

# The Armor of God

by **Sir Knight Barry Denton**

In this secular world, full of materialism and less than Godly views, it is now more than ever important that we put on the full armor of God. As Christians and as Knights, we are called by God to defend against the devil's evil schemes. Ephesians 6:10 states, "Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the power of this dark world, and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms." Every Knight must be prepared to fight the devil. Fortunately, our Lord has provided us each step in the Holy Bible based on the armor which we already possess.

First, we must put on the belt of truth, the truth of the Lord. Ephesians 6:14 says, "Stand firm in the belt of truth buckled around your waist." Christians must stay secure in the Lord through honesty and integrity and therefore commit to a daily walk with the Lord, reading his word, teaching, witnessing, and leading others to our Christ and Savior.

Next, fasten on the breastplate of righteousness. Ephesians 6:14 says, "with the breastplate of righteousness in place..." A warrior also goes into battle protecting his heart from attack, therefore protect your heart, protect your soul, and prepare for battle against the devil's lies and deceit. Secure your breastplate of righteousness so that you may ward off the attack.

Third, put on the shoes of peace. Ephesians 6:15 says, "For shoes, put on the peace that comes from the good news so that you will be fully prepared." Footwear provides us stability to walk freely on the earth without fear of injury. To safely walk into battle, a soldier however, must prepare through training. Reading your Bible and living a Christ-like life will bring peace to you and protect you against evil.

The shield is our defense for our faith. Ephesians 6:16 says, "Above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one." The shield has a specific use which is made clear in the Bible. The shield is used to protect us from the wickedness of the devil. We should carry our faith with us at all times, for our faith is just as important to us as it is to others to whom we are witnessing.

Fifth, put on the helmet of salvation. Ephesians 6:17 says, "Take the helmet of salvation." Satan is always targeting our thoughts and minds with his lies and schemes. The helmet protects us from doubting God's word and the plan he has for each of us. The devil works hard to place doubt, deceit, and dishonesty in our minds and spirits. The helmet protects us and makes us strong in the eyes of the Lord.

Finally, take up the sword, which is our spirit, and use it to fight back against the devil. Ephesians 6:17 says, "the sword of the spirit, which is the word of God." With our sword, God's word, we are prepared to fight against the devil and his minions who question God's word.

In this modern world, we must be modern Masons, prepared to live Godly lives while modeling the way for other Christians. So in the end, when we meet the Great Architect of the Universe, He will say "Well done, thou good and faithful servant." Matthew 25:21.

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