

Put On the Full Armor

THE ARMOR OF GOD

Helmet of Salvation

Shield of Faith

Breastplate of
Righteousness

Sword of the Spirit

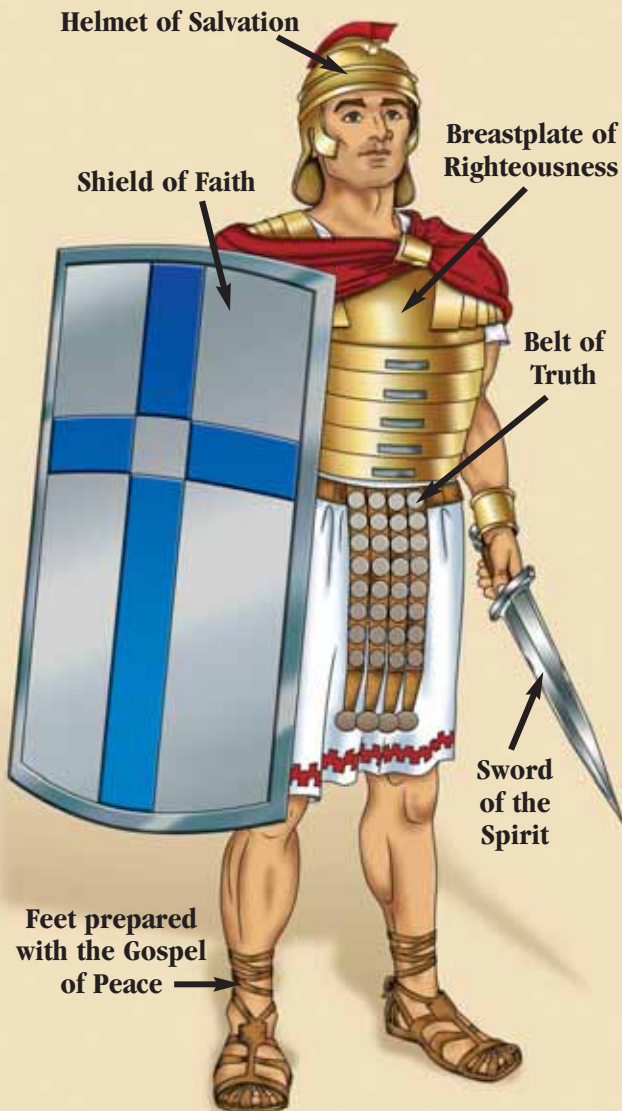
Gospel of Peace

Belt of Truth



ROSE
PUBLISHING

Ephesians 6:10-18



10-12: Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.

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 powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

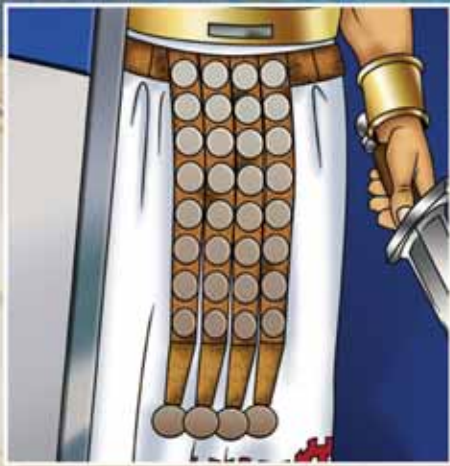
13: Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.

14-15: Stand firm then, with the **belt of truth** buckled around your waist, with the **breastplate of righteousness** in place, and with your **feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace**.

16: In addition to all this, take up the **shield of faith**, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one.

17: Take the **helmet of salvation** and the **sword of the Spirit**, which is the word of God.

18: And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.



The Belt of Truth

With the belt of truth buckled around your waist —Ephesians 6:14

Description of Armor

The “belt of truth” was named after the leather belt with an apron that hung in front of the Roman soldier's groin and lower abdomen. Small brass plates were attached to the apron to provide the greatest possible protection.

Historical Background

When preparing for battle, the belt would have been the first piece of protective equipment put on by a soldier. It clung closely to the soldier and shielded some of the most vulnerable areas of his body.

Application

The belt prepares one to be ready for action. Belts were used to tie up the garments so they would not get in the way while fighting. The call to have “your loins girt about with truth” is a call to *be prepared*. Christians always need to be ready to defend themselves against the powers of darkness and not be caught unaware.

You can be prepared in every circumstance, by making certain that you are a person of truth. This includes—

- Knowing the good news about Jesus and explaining why you believe in him.
- Living as a person of integrity—as someone who is honest and trustworthy.

Live such good lives . . . that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God . . .

—1 Peter 2:12

Other Biblical Passages

Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect . . . —1 Peter 3:15, 16

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. —John 3:16

Greek or Latin Term

cinculum militare—a leather belt



The Breastplate of Righteousness

With the breastplate of righteousness in place —Ephesians 6:14

Description of Armor

The Roman soldier would have fastened the breastplate around his chest.¹ There were two types of breastplates. The first type of breastplate was fashioned by joining several broad, curved metal bands together using leather thongs. The other was a type of chain mail, constructed by linking small metal rings together until they formed a vest.

Historical Background

The purpose of both types of armor was the same—to protect the soldier's vital organs. If a soldier failed to wear his breastplate, an arrow could easily reach a soldier's chest, piercing his heart or lungs.

Application

In Isaiah 59, the LORD puts on “righteousness as a breastplate,” and goes to battle against injustice and corruption, restoring peace and order to the land.

God offers his own righteousness to every believer in Jesus Christ. Righteousness is not something that anyone can gain by doing good deeds. It comes from faith in Jesus Christ.

Titus 3:5; Philippians 3:9

Putting on the breastplate of righteousness means—

- Believing in Jesus and his righteousness, not our own. Galatians 2:20, 21
- Standing firm against injustice and corruption. Leviticus 19:15, Hebrews 1:9
- Knowing that God promises his protection against the forces of evil for those who have faith in Jesus. 2 Thessalonians 3:3



Breastplate (chainmail)

Other Biblical Passages

[The LORD's] own arm worked salvation for him, and his own righteousness sustained him. He put on righteousness as his breastplate. —Isaiah 59:16, 17

For in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: "The righteous will live by faith." —Romans 1:17

This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. —Romans 3:22

Greek or Latin Term

lorica segmentata—breastplate with metal bands
lorica hamata—chainmail breastplate