

The Armor of God PART 6

Ephesians 6:16

MAIN TAKEAWAY

There are seven pieces to the armor of God, which means that God has equipped us perfectly for whatever battle we're in. As Christians, we need to learn how to and expect to win that battle. The shield of faith is our daily, active trust in God's character and God's promises. When we trust who God is and what God has said, we can quench and cast down every lie and attack of the enemy.

KEY SCRIPTURES & TAKEAWAYS

Ephesians 6:10-18 KJV Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.¹¹ Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.¹² 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.¹³ 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.¹⁴ Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;¹⁵ And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;¹⁶ Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.¹⁷ And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:¹⁸ Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

- a. We are not in a fight against other people; it's a spiritual battle.
- b. Our shield is made of faith, and faith comes from **hearing** and **applying** the Word of God.
- c. The fiery darts are lies from the devil and faith is our shield against those lies.

Ephesians 6:16 NLT In addition to all of these, hold up the shield of faith to stop the fiery arrows of the devil.

- a. We have to hold up the shield of faith ourselves, God cannot do it for us.
- b. Our faith cannot be in the result or in the circumstances but in the character and promises of God.
- c. The shield of faith is an unshakeable trust in the Lord.

Definition of the Shield of Faith: Our active daily trust in God's character and His promises.

- a. When our trust in God is greater than our fear, anxiety and current circumstances, we take the next step and keep moving forward.

1. God is our shield

- a. **Genesis 15:1 AMPC** After these things, the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, saying, Fear not, Abram, I am your Shield, your abundant compensation, *and* your reward shall be exceedingly great.
- b. **Psalm 3:3 KJV** But thou, O Lord, art a shield for me; my glory, and the lifter up of mine head.
- c. **Psalm 5:11-12 AMPC** But let all those who take refuge *and* put their trust in You rejoice; let them ever sing *and* shout for joy, because You make a covering over them *and* defend them; let those also who love Your name be joyful in You *and* be in high spirits. For You, Lord, will bless the [uncompromisingly] righteous [him who is upright and in right standing with You]; as with a shield You will surround him with goodwill (pleasure and favor).

2. The promises of God is our shield

- a. **Psalm 91:1-4 KJV** He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust. ³ Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence. ⁴ He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler. ⁵ Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day;
- b. **Psalm 119:114 KJV** Thou art my hiding place and my shield: I hope in thy word.

How do I put it on daily:

1. Be intentional: we can't be passive, but in training daily. Our decision to trust God will change the trajectory of our lives and generations to come. Do it on purpose, make God, His Word, prayer and church a priority.
2. Soak yourself in the promises of God: as the soldiers would soak their shields in water before they went to battle, we are to soak ourselves in the Word.

- a. **Ephesians 5:26 KJV** That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,
- 3. Stay full of the Holy Spirit.
 - a. **Ephesians 5:18 KJV** And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit;
- 4. Daily faith declarations: God is waiting on us to make the daily declarations of who He is and what He said and when we do He will deliver us.
 - a. **Psalms 91:2 KJV** I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.
 - b. **Psalms 91:3 KJV** Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence.
- 5. Remember His faithfulness
 - a. **Psalms 37:3 AMPC** Trust (lean on, rely on, and be confident) in the Lord and do good; so shall you dwell in the land and feed surely on His faithfulness, *and* truly you shall be fed.

Acrostic of TRUST

T – Truthful in every promise.

R – Reliable in every storm.

U – Unwavering in character

S – Steadfast when others fail me.

T – Trustworthy, our foundation for a fulfilled life.

REFLECT & REVISIT

This week go back and read **Ephesians 6:16** and reflect on what it means to take up the shield of faith. Be intentional about spending time in God's Word each day, soaking your heart and mind in His promises, filled by the Holy Spirit every day, speaking faith-filled declarations, and remembering God's faithfulness in your life. As you actively trust God's character and His promises, you'll be holding up your shield of faith and extinguishing every fiery dart of fear, doubt, and discouragement that comes your way.