

Evening Lesson

(Continuation of Morning Lesson)

III. THE BATTLE EQUIPMENT AND HOW TO USE IT.

A. A Christian must be knowledgeable and efficient in the use of his equipment.

B. Eph. 6:14-18.

1. The girdle (belt) of truth keeps the Christian armor in place.
2. The breastplate protects the vital organs. Righteousness is gained by doing the will of God. **1 John 3:7**
3. Firm footing is critical. Preparedness is the thought here.
 - a. The paradox -- peace as a part of a fighting man's equipment -- is significant.
 - b. The Christian soldier's foothold needs to be settled, sure, and restful, in proportion to the stress around him.
4. The shield was 4 feet long, 2.5 feet wide, and was made of wood covered with thick leather so that flaming arrows would harmlessly bounce off. Faith is our main defense. **Rom. 10:17**
5. The helmet was made of thick leather or brass fitted to the head. Salvation is what adorns and protects the Christian and enables him to hold his head high with confidence and joy.
6. The sword is used defensively and offensively, and it is given by the Spirit. **John 16:13; 2 Pet. 1:21**
 - a. It is very sharp and should be used carefully. **Heb. 4:12**
 - b. It has the power of not only truth, but divine truth.

CONC:

1. Remember the three essentials of being a good soldier.
 - a. Know the enemy.
 - b. Understand the cause for which we fight.
 - c. Know the equipment and how to use it.
2. God's army is a volunteer force. The choice is mine whether I want to get in it, stay in it, go AWOL, or totally desert my compatriots.