



The Shield of Faith

The Protection
and Reaffirming
of Our Faith



“But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them, and **that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures**, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.” **2 Timothy 3:14-15**

“I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh **I live by faith in the Son of God**, who loved me and gave Himself for me.” **Galatians 2:20**

“Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, **the author and finisher of our faith...**” **Hebrews 12:1-2**



- Not all who hear the gospel will respond to its message

– **Acts 2:38-40**



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- Not all who do respond to the gospel will continue to remain faithful to the Lord

– **Colossians 1:21-23**

Can it be said of you that you have your shield before you, **ready to defend and fight** for the cause of Christ?

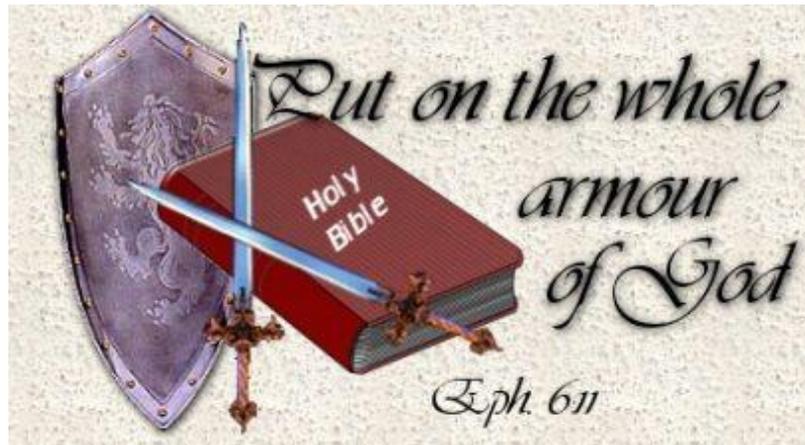
Nehemiah Rallies the People of God

- The wall needed rebuilt, yet at the same time, they needed to defend themselves against the army of Samaria
- **Faith** helped them overcome the enemy and to complete their work
 - **Nehemiah 4:6-9, 15-18**



Before being ready to do such a thing for Nehemiah and God – they had to have a true and abiding faith

1 Corinthians 15:58



The Whole Armor of God

- Paul's exhortation to the Ephesians

Ephesians 6:10-20

- Life is a warfare – we struggle with the common calamities of life
- Religion is warfare – we struggle with the opposition of the powers of darkness

THE ARMOR OF GOD Eph. 6:10-17

The helmet of salvation

The LORD is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear?

Ps. 27:1

The sword of the Spirit

For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword...

Heb. 4:12

The shield of faith

Who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.

1 Peter 1:5

The breastplate of righteousness

...be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ... Phil 3:9

The belt of truth

If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free. John 8:31-32

The shoes of the Gospel

How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace..

Is. 52:7



• Belt of Truth

- Truth must be taken into our hearts
- Must read, study, understand and believe
- Must be applied in our life
- Character is not developed by hypocrisy, guilt and deceit – but rather by openness and faithfulness

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- **Breastplate of Righteousness**
 - Moral uprightness should be the mark of a Christian
 - Christian's obligation is to stand and fight

- **Shoes**
 - Always ready to go to battle

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• Helmet of Salvation

- The result of God's great grace toward us and although we can throw it aside voluntarily – the enemy can never strip it from us against our own free will

• Sword

- The Word of God



- **Shield of Faith**

- Describes the unshakable trust in undeniable fact
- True faith comes from hearing the Word of God
 - **Romans 10:17**
- Christianity is a system of faith
- We **MUST** take up the shield of faith in order to be ready for battle!



The Shield of Faith

- We are to resist the Devil

"Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you."

James 4:7

"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Resist him, steadfast in the faith...."

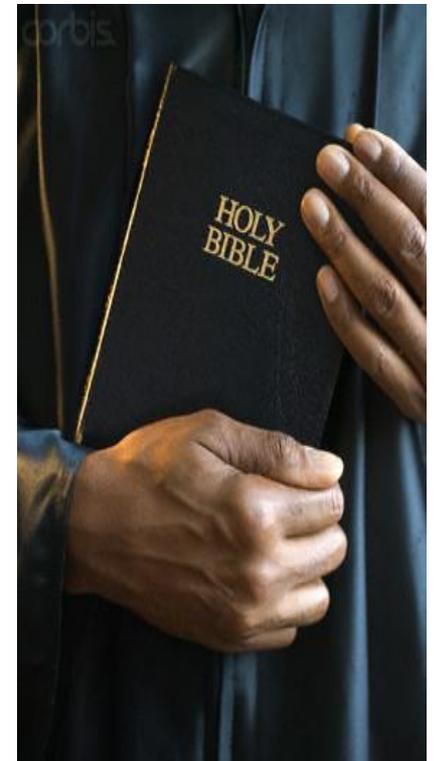
1 Peter 5:8-9



The Shield of **Faith**

- Will protect us by resisting the Devil in several different ways:

- By giving us the **Will**
- By giving us a **Confident Spirit**
- By giving us the **Scripture**
- By giving us **Prayer**
- By giving us **Wisdom**
- By giving us **Character**





Our Need to Reaffirm Our Faith

- We need more to be like Joshua

“And if it seems evil to you to serve the LORD, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. **But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.**”
(Joshua 24:15)

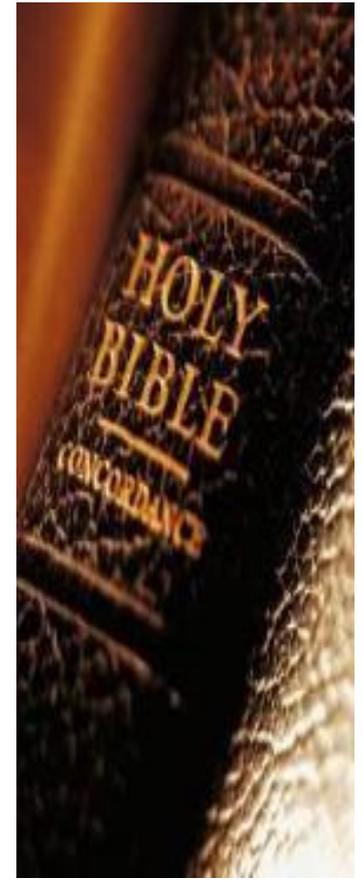
- Why does the Christian's faith weaken?
 - There is no true desire to let Christ be Lord of their life!

Matthew 10:34-39



Our Need to Reaffirm Our Faith

- It is up to US where We end up
 - Faith doesn't just happen
 - It is the result of dutifully serving and doing what the Lord has given us to do!
 - To become more than what we are we must be dissatisfied with our present condition and **WANT to change**



Philippians 3:12-14



Our Need to Reaffirm Our Faith



- Firm conviction is a must
 - Cost of discipleship is high
 - Revelation 2:10
 - **Faithfulness** is firm conviction and being fully persuaded about God's revelation and truth



Be determined to take up the "**shield of faith**" and be fully persuaded to serve your creator!

