

# The Armor of God:

(41) Living a Life Worthy of Your Calling  
A Study in Ephesians

## The Helmet of Salvation

Put on salvation as your helmet (Eph. 6:17)

### 1 Thess. 5:6-11

<sup>6</sup> So **be on your guard**, not asleep like the others. **Stay alert and be clearheaded**. <sup>7</sup> Night is the time when people sleep, and drinkers get drunk. <sup>8</sup> But **let us who live in the light be clearheaded**, protected by the armor of faith and love, and **wearing as our helmet the confidence of our salvation**. <sup>9</sup> **For God chose to save us through our Lord Jesus Christ, not to pour out his anger on us**. <sup>10</sup> Christ died for us so that, whether we are dead or alive when he returns, we can live with him forever. <sup>11</sup> **So encourage each other and build each other up, just as you are already doing**.

- “Stay Alert and be Clearheaded”
- “Confidence of Our Salvation”
- “Not to pour out His anger on us”

## Head Games and Propaganda in War

Propaganda in wartime must seek to demoralize enemy morale. A **primary objective of propaganda aimed at enemy nations is to break down their will to fight**. It seeks to lower the enemy’s will to resist and it does it in several ways. **One is to picture the military successes on the propagandist’s side**. Another is to **picture the armed might and economic power of the enemy that one must face**. Yet another is to **picture the moral superiority of the cause against which the enemy is fighting**. It is part of a nation’s strategic plan to **intimidate** enemy leaders, to **separate** them from their people, and to break down resistance by producing evidence that the mass of the enemy people has been deceived and misled.

American Historical Association: “War Propaganda”

- “Break Down Your Will to Fight”
- “Intimidate” You
- “Separate” You

## FEAR & DEFEATISM

*“England is ripe for invasion. ... You might as well expect help from an army of mastodons as from the United States. ... You are on a doomed ship. ... Whether or not the people of Britain want to see their fields turned into graveyards and their cities into tombs is a matter for themselves and Mr. Churchill. Perhaps if the British people could speak, they would ask for peace. But since the official voice of England asks not for peace but for destruction, it is destruction we must provide.”* (July 1940 Berlin Broadcaster Lord Haw-Haw – broadcast picked up in London)

## COMFORT & FULFILLMENT

It is the autumn of 1941. The United States is still neutral, but an American Army is in training, a Navy is being strengthened, and Lend-Lease supplies are crossing the Atlantic. An American sits at home tinkering with his short-wave set and he picks up an English-language broadcast beamed to North America from Germany. *“The German government and the German people have only the friendliest of feelings for the United States, the home of so many American citizens of German descent. Let it be said for once and all,” that a German victory in this war is no threat to English democracy—and certainly not to American democracy.*” (October 1941)

## Seeds of Doubt

- Doubting God's Character, Motives, and Intentions
- Doubting Your Standing/Relationship with God
- Doubting Your Ability to Survive and Make it (Stand Firm)

### 1. Soldier Scripture & Warring Passages

- Jesus & Satan's Propaganda (Matthew 4:1-11)

<sup>3</sup> And the tempter came and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread." <sup>4</sup> But He answered and said, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes out of the mouth of God.'"

"If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down; for it is written: 'He will give His angels orders concerning You'; and 'On their hands they will lift You up, So that You do not strike Your foot against a stone.'" <sup>7</sup> Jesus said to him, "On the other hand, it is written: 'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

Again, the devil \*took Him along to a very high mountain and \*showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory; <sup>9</sup> and he said to Him, "All these things I will give You, if You fall down and <sup>(c)</sup>worship me." <sup>10</sup> Then Jesus \*said to him, "Go away, Satan! For it is written: 'You shall worship the Lord your God, and serve Him only.'"

- The Word of the Lord ("It is written...")
- The Promises of God
- "Set Your Mind on the thing of the Spirit"

Isaiah 26:3 "You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you"

Hebrews 12:1-2

Let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up...We do this by keeping our eyes on Jesus, the champion who initiates and perfects our faith.

Challenge: [Assemble Your 5 Top Warring Passages](#) (Next Week)

### 2. "Encourage & Build One Another Up As You Are Already Doing"

Hebrews 10:24-25

Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. <sup>25</sup> And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.