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Spiritual Weapons to Defeat the Enemy: Overcoming the Wiles, Devices, and Deception of the Devil

5. Put On the Whole Armor!

Paul tells the Ephesians to 'put on the whole armour of God' (Ephesians 6:11). This chapter walks through each piece of a Roman soldier's full battle dress and explains what each stands for spiritually. The point: God has given believers a complete set of weapons to stand against the devil, and we are commanded to wear all of it.

Key takeaways

- 'Whole armor' translates the Greek panoplia — a soldier dressed head to toe. Paul, often jailed near Roman guards, knew this picture well.
- There are seven pieces, including a lance that isn't named directly but must be present since Paul says 'whole' armor.
- Loinbelt of truth = the written Word of God. It's the one visible weapon and it holds all the others in place. Neglect the Word and your spiritual life falls apart.
- Breastplate of righteousness: knowing God has made you righteous stops the enemy's arrows of condemnation. Stand tall and confident.

- Shoes of peace (spiked 'killer shoes'): peace both protects you and lets you plant your feet and crush the enemy's schemes — it keeps you unmoved.
- Shield of faith quenches fiery darts, but like the soldier's leather shield it must be oiled daily — faith needs a fresh anointing of the Spirit or it cracks.
- Helmet of salvation guards the mind, the enemy's main target. Knowing all salvation includes makes your thoughts unassailable.
- Sword of the Spirit is the rhema — a quickened, spoken word the Spirit drops into you; it grows from time in the written Word (logos).
- Lance of prayer and supplication (Ephesians 6:18): prayer thrust into the spirit realm. Without prayer, defeat is certain.
- 'Put on' (Greek enduo) means dressing in new clothes, and it's a command, not a suggestion. The armor is 'of God' — it works only through unbroken fellowship with Him, not by pretending to suit up each morning.
- Don't major on one or two pieces. God gave the WHOLE armor; wear all of it.

Passages worth keeping

“When you ignore the Word of God and cease to apply it to your life on a daily basis, you have willfully chosen to let your entire spiritual life come apart at the seams.”

Sums up why the loincloth of truth (the Word) is the central, load-bearing piece.

“*The armor of God is ours by virtue of our relationship with God!*”

The chapter's key correction — the armor comes through fellowship with God, not a ritual of pretending to put it on.

How it connects

The whole chapter hangs on one idea: victory over Satan is already won at the Cross, and the armor is how you reinforce that victory day to day. Every piece traces back to staying close to God and full of His Word.

Scripture referenced

- **Ephesians 6:11** -- The command to put on the whole armor to stand against the devil
- **Ephesians 6:14-15** -- Breastplate of righteousness and shoes of the gospel of peace
- **Ephesians 6:17-18** -- Helmet of salvation, sword of the Spirit, and prayer (the lance)
- **Romans 16:20** -- God of peace bruising Satan under your feet — peace as an offensive weapon
- **2 Corinthians 10:5** -- Casting down imaginations — the shield of faith at work
- **Luke 24:49** -- Same word enduo ('endued/clothed with power') showing 'put on' means being clothed