



# THE REDEEMED CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF GOD

CHRIST THE LORD PARIS

LAGOS PROVINCE 20, **LEKKI PHASE 1**

**DATE:** TUESDAY, JULY 9, 2024

**THEME:** THE WEAPONS OF OUR WARFARE

**TOPIC:** THE BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS AND THE FEET SHOD WITH  
THE PREPARATION OF THE GOSPEL OF PEACE

**TEXT:** EPHESIANS 6:12 - 18

## **Ephesians 6:11-18 KJV**

Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For 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 armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. 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. And 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, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

**INTRODUCTION:** The components of the spiritual weapons of warfare as encapsulated in the Book of Ephesians Chapter 6 are sixfold. They can be identified from the head to the feet as: [1] the helmet of salvation [2] the breastplate of righteousness [3] the belt of truth [4] the feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace [5] the shield of faith, and [6] the sword of the spirit which is the word of God. Today, we will examine two components: the breastplate of righteousness and the feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace.

## **OUTLINE 1**

### **THE BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS**

What is righteousness? Of all the definitions of the word that are available, I find the one provided by the MERRIAM-WEBSTER DICTIONARY to be most apposite as it defines the word to mean "acting in accord with divine or moral law: free from guilt or sin." So, in essence, righteousness is a way of life that follows the dictates of divine laws. The word '*breastplate*', on the other hand, is defined by the online dictionary as "a piece of armour covering the chest". Simply put, therefore, '*breastplate of righteousness*' is the art of living our life according to the word of God in order to protect our heart from spiritual attack.

When a soldier wants to shoot and kill, he shoots at the chest of the victim. Spiritual attacks could also take the form of a soldier shooting to kill. We must therefore never be wary of our breastplate of righteousness. A Christian must believe and obey the word of God if he wants to defend himself against spiritual attacks. Our life is a warfare. But the nature of the warfare is not only against flesh and blood but also against spiritual enemies, principalities and powers, rulers of darkness of this world and spiritual wickedness in high places. To fight the battle, we must be prepared to defend ourselves and in defending ourselves, we must have faith in God. In Genesis 15:16, it is written that Abraham [Abram] believed in the LORD; and God counted it to him for righteousness. Deuteronomy 6:24-25 says that it shall be our righteousness if we observe to do all the commandments of the LORD our God, as he hath commanded us. God loves righteousness as it is written in the Book of Psalms 33:5 that God loves righteousness and judgment, and the earth is full of the goodness of the LORD, and in Psalm 45:7 we are told that God loves righteousness and hates wickedness. In Isaiah 28:16 the Sovereign LORD says: "*Look! I am placing a foundation stone in Jerusalem, a firm and tested stone. It is a precious cornerstone that is safe to build on. Whoever believes need never be shaken.*" This was a prognostication

of the coming of our Lord Jesus and the defence mechanisms offered to anyone who believes in him. Faith and belief in the word of God are, therefore, sure means of defence against spiritual attack.

The opposite of righteousness is sinfulness or wickedness. When a person moves away from the path of righteousness, he slips into sinfulness. Sin weakens a person against spiritual attacks because sin is of the devil. 1 John 3:8 says '*He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil*'. Satan invokes the sins of sinners to accuse them before God so that they will lose protection. In this regard, Revelation 12:10 says: '*And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night*'. Believers are therefore daily faced with the option of electing between righteousness and sin. It is always helpful to choose the path of God than the path of Satan: Joshua 24:14-16.

## **OUTLINE 2**

### **THE FEET SHOD WITH THE PREPARATION OF THE GOSPEL OF PEACE**

Verse 15 of Chapter 6 deals with the feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace. First, we must realize that the components of the armour of God enumerated in Chapter 6 of the Book of Ephesians visualizes a Roman soldier going to war and armed to the teeth. Reference to the feet shod with the preparation of the Gospel of peace therefore simply means arming ourselves with the propagation of the Gospel which gives peace to the people just as a Roman soldier usually put on battle shoes that help him keep his balance when in battle. Thus, a soldier going to war must be well kitted with strong shoes to be readily able to move swiftly. So also, a believer fortifies their feet when they preach the Gospel: Romans 10:15. Also Isaiah 52:7 says *How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth!* Our duty as believers is to go out and preach the Gospel: Mark 16:15. We need to preach the Gospel so that lives can be saved: Acts 4:12. By the Gospel, lives are transformed: Romans 1:16. Preaching the Gospel makes us to become a diligent worker in the vineyard of God: 2 Timothy 2:15. The Gospel of peace is of Christ. In John 14:27 our Lord Jesus said *Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be af*';

'O/7raid. Finally, preaching the Gospel helps us to avoid sins thereby putting on the breastplate of righteousness.

## **CONCLUSION**

In conclusion, we must always be fortified with the armour of God as enumerated in the Book of Ephesians Chapter 6. In putting on the armour of God, the feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace is inextricably intertwined with the breastplate of righteousness. While the former serves as a deterrence against sin, its attendant benefit is that we become protected with the breastplate of righteousness.