



October 17, 2021

Ephesians 6:10–20 (ESV)

¹⁰ Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. ¹¹ Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. ¹² For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. ¹³ Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. ¹⁴ Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, ¹⁵ and, as shoes for your feet, having

put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. ¹⁶ In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; ¹⁷ and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, ¹⁸ praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints, ¹⁹ and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰ for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak.

INTRODUCTION:

Ephesians 6:14

1. Our great need for a breastplate that can _____ us

“Nothing in all creation is hidden from God’s sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.” Hebrew 4:13

2. The breastplates we make that _____ cover us

“I am forever in pursuit and I do not even know what I am chasing. And now in one hour's time, I will be out there again. I will raise my eyes and look down that corridor; 4 feet wide, with 10 lonely seconds to justify my whole existence. But will I?” — Harold Abrams in *Chariots of Fire*

“They build their sense of worth on their moral and spiritual performance, as a kind of resume to present before God and the world.” — *Tim Keller*

3. God's breastplate that can _____ cover us

“For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.” 2 Corinthians 5:21

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*My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness*

a. Put on God's breastplate of righteousness when you feel _____.

*When Satan tempts me to despair
And tells me of the guilt within
Upward I look and see Him there
Who made an end of all my sin*

b. Put on God's breastplate of righteousness when you feel an excessive need for _____ from other people.

c. Put on God's breastplate of righteousness when your _____ for God are _____.

d. Put on God's breastplate of righteousness when you are about to _____.

*When He shall come with trumpet sound
Oh, may I then in Him be found
Dressed in His righteousness alone
Faultless stand before the throne*