

Ephesians 6:16-17

FOLLOWING THE MESSAGE

- 1) **THE SUBSTANCE OF CHRISTIANITY:**
 - Believing that God exists and that He rewards those who seek Him (Hebrews 11:6)
 - Putting total trust in His Son as the crucified, buried, risen, and ascended Savior
 - Recognizing & obeying the Bible as His infallible and authoritative Word
- 2) *6:16* Christian faith is powerful and effective because the object of faith, Jesus Christ, is infinitely powerful and absolutely dependable. Christian faith never fails, because the One in whom that faith is placed never fails.
- 3) *6:16* Every temptation, directly or indirectly, is a temptation to doubt and to distrust God and to drive a wedge between the Savior and the saved.
- 4) *6:16* As “without faith it is impossible to please God” (Hebrews 11:6), so also without faith it is impossible to withstand Satan.
- 5) *6:17* That the helmet is related to salvation indicates that Satan’s blows are directed at our confidence in Christ.
- 6) *6:17* Satan loves to attack us with discouragement, especially when we think we are safe.
- 7) *6:17* Our helmet is the hope of Heaven, our ultimate salvation.
- 8) *6:17* Paul explicitly states that the sword of the Spirit is Scripture, the word of God.

The Bible is inerrant and infallible (Psalm 19:7–8).

The Bible is complete (Revelation 22:18–19).

The Bible is authoritative (Isaiah 1:2).

The Bible is sufficient for our needs (2 Timothy 3:16–17).

The Bible is effective when proclaimed and applied (Isaiah 55:11).

PRAYER

Father, You know all things. You know what I need even before I ask it. But you expect me to verbalize what my needs are to demonstrate the humility of my heart, so that I might learn what it is to be dependent on You. My God, I need to be equipped with Truth. I want to wear the Belt of Truth as You have asked me to do. Please increase my Wisdom and Understanding of Your Truth. Take me deeper into Your Word, for Your Word is Truth.

So that I can walk more boldly for the advancement of Your Kingdom, I also need the Breastplate of Righteousness. I live in a wicked and perverse generation, and I walk among people who do not know You. Help me to walk in Your Righteousness, to be a shining light to all who are watching me. Allow me to be an example of what it looks like to be a life in the midst of transformation, Your transformation.

Heavenly Father, today I also ask that You help me to stand with my feet thoroughly covered in the Gospel of Peace. You have shown me that I have a secure relationship with You, one that can never be taken away. You have promised never to leave me. Take that very Truth, Father, and cause it to abide deep within me so that I will stand firm in the knowledge that no matter what the enemy attempts to bring against me I will not fear, I will not run, I will not wander away...but that I will stand firm in your strength. This battle that I am in is Your battle. I come before You asking this in the name of my powerful Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen and Amen.

GREEK WORDS

Thureos (thoo-reh-os')—large shield (door-shaped)