Standing Strong - Part III
Ephesians 6:16-24

I The Believer's Existing Armor
*Put on (endysasthe) = "________ been clothed in"
A. The belt of truth
B. The breastplate of righteousness
C. The footwear of peace

II The Believer's Available Armor
*Put on (elabete) = "______ up, assume"
A. The shield of _______ - Gen 15:1
B. The helmet of _____________
C. The sword of the Spirit
D. Two additional protections against Satan's schemes
   1. An attitude of ____________
      *Be alert = "To be ________, to keep awake, to watch"
      a. The mark of being alert - 1 Pet 5:8; 4:7; 1 Thess 5:6
      b. The benefits of being alert - Matt 26:41; Lk 21:36
   2. A ______________ of prayer
      a. Pray in the ________ - Rom 8:26-27; 1 Cor 14:15
      b. Pray on all occasions - Lk 18:1; Act 2:42;1Thess5:17
      c. Pray with all kinds of prayers and requests
         1. A ____________: To worship and honor God

PERSONAL APPLICATION
Take some time this week to consider the following:

1. Now that your eyes have been opened to the spiritual battle, identify one significant area in your life where you now recognize Satan's subversive efforts to destroy you.
2. Discuss the statement, "Faith is not belief without proof, but trust without reservation." Is it true/biblical? Why or why not?
3. Rom 10:17 says that faith comes from hearing (through teaching, study, meditation, etc) God's Word. How is this so? What protection does a believer have if he remains chronically unfamiliar with the scriptures?
4. The sword of the Spirit (the Word of God) is a critical defensive weapon against Satan's deceptions. Read Matthew 4:1-11. Brainstorm and identify at least 5 things you can learn from Jesus' example in gaining spiritual victory. [Consider not only what He did and said, but also what He didn't do or say]
5. The mark of spiritual alertness is self-control. Why is self-control so critical when it comes to countering Satan's attacks? Where do you need to exercise spiritual self-control?
6. Paul concludes by exhorting the believers to prayer. Take time now to pray for one another in areas where the enemy is active. And pray for spiritual boldness in the proclamation of the Good News of salvation in Jesus Christ.

Bob Hallman - The Epic Life
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