

## The Armor of God: *The Body Armor of Righteousness*

**Stand your ground...and put on the body armor of God (Eph. 6:14).**

### The Body Armor of Righteousness

- Body Armor (Breastplate) protects the most vital organs of a soldier. It deflects attacks that could either instantly kill or render the warrior unable to fight.

**Proverbs 4:23** Guard your heart above all else, for it determines the course of your life.

### His Righteousness

- His Armor

**Philippians 3:7-9** (The Message)

The very credentials these people are waving around as something special, I'm tearing up and throwing out with the trash—along with everything else I used to take credit for. And why? Because of Christ. All the things I once thought were so important are gone from my life. Compared to the high privilege of knowing Christ Jesus as my Master, firsthand, everything I once thought I had going for me is insignificant—dog dung. I've dumped it all in the trash so that I could embrace Christ and be embraced by him. I didn't want some petty, inferior brand of righteousness that comes from keeping a list of rules when I could get the robust kind that comes from trusting Christ—*God's* righteousness.

- Our essential protection comes from the strength of Jesus and faith in what He did and is doing in you.

**2 Samuel 22:2-4**

The Lord is **my rock, my fortress**, and my savior;  
<sup>3</sup> my God is my rock, **in whom I find protection**.  
He is **my shield**, the power that saves me,  
and **my place of safety**.  
He is **my refuge**, my savior,  
the one who saves me from violence.  
<sup>4</sup> I called on the Lord, who is worthy of praise,  
and **he saved me from my enemies**.



**2 Cor. 4:8-9**

We are hard pressed on every side...but not crushed.  
We don't always know what to do...but He does, so we're not afraid...  
We are hunted down...but God stays by our side...  
We might get knocked to the ground, but we get right back up...  
**We suffer, yes...but the enemy just can't destroy us...**

**So, we never give up!**

## Righteous Living

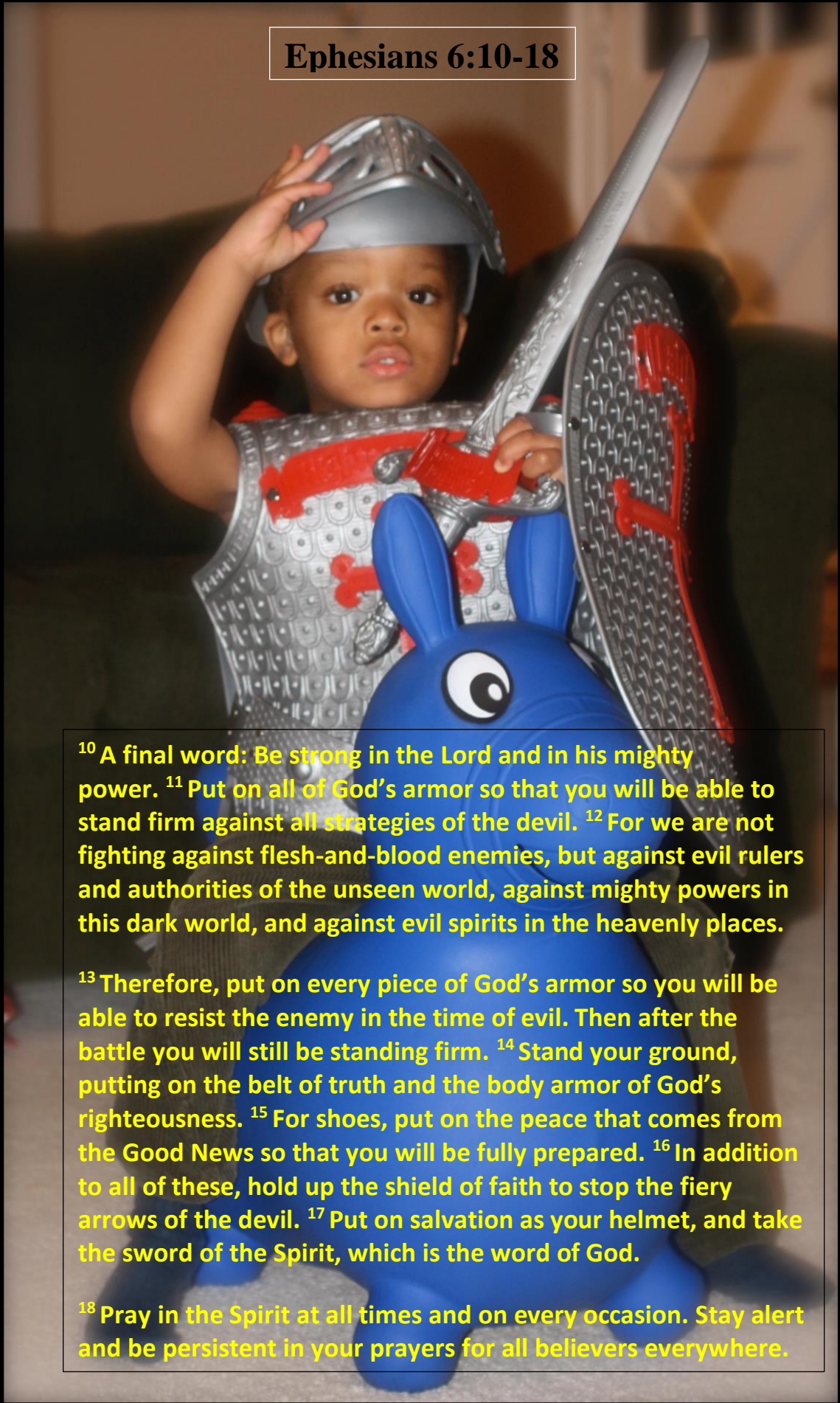
**Proverbs 4:6** Don't turn your back on wisdom, for she will **protect you**. Love her, and she will **guard you**.

**Proverbs 3:1-12** (The Message)

My child, never forget all I've taught you; take to heart my commands. **They'll help you live a long, long time, a long life lived full and well...** Trust God from the bottom of your heart; don't try to figure out everything on your own. Listen for God's voice in everything you do, everywhere you go; **he's the one who will keep you on track...** Run to God! Run from evil! **Your body will glow with health, your very bones will vibrate with life!** Honor God with everything you own; give him the first and the best. **Your barns will burst, your wine vats will brim over...** It's the child he loves that God corrects; a father's delight is behind all this.

- Where I learned that God will protect you and fight for you...

## Ephesians 6:10-18



<sup>10</sup> A final word: Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. <sup>11</sup> Put on all of God's armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil. <sup>12</sup> For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places.

<sup>13</sup> 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. <sup>14</sup> Stand your ground, putting on the belt of truth and the body armor of God's righteousness. <sup>15</sup> For shoes, put on the peace that comes from the Good News so that you will be fully prepared. <sup>16</sup> In addition to all of these, hold up the shield of faith to stop the fiery arrows of the devil. <sup>17</sup> Put on salvation as your helmet, and take the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

<sup>18</sup> Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere.