

VITAL ARMOR

God's Body Armor

Therefore, put on every piece of God's armor so you will be able to resist the enemy in the time of evil. Then after the battle you will still be standing firm. Stand your ground, putting on the belt of truth and the body armor of God's righteousness. Ephesians 6:13-14 (NLT2)

Armor Review

MY ARMOR

- Covers what I think is necessary
- Creates false security
- Susceptible to armor-piercing

GOD'S ARMOR

- Covers what is necessary
- Creates security
- Stops piercing

Armor Results

MY ARMOR-GOD'S ARMOR



MY DECEPTIVE ARMOR

- My opinion
- My tone
- My words
- My anger
- My manipulation
- My size
- My money
- My health

- My intellect
- My way

1. Righteousness

- Being in proper relationship with God, reality, and truth.
- A position made possible by God's gracious declaration and impartation because of a person's faith

2. Righteousness of God

The extension of God's right position and power to and for someone

Body Armor of God's Righteousness

Supernatural protection of vital areas

- Heart
- Lungs
- Stomach
- Liver
- Kidneys
- Intestines
- Spine

The Fight Against Evil Spirits

- Must know whose side you are on
- Must know the nature of the battle
- Must know who to fight
- Must know how to fight
- Must know when to fight

*How can righteousness be a partner with wickedness? How can light live with darkness?
What harmony can there be between Christ and the devil? 2 Corinthians 6:14-15 (NLT2)*

The Enemy is a Liar

Twisting perceptions of the battle

- From evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world to flesh-and blood enemies
- From spiritual warfare to social disagreements
- From righteousness to rules

Put on God's Armor

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Evidence of God's Armor

- Purposely and powerfully living and going God's way
- Compassionately communicating God's uncompromised message

The Story from Acts 14

Paul and Barnabus go to Iconium and tell the people in the synagogue about Jesus. Many people, both Jewish and non-Jewish, believed, but some of the Jews didn't like the message from God and poisoned the people's minds against them. (Strategy of the devil)

Personal feelings, Paul and Barnabus, are men trying to tell others about a great thing for their own good. When they accept the Lord and join the family of God, the angels in heaven rejoice, Paul and Barnabus rejoice too. The devil wants to take away their joy and crush them.

What do you do when things don't go your way, someone says something that hurts you, what if people don't agree with what you are saying? Yell, fight back, leave, complain, question yourself, take it out on others?

What would it look like with God's armor on?

Some people in Iconium decided to attack and stone Paul and Barnabus, so they left town and went on living God's way and doing what God had sent them to do.

In the town of Lystra, Paul and Barnabus healed a crippled man. The response was not to the Gospel being preached, but to follow the beliefs of their false religion, Zeus and Hermes were worshiped there. These false deities are demons misleading people. The people assumed their gods had come to visit them in human form and were going to make sacrifices to them. Paul and Barnabus decline and point them to the one true God. (Demons at work distracting from God) Jews who didn't like them arrived and got the crowds to turn on Paul and Barnabus eventually, stoning Paul to death and dragging him out of town. (The devil devising a way to kill God's people) He got up and went back into the city. (God's armor)

Paul and Barnabus went on to make disciples in Derbe then went back to Lystra and Iconium to strengthen the believers. (Evidence of God's armor)

Are You Wearing God's Armor?

- What battle have you been fighting, flesh-and-blood, or spiritual?
- What strategies of the devil have you battled?
- How many times, in the last month, have you relied on your own understanding rather than on God's mighty power?
- What kind of spiritual training have you done in the last few weeks?
- How will you now live?