



# The Proper Equipment

# Last Week

- We established that we are in spiritual warfare
- However, our fight is not carnal and we do not seek revenge through violence
- Instead, we fight the good fight using the weapons that God has given us

# This Week

- We need to look more closely at Spiritual Warfare, because we need to understand:
  - The strength that we have
  - The weapons at our disposal
  - The reasons that we are fighting
  - And what we are commanded to do

# Be Strong

- The verb “Be”
  - Present subjective tense of the verb
- Meaning
  - To have objective existence
  - To have reality or actuality
- Thus
  - We have strength already
  - We just need to leverage our strength

# Strength Through God

- We already have strength, because we have been equipped with the necessary weaponry.
- We need to leverage the Panoply of Weaponry in order to maximize our strength

# Panoply of Weaponry



- Panoply
  - From the Greek word *Panoplia*
  - Meaning – Full armor of a heavily armed soldier
- Having on the full armor ensured protection against vulnerabilities
- And we want to be invulnerable because our adversary is crafty

# Who are We Battling?

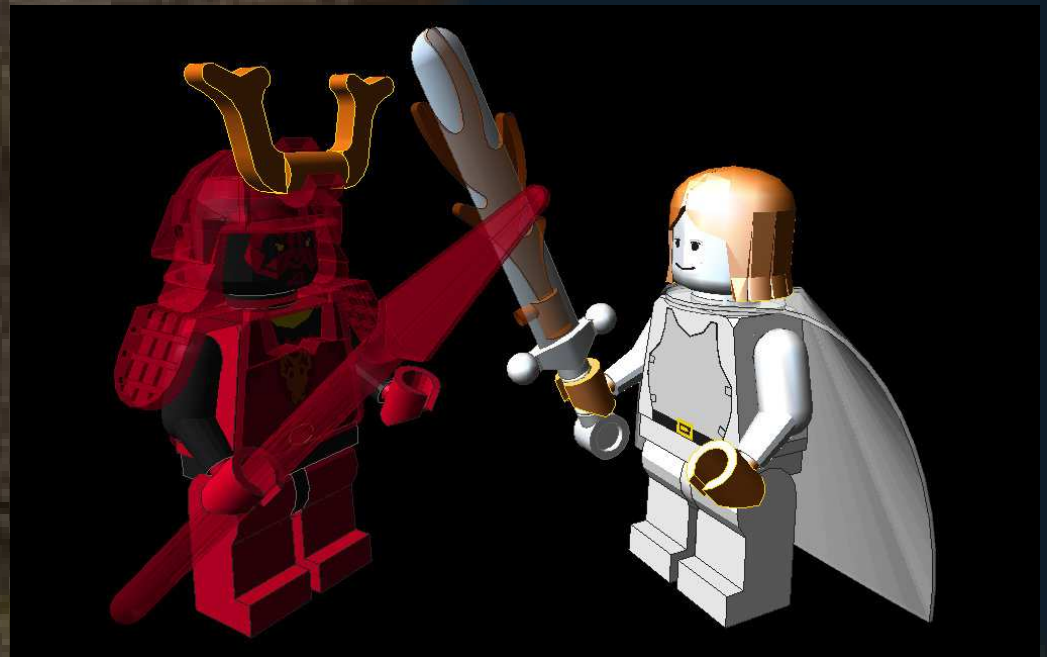
- We're not battling flesh and blood
- Paul distinguishes between
  - That which kills the body
  - Versus that which kills the soul
- We understand in our inhumanity that we can kill the body
- But a deadlier enemy wants to kill the soul

# Battle for Soul

- We are spiritual beings having an early experience
- All of us will have an eternity
- The question becomes where will you spend eternity
  - With God
  - Without God

# The Enemy Kills the Soul

- The battle is against the enemy, not flesh and blood.
- The battle is against
  - Principalities
  - The authorities
  - The rulers
  - Evil spirits





So How Do you Stand?

