

Study Notes on The Whole Armour

Read Ephesians 6:10-18

1. What does the concept of spiritual warfare convey to you?
2. What do we learn about its nature from this passage? Are we on the offensive or the defensive?
3. What do you understand by 'the devil's schemes'? v11
4. We have so far looked at three pieces of the full armour – the belt, the breastplate and the shoes. How do the corresponding spiritual categories protect us – truth, righteousness and peace?
5. On Sunday we thought about the hobnailed sandals which enabled the Roman soldier to keep his balance in combat. Review the ways in which peace enables us to keep our balance – the peace of God (Romans 5:1-2); inner peace (Philippians 4:6-7); peace with others (Romans 12:18; John 17:20-23).
6. Recall the picture of Christian truth as a series of points from 1-100 and the tendency for those who identify neglected sections e.g. 41-50, to overemphasise them leading to an imbalance in Christian teaching and a disruption of fellowship between the 'haves and the have nots' or 'the enlightened and the still blind.' Can you think of examples, perhaps where people have fallen out, or even where heresy results from overemphasis?
7. How do we maintain our spiritual balance?
8. Let's think about hobby horses, or if you like pet subjects. How can we best relate to those we think may have gone over the top? Or to those who have not yet seen what we believe we have seen?

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26 June 2019