

Divine Romance - Spiritual Warfare

Week 8 – Saturday

Eph. 6:17-19 – Footnotes 18¹, 18², 18³, 18⁴, 18⁵, 18⁶

So, what have covered? We need to have faith in God, in God's heart, in God's faithfulness, in God's Word, in God's ability, in God's will, and the final point—in God's sovereignty. We need to have faith in God's sovereignty. All things work together for good. I know that sooner or later that will be tested in us. I hope that in our experience our faith is healthy to the point that we could say, “Lord, You could never be wrong. I am this situation. We are in this situation and we know that You know. You could never be wrong. I still love You and I still trust You.” Oh, that we would all have the shield of faith.

The next item is the helmet of salvation. You always need something on your head to fight a battle. The two most critical areas that you need to protect are your heart and your head. You need a big shield of faith and behind the shield is a breastplate—double protection for your heart. Then on top you need a helmet, salvation. Why? Because the enemy injects fear, he injects threats, worries, anxieties, and other weakening thoughts. Have you never compared yourself to another sister or brother in the church? That thought of comparison is the enemy's injection. The Bible tells us not to compare ourselves. Each one is a necessary member of the Body of Christ; each one has their portion (1 Cor. 12). We need a helmet of salvation; we need to enjoy the Lord. He saves us from our thoughts. Then the attack of the enemy has no effect on us.

Then we have the sword of the Spirit, which Spirit is the word of God. Actually we need the word to be the Spirit to become the sword. This does not mean that the Spirit takes the Bible, the word of God, as the sword. This means that the sword is the Spirit as the word. When we enjoy the word of God in a living way, the word becomes the sword, not to attack people but to actually to cut off the inner enemy. The biggest enemy that the Body of Christ has is the self. In the church life, the self is a big enemy. We may have the outward enemy but we also have the inward adversary. His name is pride; his name is lust. We have inner enemies that if we are not careful will really affect our Christian life. Another one is jealousy. As we are in the word and the word becomes living as the Spirit to us, the Lord cuts away and cuts to pieces all the inner enemies. We need the living word of God.

The final point is prayer. Prayer is the way to apply all the previous items. That is why it says, “And receive the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which Spirit is the word of God, By means of all prayer and petition, praying at every time in spirit and watching unto this in all perseverance and petition concerning all the saints, And for me, that utterance may be given to me...” (vv. 17-19a). We need to pray to apply every one of these items of the armour. Then we need to pray for all the saints. Then we need to pray for all the Lord's servants that the word could continue to go out.

The conclusion to all of this is verses 23 and 24: “Peace to the brothers and love with faith from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Grace be with all those who love our Lord Jesus Christ in incorruptibility.” We need faith and love for the spiritual warfare. I hope and pray that through this brief word all of us would be strengthened in our faith and the result would be more love for the Lord. I hope that we would be strengthened to be the bride and to be the corporate warrior to fulfill God's purpose.