

# Sermon Notes

"Suit Up!"

Ephesians 6:14-17

April 21, 2024

If it is a loose paraphrase in some cases (or if he changes what the piece represents [cf. 1 Thess 5:8]), how does that impact the certainty we can have of our interpretation of how each armor piece correlates to the non-material reality that it represents?

How do these OT references impact your understanding of the phrase "armor of God"?

3. The phrase "having fastened on the belt of truth" (ESV) is literally "having girded your loins with truth" (NASB). What do you think that means? How would you obey that command?
4. Why is this piece of preparation important in resisting evil?
5. Explain what you think it means to put on righteousness as a breastplate.
6. Why are you vulnerable to attack if you are not "wearing" true righteousness?

**Let's Pray**

# Growth Group Homework

For the week of 04-21-2024

Adapted from Karen Hinkley, ed., Life Change Series: Ephesians, NavPress, Colorado Springs, CO, 1985, pp. 108-109; Keri Folmar, Grace: A Bible Study on Ephesians for Women, Cruciform Press, Minneapolis, MN, 2015, pp. 140-144; James Galvin, ed., et al., New Testament Lesson Maker, NavPress, Colorado Springs, CO, 1992, pp. 272-3; Lyman Coleman, et.al., eds., Serendipity New Testament for Groups, Serendipity House, Littleton, CO, 1986, p. 371.

## Getting Started:

1. If you play a sport in which you wear gear, what's the purpose of each piece?

## Digging Deeper:

Read Ephesians 6:10-20.

2. Paul refers to the "whole armor of God." In the OT, God is credited with wearing or providing these same elements. Write out the verse associated with each piece of armor and determine whether God wore it himself or provided it for another.

Belt of Truth – Isaiah 11:5

Breastplate of Righteousness – Isaiah 59:17

Feet shod with Readiness of the Gospel – Isaiah 52:7

Shield of Faith – Psalm 5:12

Helmet of Salvation – Isaiah 59:17

Sword of the Spirit, Word of God – Isaiah 49:2

What are we to make of this? How exact is Paul's usage of these OT passages? Are these quotes, allusions, or paraphrases of these OT texts? Do you think he has these in mind at all? Why or why not?