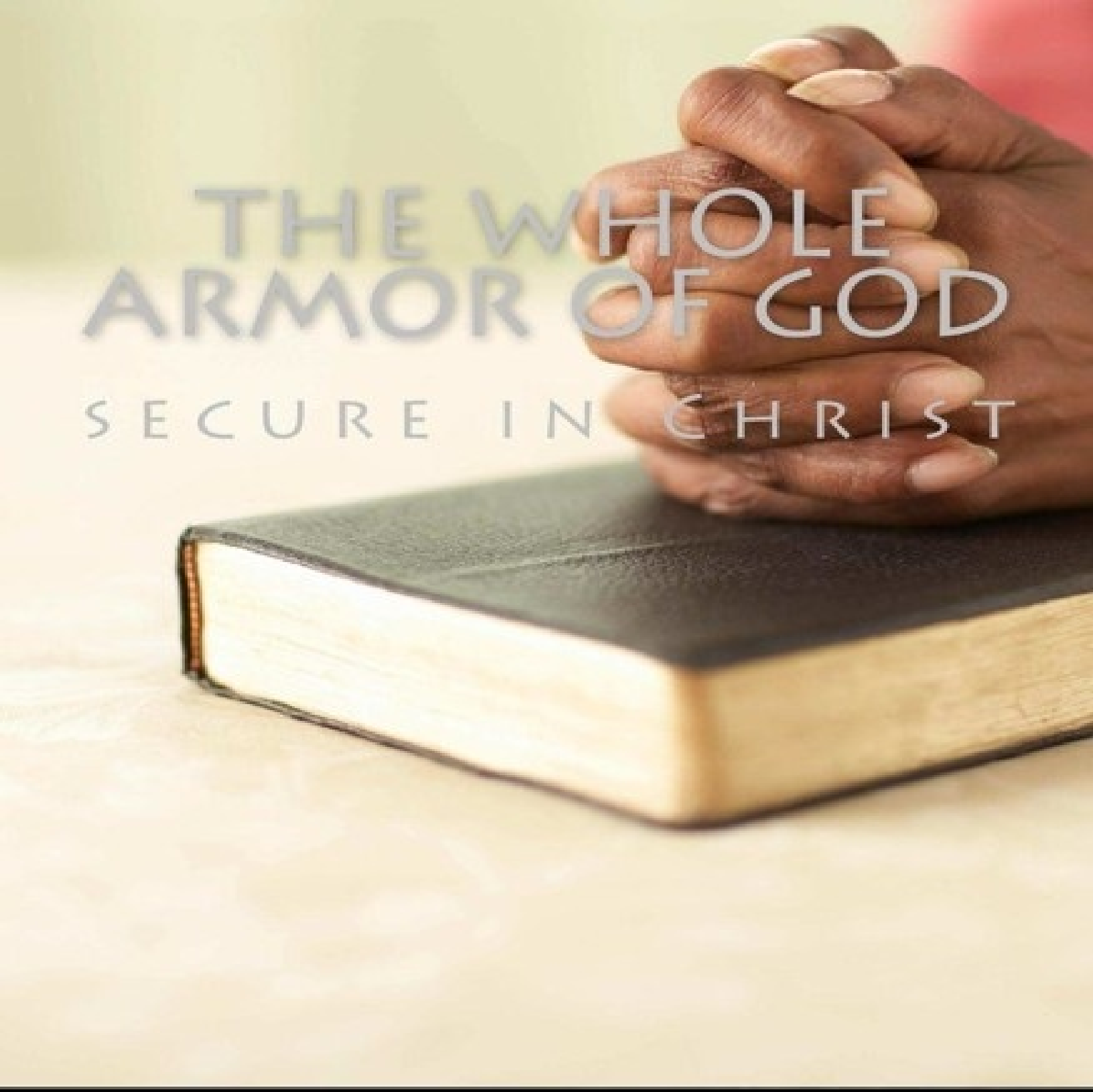


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It is my prayer that the Lord will bless you greatly through His Spirit as you read what follows.

