

## PRESENTABLE PEOPLE

### Presentable People Possess Power to Pray for Gospel Peace

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### EPHESIANS 6:10-20, PART 2

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#### **ONE: Ephesians 6:13-14 Presentable People**

13 Therefore, take up the full armor of God, so that you will be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. 14 Stand firm therefore, HAVING GIRDED YOUR LOINS WITH TRUTH, and HAVING PUT ON THE BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS,

**What does it mean to be presentable before God?** Gospel truth & Jesus' righteousness

#### **TWO: Ephesians 6:10-12 Possess Power**

10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. 11 Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. 12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly *places*.

**For our struggle is not against flesh and blood but against rulers, powers (ESV=authorities), world forces of (ESV=cosmic powers over) this (present) darkness, spiritual forces of wickedness (ESV=of evil) in the heavenly places**

**Do you believe Jesus?** He teaches we have an enemy who is strong, scheming, yet vulnerable  
**Be strong in the Lord in the strength of his might** [See the contrast in 2:1-3 and 2:4-7 (8-10)]

Wrong belief(s) can do us/others harms: *we must be willing in God's light to change our belief systems*

**Loins girded with truth:** Eph 6:14a/Isaiah 11:4-5

4 But with righteousness He will judge the poor, And decide with fairness for the afflicted of the earth;  
And He will strike the earth with the rod of His mouth, And with the breath of His lips He will slay the wicked.  
5 Also **righteousness** will be **the belt about His loins**, And **faithfulness** the belt about His waist.

**Breastplate of righteousness:** Eph 6:14b/Isaiah 59:15-17

15 Yes, truth is lacking; And he who turns aside from evil makes himself a prey.  
Now the Lord saw, And it was displeasing in His sight that there was no justice.  
16 And He saw that there was no man, And was astonished that there was no one to intercede;  
Then His own arm brought salvation to Him, And His righteousness upheld Him.  
17 He put on **righteousness like a breastplate**, And **a helmet of salvation on His head**;  
And He put on garments of vengeance for clothing And wrapped Himself with zeal as a mantle.

**The preparation of the gospel of peace:** Ephesians 6:15 (2:14-17)/Isaiah 52:6-7

6 "Therefore My people shall know My name; therefore in that day I am the one who is speaking, 'Here I am.' "  
7 How lovely on the mountains Are **the feet of him who brings good news**,  
Who announces peace And brings good news of happiness,  
Who announces salvation, And says to Zion, "**Your God reigns!**"

**The shield of faith:** Ephesians 6:16/ Ephesians 3:12, 17); Philippians 1:27

3:12 in whom we have boldness and **confident access through faith in Him**.  
3:17 so that **Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith**; and that you, being rooted and grounded in love,  
**Phi 1:27** Only conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or remain absent, I will hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, **with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel**;

**The helmet of salvation:** Eph 6:17/Isaiah 59:17—see re: breastplate (above)

**The sword of the Spirit:** Eph 6:17 (1:13-14; 1:17; 2:18, 22; 3:5, 16; 4:3-4, 30; 5:18ff)/Isaiah 49:1-7

2 He has made My mouth like a sharp sword, In the shadow of His hand He has concealed Me;  
And He has also made Me a select arrow, He has hidden Me in His quiver.

6 He says, "It is too small a thing that You should be My Servant  
To raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the preserved ones of Israel;  
I will also make You a light of the nations So that My salvation may reach to the end of the earth."

7 Thus says the Lord, the Redeemer of Israel and its Holy One,  
To the despised One, To the One abhorred by the nation, To the Servant of rulers,  
"Kings will see and arise, Princes will also bow down,  
Because of the Lord who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel who has chosen You."

### **THREE: Ephesians 6:15-20 (Colossians 4:2-6) To Pray For Gospel Peace**

15 ...and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; 16 in addition to all, taking up the shield of faith with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. 17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

18 With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints, 19 and *pray* on my behalf, that utterance may be given to me in the opening of my mouth, to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, 20 for which I am an ambassador in chains; that in *proclaiming* it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

**Colossians 4:2–6** 2 Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with *an attitude of* thanksgiving; 3 praying at the same time for us as well, that God will open up to us a door for the word, so that we may speak forth the mystery of Christ, for which I have also been imprisoned; 4 that I may make it clear in the way I ought to speak. 5 Conduct yourselves with wisdom toward outsiders, making the most of the opportunity. 6 Let your speech always be with grace, as *though* seasoned with salt, so that you will know how you should respond to each person.

**Gospel feet:** girded loins, shod feet, swords & prayer: *all for moving forward!*

#### **the preparation of the gospel of peace**

We proclaim with Jesus and his apostles a new kingdom reign: God's delivering King has come to judge the earth, and he will gladly receive with mercy all who will surrender to him.

- a faith that withstands all attacks to dissemble, deconstruct and destroy
- a helmet that protects each of our heads (keep your head about you!) for our Savior is our helmet
- praying at all times in the Spirit even unto the keeping alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints.
  - **Prayer is for soldiers** not premature/immature settlers [we must know our calling/purpose...to bring peace—not to rest in it now.]
  - **In the Spirit** (6:18; 5:18-21) thankful, delighting in Christ and his work through his body [helmet of salvation]
  - For **boldness** (Eph 6:19-20) [weakness/fear= breastplate of righteousness; not lose heart!]
  - For **opportunities** & will to make use of them (Eph 6:19-20; Col 4:2) [belt: loins girded for action]
  - For **clarity** (Col 4:4) Don't distort or lose the gospel [the sword of the Spirit]
  - For **gracious saltiness**, appropriate to each person we meet. (Col 4:6) [gospel shod feet]