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# POWERFUL ARMOR OF GOD

## The Breastplate of Righteousness

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[ TITLE SLIDE: ]

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[ Ephesians 6.10-14 NIV ]

*Finally, be **strong in the Lord** and in his mighty power. 11 Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. 12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. 13 Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place,*

FIRST: Start with the **TRUTH** [ Belt of Truth ]

- Find out what God thinks or says concerning a matter
  - Don't go to Others....
  - Don't go to Holly Wood....
  - Don't go to Social Media.....
  - Don't Make it Up.... **GO TO GOD!**

SECOND: Put on the **BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS**

- **Righteousness =**

*The Standard that God requires for people to be acceptable to Him*

- Opposite is "WRONGNESS".... opposition to the Truth
  - Those who operate in WRONGNESS invite demons in their lives...
    - Because demons function on WRONGNESS
-

JIM KENNEDY anonymous survey:

**“Why don’t Christians tell others about their faith?”**

- He thought he get these answers:

1. *I don’t witness because I’m afraid*
2. *Don’t feel like I’m equipped never been taught how*
3. *Don’t personally know people who are unsaved to share with*

.....Didn’t make top 5

- First Reason and **Overwhelming** reason:

**#1 I don’t witness because OF THE LIFE I LIVE...**

.....This is at the center for why we need Breastplate of Righteousness

I have some GREAT News...!!

**WHEN WE BECOME CHRISTIANS...**

**IMMEDIATELY WE ARE GIVEN THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF CHRIST**



[ 1 Corinthians 1.30 ]

*It is because of Him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become **for us** wisdom from God—that is, our **righteousness**, holiness and redemption.*

*NLT - God has united you with Christ Jesus. For our benefit God made (Jesus) to be wisdom itself. Christ made us right with God; He made us pure and holy, and He freed us from sin.*

**2 Major things happen when Jesus went to Cross**

.....Greatest transaction made in History

## #1 He took ALL OUR sins on Himself

- Bible says, Jesus became sin for us!!

## #2 He Gave us HIS Righteousness

- We are made RIGHT with God!!

.....What a TREMENDOUS GIFT!!!

Don't STOP at the Cross.....



[ 2 Corinthians 5.21 AMP ]

*He made Christ who knew no sin to [judicially] be sin on our behalf, so that in Him we would become the righteousness of God [that is, we would be made acceptable to Him and placed in a right relationship with Him by His gracious lovingkindness].*

That is why Paul said.... [ Philippians 3.9 ]

*that I may... be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith.*

This is called "**POSITIONAL RIGHTEOUSNESS**"

- God always SEES me, through what Jesus did on the Cross
- God knows that my sins are forgiven by Jesus' death
- Jesus' Righteousness ... has been transferred to my life



**THIS IS THE FIRST LEVEL OF PROTECTION of the BREASTPLATE!!**

## When you Trust Jesus and Surrender your life to Him.... You are Not only made Right with God....

- You become a “New Creation” [ 2 Corinthians 5.17 AMP ]

Therefore if anyone is in Christ [that is, grafted in, joined to Him by faith in Him as Savior], he is a new creature [reborn and renewed by the Holy Spirit]; the old things [the previous moral and spiritual condition] have passed away. Behold, new things have come [because spiritual awakening brings a new life].

- Your **SPIRIT is SAVED!!!**

### When you accepted Jesus... only 1/3 of you got saved Immediately

- You have three parts.... Spirit / Soul / Body
- Your **SPIRIT** is 100% SAVED....
- AND..You will receive **Saved Body** when Jesus returns

**BUT.... your SOUL is NOT SAVED.....**  
**It is in process of becoming save**

### That's why.....

- You can be saved and have **bad personality / addictions / depressed**
- You can be saved and be a Under-Comer NOT an Over-Comer
  - God WANTS you to be MORE than a Conquerer
  - It all starts saving your SOUL....

This process is called.....



### **SANCTIFICATION:**

Becoming in PRACTICE what you already ARE in POSITION

- God wants us to LIVE in light of what we already are
- Many Christians want **POSITIONAL ARMOR.....**  
but DON'T want the **PRACTICAL ARMOR**

## Remember, we are Talking SPIRITUAL WARFARE...

- God's Victory and Provisions Operate in "Righteousness"
- Demons (enemy) and their influence in our lives Flow in "Wrongness"

When we continue to operate in WRONGNESS (sin)....

- Invite demonic flow..... and
- Block the move of God

**UNRIGHTEOUSNESS** gives satan a legal right to mess with our lives....

- **Unrighteousness** is satan's nature
- We invite him in our lives when we live a life contrary to the Truth....

