

The Armor of God

A final word: Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on all of God's armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil.

Ephesians 6:10-11

Summary of Spiritual Warfare:

- Spiritual warfare must be understood in the context of God's purpose.
- God's purpose is that we should "glorify Him" in our lives which simply means that I live in such a way that people can see who God is through my life
- Our enemies are intent on hiding or distorting the picture of God displayed in our lives
- The Evil Trifecta: The Devil, the World, and Our Flesh, all collaborating to defeat us.
- The Devil: Opposer, Deceiver, Tempter, and Hinderer
- The World: Cravings, Distractions, Wrestling
- The Flesh: Focusing on Myself
- The Enemies Most Effective Tactics

1 Samuel 17:1-58 What David's Fight with Goliath Teaches About the Armor of God

The Armor of God is Not About Your Strength But Your Faith in His

- **The Fight is Almost Always Bigger – Too Big For You**

1 Samuel 17:4-8

Then Goliath, a Philistine champion from Gath, came out of the Philistine ranks to face the forces of pounds. ⁶ He also wore bronze leg armor, and he carried a bronze javelin on his shoulder. ⁷ The shaft of his spear was as heavy and thick as a weaver's beam, tipped with an iron spearhead that weighed 15 pounds. His armor bearer walked ahead of him carrying a shield. ⁸ Goliath stood and shouted taunts to the Israelites.

- **David's Choice of Armor Foreshadows Your Choice**

1 Samuel 17:32-40

"Master," said David, "don't give up hope. I'm ready to go and fight this Philistine." ³³ Saul answered David, "You can't go and fight this Philistine. You're too young and inexperienced—and he's been at this fighting business since before you were born." ³⁴⁻³⁷ David said, "I've been a shepherd, tending sheep for my father. Whenever a lion or bear came and took a lamb from the flock, I'd go after it, knock it down, and rescue the lamb. If it turned on me, I'd grab it by the throat, wring its neck, and kill it. Lion or bear, it made no difference—I killed it. And I'll do the same to this Philistine pig who is taunting the troops of God-Alive. God, who delivered me from the teeth of the lion and the claws of the bear, will deliver me from this Philistine." Saul said, "Go. And God help you!" ³⁸⁻³⁹ Then Saul outfitted David as a soldier in armor. He put his bronze helmet on his head and belted his sword on him over the armor. David tried to walk but he could hardly budge. David told Saul, "**I can't even move with all this stuff on me. I'm not used to this.**" **And he took it all off.** ⁴⁰ Then David took his shepherd's staff, selected five smooth stones from the brook, and put them in the pocket of his shepherd's pack, and with his sling in his hand approached Goliath.

- Our ways, solutions, defenses – paint us into a corner, complicate the problem, create more

- **“The Battle Belongs to the Lord”**

1 Samuel 17:43-47

Goliath cursed David by the name of his god. “Come over here, and I’ll give your flesh to the birds and wild animals!” he yelled. David replied to the Philistine, “You come to me with sword, spear, and javelin, but I come to you in the name of the Lord of Heaven’s Armies—the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. Today the Lord will conquer you, and I will kill you and cut off your head. And then I will give the dead bodies of your men to the birds and wild animals, and the whole world will know that there is a God in Israel! And everyone assembled here will know that the Lord rescues his people, but not with sword and spear. The battle belongs to the Lord, and he will give you to us!”

- **So Many Battles Israel Does Not Even Lift a Finger:**

- Moses at the Red Sea (Exodus 14:13-14)

“Don’t be afraid. Stand firm and watch God do his work of salvation for you today. Take a good look at the Egyptians today for you’re never going to see them again. God will fight the battle for you.

- Joshua at Jericho (Joshua 5 & 6)
- Jehoshaphat (2 Chronicles 20)
- Elisha (2 Kings 6)

- There are times He has you fight, but most of the time He calls you simply to stand and watch our King & Captain defeat the devil, overcome the world, and put an end to self and death.

Ephesians 6:13-18

- Belt of Truth
- Body Armor of Righteousness
- Shoes of Peace & Good News
- Shield of Faith
- Helmet of Salvation
- Sword of the Spirit
- Air Cover of Prayer