Remember that only the word that is alive in your heart is effective in your living. So seek for that which God is speaking into you. Thank you for allowing me to encourage you to know only Christ and Him crucified.

Prepare for war

1 Timothy 6:12

Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.

2 Timothy 4:7

I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:

Jude 1:3

Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.

Exodus 14:14

The LORD shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace.

Hebrews 10:32

But call to remembrance the former days, in which, after ye were illuminated, ye endured a great fight of afflictions;

Exodus 14:13-14

And Moses said to the people, ‘Do not be afraid. Stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which He will accomplish for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall see again no more forever. The LORD will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace.’

Psalm 34:19

Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the LORD delivers him out of them all.

Psalm 91:7

A thousand may fall at your side, and ten thousand at your right hand; but it shall not come near you.

Nahum 1:7

The LORD is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble; and He knows those who trust in Him.

2 Corinthians 4:8-9

We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed

Our fight is a fight of faith.

When we think of the armor of God many attempt to obtain it by a matter of confession. As Christians we absolutely should confess our faith but we must understand that confession does not create faith. If we consider that scripture in teaching us to obtain salvation says if we believe in our heart and confess with our mouth that Jesus the Messiah is our master we shall be saved then we shall see that it is as the mouth confesses what is first been made real in the heart that we come into the possession of a thing.

Two examples in scripture show us this truth in the living of the people of God. In Deuteronomy 1: 34-46 we are told of the children of Israel being brought to the borders of the Promised Land. We have heard the story of the twelve spies and the report they gave; how ten said the enemy was too great and two said their God was able.

We see by Israel's agreement with the twelve that in their hearts they were trusted and expected in only what their own ability could bring them. God pronounces to them the result of this trust; that they would not enter in. This is an act of chastisement to teach them to trust Him but it is not a vengeance for their lack of faith. God simply knows that if they enter by their own strength they will be slain. The possession of the land will require His hand.

This is seen in the fact that when the people hear what God has decreed they by guilt attempt to do what they had been told. To do a thing by duty or guilt is not an act of faith. God warns them not to go up because He is not with them. They are routed because they did not go by faith in God; it would take forty years of God showing them His power of provision in the wilderness to establish faith in

their heart.

The second example I would look at is Johnathan and his armor bearer. In 1 Samuel 14: 6-14 we see that Johnathan has it put in his heart that God does not need an army to have victory just one willing heart.

In the natural if one man were to attack twenty men by a frontal assault he would more than likely die before he had inflicted one casualty. However Johnathan lays low twenty men with his armor bearer coming behind him and finishing them off. This is not the end of Gods working but throughout the enemy camp a confusion sets in and they begin to attack one another.

The works of faith seen in Johnathan come from that which God has first made real to his heart. If we would see the works of God in our lives they must be from a real faith in our heart not from us trying to create faith by our own means.

What is faith? It goes past simply believing a thing is true to a place where we rely, depend and expect with all our heart, all our might, and all our soul that those things God has spoken are true.

Some such things that the scripture say are Jesus is the author and finisher of our faith, the just shall live by faith, and whatever is not of faith is sin. It is God who gives and grows your faith. The faith He gives produces life. Anytime we lean on anything outside of the faith He forms in us we enter into sin.

Faith is like a mustard seed, in the beginning all we know is Jesus is the answer even if we don’t yet see the problem. When the problems and storms of life manifest we are tempted to go beyond that simple trust. If we fall victim to our own unbelief we see as did Israel the bitter result of looking to our own power. One of the greatest prayers recorded in scripture is Lord I believe help my unbelief.

The fight of faith is not a battleground of swords, guns, and tanks. We are not fighting the flesh and blood of ourselves or others. Spiritual wickedness in high places is not fallen angels and imps but the false trust of Adam that He can be his own source of life. All trust in self and men and this world of men must be brought into captivity to Messiah within you.

We are not battling men or supernatural host but instead we fight that all of their lies and false ways would be cast away from us; that we become the living word

having only the life of GOD in us one with Him.

This is the mark of the prize of the high call of life in messiah Jesus.

