

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

Defensive Armor #2 – “Breastplate of Righteousness”

- “Put on righteousness for your **breastplate**” - TEV
- “With the **breastplate** of righteousness in place” – NIV
- “And integrity for a **breastplate**” – Jerusalem Bible
- “And the **breastplate** of God’s approval” – LBP

There is a message in II Timothy 3:1 and Genesis 2:23-24.

- **Genesis 2:23-24:** First Days . . . **Paradise**
- **II Timothy 3:1:** Last Days . . . **Perilous Times**

In the “**last**” days, satan has come against the “**first**” days. He is destroying the first of God’s creative order of human intelligence . . . the **FAMILY!**

- **II Timothy 3:2-5**
 - It is satan who instigates all wickedness among family members.
 - It is satan who develops all evil among family structures.
 - It is satan who creates all the chaos that occurs within the home.
 - It is satan who designs all the rebellion between brothers and sisters.
 - It is satan who propagates all corruption within family circles.
 - It is satan who motivates all immorality that causes the family to fall apart.

It is satan! The question that we must answer is . . . “**Is the devil (satan) a liar?**”

In spiritual warfare, the believer has to protect his heart. Proverbs 4:23 – According to the Hebrews, the heart was the center of your being. They regarded the heart as the essence of who a person was, located deep down on the inside of who you really are. Not what you want people to think you are, but the heart has to do with the essence of your personality.

Matthew 22:37, Mark 12:30 and Luke 10:27 all say, “**Love the Lord thy God with ALL thy heart.**”

The heart must be protected so our decision-making will be sound, spiritual, just, and good. Good decisions, right decisions, Godly decisions, and wise decisions all come from a good heart. Bad decisions, wrong decisions, ungodly decisions, and foolish decisions all come from a bad heart.

How do we protect the heart?

We protect the heart with the breastplate of righteousness. Righteousness originates in God. We don't protect our hearts with our goodness. There is none good.

- **Psalm 53:1-3**
- **Romans 3:10**

We are made righteous ONLY through the blood of Jesus Christ.

Righteousness comes from the Greek word "dikaiosune" which means to set right. There is nothing about who we are that can set us right with God.

- **Isaiah 64:6**

We cannot win in our righteousness. Our righteousness must come from God in Christ Jesus. We are made righteous through the blood of Jesus.

When we put on the breastplate of righteousness, God looks upon our hearts and sees that we are not what we ought to be, and not what we used to be, and therefore not what we shall be.

So, God protects the heart from Satan's attacks through the covering of the blood of Jesus. God says in Exodus 12:13, "**When I see the blood, the enemy will not harm you.**" The breastplate of righteousness is simply the blood of Jesus. When the devil looks at our hearts, he sees the blood of Jesus. It is the breastplate of righteousness.

When the devil launches his attack, you can plea the blood of Jesus.

When your heart is protected and you have acknowledged truth; you can plea the blood of Jesus.

There is power in the blood ---- wonder-working power in the blood!

February 21st, 2024

12 Noon Bible Study	\$	120.00
6 PM Evening		+ 341.85
	\$	<u>461.85</u>