## Your body does what your soul tells it to do...

- No SOUL... the body dies

## Job of the Spirit is to release Righteous life into the soul

- Then Soul releases life into the Body
  - The Body will begin to live righteous...
  - Because the Soul has become righteous...
  - Because the Spirit delivered righteousness into it SOUL

When you have the breastplate of righteousness...

You have a **delivery system from the INSIDE-OUT**... NOT the outside in

## Religion tries to change you from the Outside - In

- *Come to Church more*
- *Give more / Serve more*
- *Jump up and down*
- *Do this... Do that...* TIRED CHRISTIAN
- Trying to DO MORE for Jesus

Religion tries to **Manage sin!**

## Religion can only help Manage Sin... but it cannot stop it

- Tell someone to Stop doing something is right thing to do



But you haven't stopped the propensity or desire to do it.....  
because we haven't gotten to the heart of the matter.

- PAUL says Religion is NOT the way...

If you want authentic lasting change.....

It must happen from HEART or the BREASTPLATE of righteousness

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## HOW DOES THIS WORK??



[ Ephesians 4.20-124 NLT ]

*But that isn't what you learned about Christ. 21 Since you have heard about Jesus and have learned the truth that comes from him, 22 throw off your old sinful nature and your former way of life, which is*

corrupted by lust and deception. 23 Instead, let the Spirit *renew* your thoughts and attitudes. 24 Put on your *new nature*, created to be like God—truly righteous and holy.

**You START with the TRUTH.....** What God says about a matter (...Bible)

- Your job is to **GO BACK TO THE TRUTH... and RECITE IT!!**  
.....**ONLY** the TRUTH will set you free!

- When you Rehearse the TRUTH..... over & over & over & over  
..... Not just hear it PREACHED.... rehearse it

**Remember... Righteousness has been DEPOSITED into our SPIRIT**

**Your job is to get the TRUTH into your Spirit... to release RIGHTEOUSNESS**

- When we take the **TRUTH**.... OVER & OVER & OVER...
  - You **MEMORIZE** it
  - **THINK** about it
  - **MEDITATE** on it
  - **SING** about it
  - LET Truth penetrate your Spirit....  
(Why we are to teach and Impress TRUTH on Children)

EXAMPLES:

- **Many here today will take this TRUTH and let it HIT YOUR BODY... ears**
  - Stop right there
  - Forget it before parking lot.... no value to you!
  - (devil stealing the seed)

**- Some will allow it to reach the SOUL**

- You'll think about it
- Listen again on line...
- Get's down to SOUL LEVEL
- \*\* Problem - Soul is **Contaminated** and may fight against TRUTH

**- You've GOT to PLANT IT DEEP DEEP DEEP!!!**

- Like Jacob wrestled with Angel.... *"Won't let you go!!"*
- Pray and ask H.S. to Transform us
- Soul is now being TRANSFORMED..!!
- Because the Spirit RELEASED RIGHTEOUSNESS into the Soul

**Then your RENEWED Soul tells the Body...**

- You gotta WALK Different, TALK, THINK, ACT
- I'm your boss.... I'm telling you what to do  
.....You wind up being **TRANSFORMED!!!**

**Unless your SPIRIT dictates TRUTH to your SOUL**

and your SOUL dictates to your BODY....

**all you can do is MANAGE unrighteousness.....**

- You can't be Transformed
- We're NOT trying to manage our "badness" better



## YOU WANT THE DEVIL'S UNRIGHTEOUSNESS OUT OF YOUR THOUGHTS???

[ James 4.7 ]

*Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.*

CLOSING.....

## We don't know what we look like without a MIRROR

- Bible says God's word is a mirror... **reflecting what we look like**
  - You may think you're a pretty little Saint.....
  - Godly little Christian....
  - But if you look in the Mirror it may say you are UGLY
  
- Look at your HEART / Things you THINK / WANT / DO

**Does your life reflect TRUTH or the WORLD???**

So

- You Accept the Truth
- Believe it is God's Standard
- and you **DRIVE TRUTH IN**....

\*Fastest way get over addiction is **NOT** saying “I’m not going to do it anymore”

- It’s good thing to say... but you don’t have the power to do what you said
- Only power to MANAGE it
- DON’T **ONLY** MANAGE IT....

- **Drive the Truth Down to Spirit level**

- DRIVE IT / DRIVE IT / DRIVE IT
- God opens Release valve... releasing Righteousness
- So you’re righteous from the heart
- GOD’S RIGHTEOUSNESS IS DOWN THERE...
- We have to force it out with the TRUTH!!!

[ Romans 12.1-2 NIV ]

*Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. 2 Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.*

LET’S RESPOND TO HOLY SPIRIT