

Put on the Armor of God

The Belt of Truth

Ephesians 6:13-17

What is Truth?

Tom Brady "Everyone has different truths"

Oprah Winfrey "Speaking your truth is the most powerful tool we all have"

Nietzsche "There are many sorts of 'truths' and consequently there is no truth"

Review - Our Mandate - Be strong in the Lord and the strength of His might

-Our Method - Put on the full armor of God

-Our Motivation - Our struggle is not against flesh and blood

Context - Therefore - since we are in this invisible War 13

Put on the full armor of God - all that He provides

When not if the day of evil comes - Satan will come with deceit

You may be able to resist - stand against the streams of evil

Stand on firm ground - God gives us a solid foundation of truth

Stand on firm ground - having (past tense) taken up 14

Explanation of Belt of Truth

-literally "**Gird your loins with Truth**"

Gird - to bind around, wrap - secure all the way around

Loins- Waist, hips - literally the source of reproduction, life

Truth - reality, the essence, in a person - truthfulness, integrity

Roman Soldier

What - a heavy leather belt that held the armor in place

- It held the scabbard for the sword

- It included leather strips that hung down to protect

Why - three major purposes

1. So the long robe could be tucked in enabling movement

Only needed for soldiers in battle

2. It held the weapons used in battle

3. It secured the other armor to the body

Soldier of God

What - A. The earliest defense against Satan

His first attacks are always deceit **Genesis 3:4-6**

Questioned truth - did He say Disputed truth - you will not die

Twisted the lie to make it appealing - you will be like God

B. The essence of our relationship to God

Jesus said "**I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.**"

He is described in Isaiah **He will wear righteousness like a belt and truth like an undergarment.**

C. The eternal Word of God John 17:17 Make them holy by your truth; teach them your word, which is truth.

D. The evidence of our walk with Christ Ephesians 4: 17-24

Delivered from the darkness of evil

Taught in the truth which is in Jesus 21

Renewed in the likeness of God

Walk in the righteousness and holiness of the truth 24

Why -

1. Protects from major weapon of the enemy - deceit **John 8:44**

2. Warns us of the subtle influences of the world **Romans 12:2**

Such as: All truth is relative, The Bible is irrelevant

Take care of yourself first, Stand up for your rights

3. It enables us to discern truth in the Word **2 Timothy 12:2**

What does it mean for us?

1. We must first check our relationship to Christ -based on truth?

2. We must study and apply His Word to every area of our lives

3. We must make honesty and integrity the mark of our lives

Questions we must ask

1. Am I fully committed to truth in my walk with Jesus?

2. Am I honest in all areas of my life?

3. Does truth have the final say in my decisions?

Or culture, or feelings, or comfort?

Why total truth?

Bank robber does not start with robbing a bank - dishonest in small matters - steals answers at school. Candy at stores etc.

Adulterer does not start with committing adultery - second looks, secret conversations, touches

1 **Thessalonians 5:21** *But examine everything carefully; hold fast to that which is good;*

(That which is true!)