The armor of God is not placed on us by our words. The protection and provision of God does not come by mental exercise or ceremony. It is only by surrender of complete trust in Him living willing and doing in us that we find ourselves ready for battle.

The shield wall of believers

Ephesians 6:10-13

10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.

11 Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

13 Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

I have watched over the years as certain teachings have come and gone in the church. Like a wave of the ocean crashing on the beach everyone would teach these things and slowly they would fade away.

One such teaching was on the armor of God and spiritual warfare. These teachings ranged from the silly (people dressing in army uniforms and yelling at the devil) to the informative (everything you could ever want to know about how to use Roman armor).

Yet when my own battles rose up the knowledge of how to wear my helmet or when I should use my shield was just enough information to leave me bleeding on the battlefield.

So I would like to deal with the armor of God, but with prayer and hope toward God that the Spirit will establish his truth in your heart.

It must be repeated before we get to the workings of our protection and assault

with some clarity. The armor of God is not our armor it is Gods.

If we are not in Christ but the world or we are living in the ability of the flesh instead of the Spirit we are not in his armor.

Also we must give consideration that it speaks of a whole armor. This is to say it is all or nothing similar to the fruit of the Spirit. Though the comparison is to physical armor which may be used in pieces our armor from God is interdependent.

We are not developing these things. We are trusting God is giving them to us. As we also trust that they will function in the purpose they were given for.

A roman soldier was trained, conditioned, and equipped far beyond those he faced on the battlefield. Still by himself he was only a skilled fighter; easily overcome by a blow from somewhere out of his field of sight. However when joined with others the shield walls of Rome subdued the world for a thousand years.

We need each other. So I ask those who read this to give a moment of prayer that the Lord would use me to help my brothers and sisters faith to be strengthened and encouraged. That I may one day, in a time of need, receive the same from them. It is in this way we fulfill the word of our Lord that we may all know to be one.

The belt of truth

Ephesians 6:14

Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;

John 14:6-7

6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

7 If ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also: and from henceforth ye know him, and have seen him.

John 14:16-17

16 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever;

17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.

John 15:26

But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me:

John 16:13-15

13 Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.

14 He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you.

15 All things that the Father hath are mine: therefore said I, that he shall take of mine, and shall shew it unto you.

John 17:16-19

16 They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.

17 Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

18 As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world.

19 And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth.

John 18:37

Pilate therefore said unto him, Art thou a king then? Jesus answered, Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice.

Also consider (John 1: 14, 17...8: 32), (1John 1: 6, 8...2:20), (2John 1:2, 4, 13), (3John 1:3, 4, 8), (James 1: 18), (1Peter 1:22), (Rom 1:18), (Gal 5: 7), (Eph 4:15), (1Tim2: 4), (2Tim2:15..3: 7), (Titus1:1)

Have your loins gird with truth

If asked what the most important piece of armor is few would have the belt come to mind. Yet it is the belt which is to hold everything in place, protect the loins and carry both provision and our sword.

The loins are the place from which life is produced. These things are interesting and give us much to meditate upon; however if we do not understand the source we cannot attain to that on which we meditate.

Knowing the truth is what is effective to possessing what we meditate on.

Most times this truth is said to be our bible; the written word. Jesus has said both Moses and His apostles are witnesses of Him but that He is the truth.

We have a living way and a living truth. He is the life in all who have placed their full reliance and trust in God.

If we think of the truth witnessed in the bible as being the truth then it follows that we should learn the truth. While it is true that we should study to show ourselves approved. We must never confuse learning the testimony of the truth with knowing him; the living truth.

If someone were to tell you the things I said or did in my life that would not mean you know me. Even if I myself wrote these things; at best you would know about me. This is a far cry from knowing me.

Jesus concludes only the spirit of a man knows that man; in this same way only the Spirit of God knows Him. For this reason we have been given the Spirit of God; that we may be one with Him and know Him in a way that only He knows himself. This is the grace that has been given to them who place their faith in him.