# You Need the Proper Equipment

- The Proper Equipment will enable you to:
  - Withstand attacks
  - Take a defensive stance
  - Be in a position of readiness
  - Be prepared to defend yourself against whatever comes your way

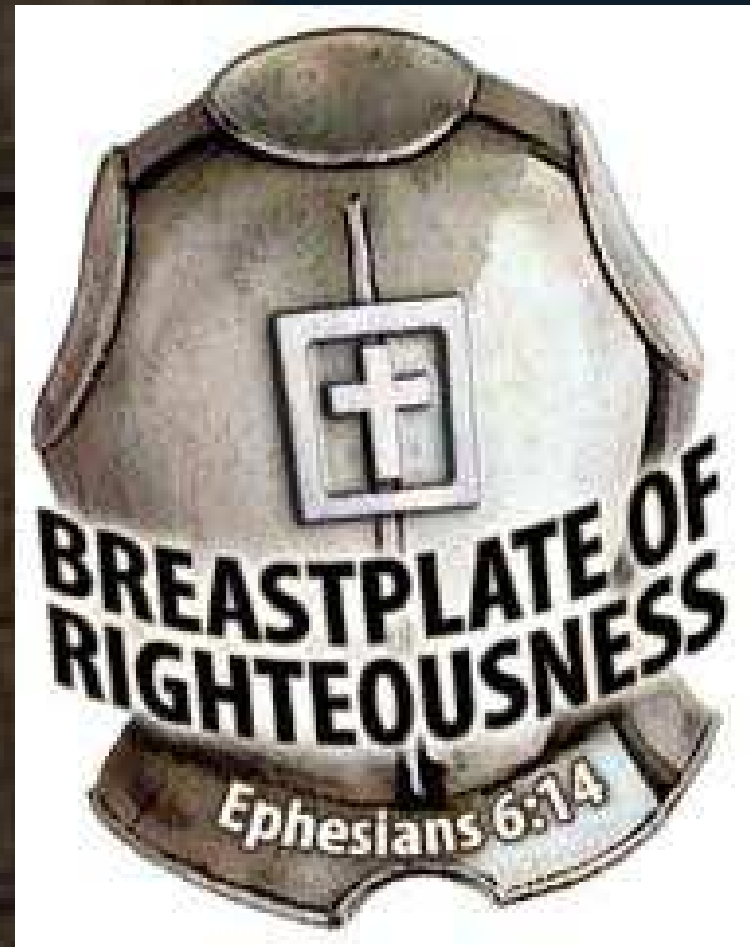
# Belt of Truth

- You need a belt to:
  - Keep you from tripping and falling
  - Prepare you to run
  - To make firm your steps
  - To provide support



# Breastplate of Righteousness

- You need the breastplate to:
  - Cover the vital body parts
  - Keep you from hurt, harm and danger



# Shoes of Peace

- You need the right footwear to:
  - Protect your feet from the rough and hard places in life
  - Provide proper footing
- You need “greaves” – shin guards to:
  - Protect against the obstructions and trials that may oppose us
- The right footwear enables us to bring peace



# Shield of Faith

- We need the shield of faith to:
  - Serve as an overall covering for us
  - Provide the fullest protection against the fiery darts of the enemy



take up  
the shield of faith,  
with which you can extinguish  
all the flaming arrows of the evil one Eph 6:16

# Helmet of Salvation

- We need the helmet of salvation to:
  - Serve as our guiding hope in the battle
  - Remind us as to why we are fighting
  - Protect our head
  - Give us the confidence that we will win



# Defensive Weapons



- Understand that each of these weapons:
  - Belt of Truth
  - Breastplate of Righteousness
  - Shoes of Peace
  - Shield of Faith
  - Helmet of Salvation
- Are defensive weapons

# Offensive Weapon

- The only offensive weapon in our arsenal is the sword
- This is the word of God



# Draw Swords

- Prepare for the battle
- Go on the offensive
- Use the word to cut the enemy's darts down to size



# Put on the Whole Armor of God

- We can handle anything that life throws at us if we just put on the full armor of God
- We are in a battle, but the panoply of weaponry allows us to:
  - Stand
  - Defend ourselves
  - And readies us to wield our swords, speaking the word of God

