To Win

The Weapons We Use

Ephesians 6:14 Stand your ground, putting on the sturdy belt of truth and the body armor of God's righteousness.

15 For shoes, put on the peace that comes from the Good News, so that you will be fully prepared.

16 In every battle you will need faith as your shield to stop the fiery arrows aimed at you by Satan.

17 Put on salvation as your helmet, and take the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

18 Pray at all times and on every occasion in the power of the Holy Spirit. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all Christians everywhere.

Belt Of Truth - Practical Application Of God's Word To Your Life

Body Armor Of God's Righteousness - Purity Of Your Heart Because Of God's Righteousness

Shoes Of Peace - Peace That Comes From The Good News

Faith As Your Shield

_____ Belief That God Will Keep His Word

Matthew 14:30 But when he looked around at the high waves, he was terrified and began to sink. "Save me, Lord!" he shouted.

31 Instantly Jesus reached out his hand and grabbed him. "You don't have much faith," Jesus said. "Why did you doubt me?"

Hebrews 11:1 What is faith? It is the confident assurance that what we hope for is going to happen. It is the evidence of things we cannot yet see.

6 So, you see, it is impossible to please God without faith. Anyone who wants to come to him must believe that there is a God and that he rewards those who sincerely seek him.

Salvation As Your Helmet

_____ Our Mind Because Of God's Grace

Psalm 62:1 I wait quietly before God, for my salvation comes from him.

2 He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress where I will never be shaken.

1 Thessalonians 5:8 But let us who live in the light think clearly, protected by the body armor of faith and love, and wearing as our helmet the confidence of our salvation.

9 For God decided to save us through our Lord Jesus Christ, not to pour out his anger on us.

10 He died for us so that we can live with him forever, whether we are dead or alive at the time of his return.

11 So encourage each other and build each other up, just as you are already doing.

1 Peter 1:3 All honor to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, for it is by his boundless mercy that God has given us the privilege of being born again. Now we live with a wonderful expectation because Jesus Christ rose again from the dead.

4 For God has reserved a priceless inheritance for his children. It is kept in heaven for you, pure and undefiled, beyond the reach of change and decay.

5 And God, in his mighty power, will protect you until you receive this salvation, because you are trusting him. It will be revealed on the last day for all to see.

6 So be truly glad! There is wonderful joy ahead, even though it is necessary for you to endure many trials for a while.

7 These trials are only to test your faith, to show that it is strong and pure. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold - and your faith is far more precious to God than mere gold. So if your faith remains strong after being tried by fiery trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world.

8 You love him even though you have never seen him. Though you do not see him, you trust him; and even now you are happy with a glorious, inexpressible joy.

9 Your reward for trusting him will be the salvation of your souls.

13 So think clearly and exercise self-control. Look forward to the special blessings that will come to you at the return of Jesus Christ.

Sword Of The Spirit

_____ God's Word As My Source Of Strength

Matthew 4:1 Then Jesus was led out into the wilderness by the Holy Spirit to be tempted there by the Devil.

2 For forty days and forty nights he ate nothing and became very hungry.

3 Then the Devil came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, change these stones into loaves of bread."

4 But Jesus told him, "No! The Scriptures say, 'People need more than bread for their life; they must feed on every word of God.' "

5 Then the Devil took him to Jerusalem, to the highest point of the Temple,

6 and said, "If you are the Son of God, jump off! For the Scriptures say, 'He orders his angels to protect you. And they will hold you with their hands to keep you from striking your foot on a stone.' "

7 Jesus responded, "The Scriptures also say, 'Do not test the Lord your God.' "

8 Next the Devil took him to the peak of a very high mountain and showed him the nations of the world and all their glory.

9 "I will give it all to you," he said, "if you will only kneel down and worship me."

10 "Get out of here, Satan," Jesus told him. "For the Scriptures say, 'You must worship the Lord your God; serve only him.' "

11 Then the Devil went away, and angels came and cared for Jesus.

Psalm 119:11 I have hidden your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.

Proverbs 30:5 Every word of God proves true. He defends all who come to him for protection.

1 John 2:14 I have written to you, children, because you have known the Father. I have written to you who are mature because you know Christ, the one who is from the beginning. I have written to you who are young because you are strong with God's word living in your hearts, and you have won your battle with Satan.

Pray At All Times

_____ Prayer In God's Power

18 Pray at all times and on every occasion in the power of the Holy Spirit. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all Christians everywhere.

Romans 8:26 And the Holy Spirit helps us in our distress. For we don't even know what we should pray for, nor how we should pray. But the Holy Spirit prays for us with groanings that cannot be expressed in words.

27 And the Father who knows all hearts knows what the Spirit is saying, for the Spirit pleads for us believers in harmony with God's own will.

28 And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them.

1 Thessalonians 5:16 Always be joyful.

17 Keep on praying.

18 No matter what happens, always be thankful, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus.

19 Do not stifle the Holy Spirit.

1 John 5:14 And we can be confident that he will listen to us whenever we ask him for anything in line with his will.

15 And if we know he is listening when we make our requests, we can be sure that he will give us what we ask for.