If we are left to decipher from what He says and does who He is then we have no choice but to lean on our own understanding. He has told us in His word not to lean on our understanding for His ways are not our ways and His thoughts are not our thoughts.

He is alive; life may be analyzed and learned about by a written word but only experience of what is written can bring knowledge. If we are ever learning the witness of life but never experiencing that life in us then we will never know Him.

The written word was given for a definite purpose that we might establish what the truth is by its witness. It is for this we are told to test the spirits if they are from God or man.

How do we do this?

The scripture tells us let all things be established by two or three witnesses. Jesus would also say that Moses and the prophets testified of Him and that the apostles would be His witnesses. So if that which you are trusting is life is not found in the witness of Moses and the apostles it is not qualified to be the truth.

Jesus has said there would be those on that day that said they had done great things for him but He would say depart I never knew you. Knowing the truth is only accomplished when He is living through you and in you; everything else is an imitation.

There were those who Jesus said prided themselves on having the scripture. They believed by studying them they had obtained eternal life. As important as the witness is it is Messiah that is the living way. Understanding what life should be or could be is not having life.

Those who fall into this trap have unwittingly placed trust in themselves to find the way to God. Paul concludes they have a form of godliness by will worship (trying to imitate the life described in the scripture). They are ever learning but never coming to knowledge of God.

To know God is to be made one with him. In the natural flesh this happens between a husband and wife when their marriage is consummated. In the Spirit this happens when we lose our life in the crucifixion of Jesus and His Spirit makes Gods life to be our life. This is the living truth

The Breastplate of righteousness

Romans 1:16-17

16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

17 For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.

Romans 3:20-22

20 Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin.

21 But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets;

22 Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:

Rom 4:4-6

4 Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt.

5 But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness.

6 Even as David also describeth the blessedness of the man, unto whom God imputeth righteousness without works,

Romans 4:13

For the promise, that he should be the heir of the world, was not to Abraham, or to his seed, through the law, but through the righteousness of faith.

Romans 5:17

For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.)

Romans 7:12

Wherefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good.

Romans 7:18

For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not.

Romans 7:24-25

24 O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?

25 I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin.

Romans 8:3-4

3 For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh:

4 That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

Romans 9:30-33

30 What shall we say then? That the Gentiles, which followed not after righteousness, have attained to righteousness, even the righteousness which is of faith.

31 But Israel, which followed after the law of righteousness, hath not attained to the law of righteousness.

32 Wherefore? Because they sought it not by faith, but as it were by the works of the law. For they stumbled at that stumblingstone;

33 As it is written, Behold, I lay in Sion a stumblingstone and rock of

offence: and whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.

Romans 10:3-4

3 For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God.

4 For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth.

Also consider Deuteronomy (4: 2-3, 8), (9: 14), (32:4), Psalm (36: 6), (40: 10), (65:5), (112:3), (116:4-6), (119:142), (145:17), Jeremiah (9:23-24), Isaiah (5:16), (41:10), (51:8), Micah (7:9), Matthew (5:20), John (3:21), 1Corinthians (1:30) 2Cor(5:21)Philippians(1:11) 2Tim(2:22)(3:16)(4:80) 1John(2:29)(3:7)(4: 4-21)(5:18) 1Peter(2:24)(3:14)

The breastplate serves an obvious function for a soldier; preservation of life. In our modern day we still wear body armor for this same purpose, but we have laid aside this gift from God claiming it is too heavy for us to bear.

Righteousness is depicted as bondage and an insult to our freedom in Christ. Turning a blind eye to the fact that Jesus freed us from sin; we in effect claim we are free from righteousness.

We have replaced the way of life provided by Messiah with a badge or name tag saying the way of death cannot hurt me because Jesus was righteous. We ignore that sin steals, kills, and destroys the life of a believer in the same way as an unbeliever.

What is righteousness? It is to do those things that naturally emanate from the life of God. The commands, statutes, and ordinances found in scripture are teachings of who we should be. It is uncircumcised ears, eyes, heart and lips (still covered by the dead flesh inherited from Adam) that see this description of life as things to be imitated.

