

Armor of God Ephesians 6:10-18

1. Belt of truth – The enemy is the father of lies therefore in order to defend against his tactics we have to know and confidently stand upon the truth. Fastening ourselves with the belt of truth is surrounding and girding ourselves with what God says is true rather than what others or Satan tells us is true. The source of truth is the Word of God. To gird yourself in truth is to immerse yourself in the Word of God. This is a defensive piece of armor.
2. Breastplate of righteousness – This is a two-fold piece of armor. On the one hand we confess and keep ourselves pure before God maintaining righteous living, but secondly no matter how righteous we try to live we all fail sometimes. In Jesus Christ, we are covered by His righteousness, declared righteous based upon His sacrifice. This is imputed righteousness. (Rom 9:30) This is a defensive piece of armor.
3. Feet with preparation for the gospel of peace – The enemy hates the gospel because it is the means by which his prisoners are released. By it, people are delivered from the domain of darkness and are transferred to the kingdom of light (Col 1:13). By it he loses and God gains. Therefore we all should be prepared and ready to share the gospel. All should be familiar with and able to share the Roman road: Rom 3:23—all have sinned Rom 6:23—The wages of sin is death Rom 5:8 Christ died for us Rom 10:9-10 Repent of your sin, Confess Jesus as Lord and believe in His sacrificial death. This is an offensive weapon.
4. Shield of faith – The enemy has from the beginning tried to get us to doubt God and His goodness. He tempted Eve by inferring that God was withholding something good from them, doubting God's command. The shield of faith is both knowing and trusting who we are in Christ but trusting God through the trials and attacks. With the shield of faith we endure the battle and stand, not giving way to his attacks. So much of spiritual warfare is just standing our ground. This is a defensive piece of armor.
5. Helmet of salvation – This is knowing that you are saved, of knowing who you are in Christ. If you doubt your salvation, Satan will use this against you. To put on the helmet of salvation is to settle once and for all that you have believed and received Christ. Jesus promises to never cast you out. (John 6:37) This is a defensive piece of armor
6. Sword of the Spirit, the Word of God – Satan hates the truth more than anything else and nothing causes him more pain or turmoil outside of direct attacks from God's angel armies. By the word of God Jesus thwarted and defended three times against Satan's attacks (Mt 4:4-11). But to use the truth of the word of God you have to know the word of God and memorize the word of God. It has to be something that is readily available on the spot when he attacks. This is one of our primary offensive weapons.

7. Prayer – Pray is our final offensive weapon. Through prayer we call down air support to bomb out Satan’s strongholds and attacks. Pastor John Piper said “*If you don’t know we are at war, you don’t know what prayer is for.*” Prayer is the means by which we ask God to battle Satan and his opposition who is a spiritual, and invisible enemy to which God responds by unleashing angelic and spiritual power to battle back Satan’s forces. By prayer, we also receive supernatural strength to endure the attacks through the indwelling Holy Spirit.