

Brookland Baptist Church
Spiritual Warfare
Pastor Charles B. Jackson, Sr., Presenter

The Armor of God

Defensive Armor #1 – Truth (Verse 14)

- “. . . having your loins girt about with truth. . .” (KJV)
- “Have truth for a belt tight around your waist” (TEV)
- “Stand your ground with truth buckled around your waist” (The Jerusalem Bible)
- “You will need the strong belt of truth” (LBP)

When believers are engaged in spiritual warfare and are fighting the “**good**” fight, every child of God needs to feed the spirit. The spirit is at war with the flesh. The spirit is on our right side, and the flesh is on our left side. The one you feed the most will become the stronger and more dominant and will, therefore, win the battle.

How do we feed the spirit?

1. **Worship** – Christianity is a religion of faith. II Corinthians 5:7; Hebrews 11:6 - We gain faith by hearing the Word of God. Romans 10:17; Romans 10:14 - One must worship God in His Holy Sanctuary to hear the Word of God proclaimed by God’s preacher. Psalm 111:1; Hebrews 10:25; Psalm 73:16,17 - . . . “went into the sanctuary.”
2. **Read and Study the Bible (God’s Word)** – Psalm 119:105; Psalm 119:133; II Timothy 2:15
3. **Prayer Service** – Being in the company of sincere believers in prayer and testimony.
4. **Home and Family Devotions** – Seven minutes at the beginning of the day and/or seven minutes at the end of the day. Read some devotional literature and pray to God in the morning as you give Him His day, and at the end of the day, thank Him for giving you the day’s blessings.

As we feed the Spirit, we become “strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might.” (Ephesians 6:10). We are now ready to dress up in “the whole Armor of God” (Ephesians 6:11).

Truth – The Belt of Truth

The belt of truth was the primary piece of armor the Roman Soldiers would put on. Other items were attached to the belt. The belt served a dual function; it protected the lower abdominal area and held the other pieces of the body armor in place.

Paul talks about the girdle of truth before he talks about anything else. A person cannot stand in the midst of spiritual warfare and win unless you are honest with yourself. Righteousness, peace, faith, salvation, the Spirit, and prayer will mean nothing if you are lying to yourself. You cannot be saved until you come clean and honest with yourself. “To thine own self be true.”

- John 8:31, 32

Be real: Truth! Truth! – You can't win a spiritual war being phony and fake and fraudulent. It's one thing to lie to me or lie to someone else, but when you lie to yourself - - - you LOSE. God requires truth.

If your loins are girded about with "**truth,**" whenever something is wrong with your relationship, the first place you are to begin is looking at SELF. Too many of us suffer from the "**Adam Complex**" . . . the woman (Eve) you gave me, made me do it" (Genesis 3:12). We are quick to blame the other person and not take responsibility for our own actions.

Truth is when we **DO NOT** blame other folk for our failures and mistakes. Truth is when we **DO NOT** blame other folk for our bad decisions and wrong choices.

God gives us the freedom of choice. (Genesis 2:16, 17; Genesis 3:2, 3) You can choose right to your credit or wrong to your discredit.

When we think everybody is out to "**get us**" the devil is wreaking havoc on our minds. We can **ALWAYS** make excuses for whatever we don't want or don't want to do.

Too often we lie on God; lie on the Holy Spirit. How many times have we heard someone tell us "**The Lord told me to tell you.**"

One of the ugliest lies we tell is "**God is the head of my life,**" and we don't even tithes.

If you are not true and honest, everything else about your life will be like loose, hanging garments. It will get in your way, hinder and prevent you from becoming the person God has "**purposed**" you to become. God is looking for honesty of heart and purity of motives. Be **real**; be **sincere**; be **honest**; be **true**.

For you to know truth, get closer to Jesus. Jesus Christ is **TRUTH**. John 14:6, "I am the Way, the **TRUTH**" and the Life." Spend more time in prayer. Get down on your knees and ask God to turn heaven's spotlight on "**me.**" Isaiah 6:5; "Woe is **ME!**"

February 14th, 2024

12 Noon Bible Study	\$	373.35
6 PM Evening		+ 216.00
	\$	<u>589.35</u>