If we try to obtain to life by our own work, generated by our ability, will or even our love for God, we find that all we produce is sin and death.

The redeemed man must receive life in the same way Adam received life “God breathed into him and he became a living soul”.

“The same Spirit that raised Jesus from the dead will quicken (make alive) your mortal bodies.”

A quick reading of the scriptures listed in the beginning as “also consider” show that righteousness belongs to God. Which is sensible since it is a description of what comes from who He is.

It is also obvious from scripture that no man is righteous without imputation from God. As you depend and rely on the author of your faith to be your maker; he teaches you to rely on Him to both will and do in and through you.

When we trust him he teaches us to trust him more. So it is from faith to faith that His righteousness is revealed in our lives.

We have been made one with Him. Our life has become His life shared in us, and as He lives through us his righteousness acts through us.

If you are a believer and there is something in your life that you know must go. DO NOT fight to remove it by your own will or ability.

Instead by faith trust, rely, and depend on that which God has promised; that those who trust in Gods redemption and His redeemer will have His eternal life. Those who put their trust in him will not be ashamed.

The gospel of peace

Ephesians 6:15

And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;

Numbers 6:26

The LORD lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace.

Isaiah 26:3

Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.

Isaiah 53:5

But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

John 14:27

Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

John 16:33

These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

Romans 8:6

For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.

Romans 5:1

Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:

Phillipians 4:7

And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

James 3:18

And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace.

Psalms 85:7-13

7 Shew us thy mercy, O LORD, and grant us thy salvation.

8 I will hear what God the LORD will speak: for he will speak peace unto his people, and to his saints: but let them not turn again to folly.

9 Surely his salvation is nigh them that fear him; that glory may dwell in our land.

10 Mercy and truth are met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

11 Truth shall spring out of the earth; and righteousness shall look down from heaven.

12 Yea, the LORD shall give that which is good; and our land shall yield her increase.

13 Righteousness shall go before him; and shall set us in the way of his steps.

In the natural when we think of what makes for a great warrior many things come to mind; a cunning mind, heightened perception and awareness, strength, skill, experience but seldom do we consider the feet. Yet without a solid footing none of the rest can be effective.

The shield walls of Rome made strength from several men combined into one fighting unit, and to be effective the shield wall had to be able to repel enemy forces running into it at a full run.

If it broke then it lost its combined strength and became just individual men fighting; which removed its advantage.

So the soldier’s footing against a wave of their enemies onslaught was of vital importance. The romans response to this need was to place what amounts to cleats in their sandals.

In this way Paul compares our footing in our redeemed life to be set by the gospel of peace.

I find it interesting that the very prince of peace Jesus said he did not come to bring peace but a sword. It is important to understand how both are 100 % true; else we will develop a wrong way of acting toward God and man.

Jesus said my peace I give to you not as the world gives. The worlds thinking of peace is a lack of conflict but our peace from Messiah remains effective even in the midst of conflict.

In this lays the answer to our seeming contradiction. Jesus brings men into a peace and oneness with God, and by doing so he brings them into life for God is life.

However He will never make peace with death or its allies of sin, separation, and self-sufficiency, but instead he brings the sword against it.

In the world what is called peace is when men divide lands, resources, and people among their recognized established sovereignty.

Neither the Father nor his anointed will ever recognize that death has sovereignty over any of His creation or children. He will make no peace with death in those who are deceived and in bondage to it or in those that are his.

The peace Jesus has given us is peace with God. He has taken away, in his own body, those things which bound us to death. He passed through death and the grave and we were in him by our faith. When the Spirit of God pulled Him out of death and made him alive we remained in Him and as such also became alive.

It is by the obedience of Jesus that we have been redeemed to peace. By that redemption we are given the grace of God’s life abiding in us.

That life purges every shadow of death from those who put full reliance in him; by that grace the assured hope of his glory is in us. We have been made one with our Elohim.

Some believe God stands above our lives judging if we are doing what is right or

wrong. The truth is through Calvary he has dove into the waters of mankind to save those who are drowning.

When a man is drowning and he has struggled to no avail panic sets in. When this happens they become an enemy to both themselves and anyone who would attempt to rescue them.

So if Jesus knocks you out, drags you to shore and violently pumps your chest while trying to breathe life into you….don't think He doesn't love you.

In Philippians 2: 12 Paul says to work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. Many people use this verse to say God expects you to work for salvation, but I warn you to depend on anything from you is carnal and the carnal man is enmity with God.

However let's let Paul finish his own thought for verse thirteen tells us; for it is God which works in you both to will and to do what is good and pleasing to Him.

To conclude if you want to stand in Messiah believe on God, trust in Jesus redemption, and depend on the Spirit/breath/life of God to live for you and through you.

This is the living gospel of peace.

The shield of faith

Romans 10:17

So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

James 2:19

Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble.

Hebrews 11:6

But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

Matthew 21:22

And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive.

Mark 11:22

And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God.

Ephesians 2:8-9

8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:

9 Not of works lest any man should boast

Luke 1:37

For with God nothing shall be impossible.

Hebrews 11:1

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

1 Corinthians 2:5

That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.

Proverbs 3:5-7

5 Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.

6 in all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths.

7 be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the Lord, and depart from evil

James 2:24

Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only.

James 2:14

What [doth it] profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? can faith save him?

2 Corinthians 5:7

For we walk by faith, not by sight:

Psalms 46:10

Be still, and know that I [am] God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth.

Habakkuk 2:4

Behold, his soul which is lifted up is not upright in him: but the just shall live by faith

“You are saved by grace through faith” has any phrase from Gods word been more kidnapped, abused, used for a sick wicked lust and left dead in a ditch for the dogs than this?

The idea of being saved has been made little more than a get out of hell free card. Gone is the power of God driving out everything that would cause harm or separate us from Him such as sin, unbelief, forgiveness, or worldliness.

Somehow it was replaced with; we just have to endure till one day He makes it better, after all we are just like the world just forgiven.

Grace has been changed to God overlooking our weakness and assuring us He loves us while we continue to kill ourselves and those around us.

No, that is not true grace for in truth it is the gift of God himself living in us, sharing his life, power, will and to works in us.

Then there is the subject of this consideration: faith. It has been taught as something that we develop in order to get God to act; which is both silly and idolatrous. It has been taught that we learn Gods word and apply it to what we need because God has to honor his word this is again idolatry.

The creator, regardless of love for you, is never at the rule or desire or desperation of the creation.

Faith is not simply belief that God can or that He will do what He has said. True faith has full assurance of the heart and expectation of the mind that He is and has done all that is in His word.

The result of our unwavering dependence and reliance that what He says is what is can be seen in our actions. When our faith is in His life living in us then His works are manifested in us.

At a modern marriage festival it is a tradition for the bride and groom after they have entered into a contract of marriage and before (presumably) they consummate the marriage to have a dance. Our faith is like this dance.

The groom and bride cannot both lead this dance; this struggle would be more wrestling than dancing.

The groom cannot lead a bride who refuses to move her feet. If she is waiting on Him to move first then neither one will move. To experience the groom moving requires us to move at his leading.

The word amen means so be it or so it is. This same word is translated as faith. The original word also carries the idea of a nursing Father along with to render firm, to trust, to be permanent, quiet, certain, establish.

So the picture painted in the Hebrew is like the safe assurance of an infant in the arms of a loving Father.

Since our Father can create the universe with the sound of his words who can take us out of his hands.

He can be trusted. Our trust in Him will defeat every device of those who would try to separate us from Him.

The helmet of salvation

Isaiah 52:7

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy Elohim reigneth!

Isaiah 52:10

God hath made bare his holy arm in the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our Elohim.

Isaiah 56:1

Thus saith The Lord , Keep ye judgment, and do justice: for my salvation is near to come, and my righteousness to be revealed.

Isaiah 59:11

We roar all like bears, and mourn sore like doves: we look for judgment, but there is none; for salvation, but it is far off from us.

Isaiah 59:16

And he saw that there was no man, and wondered that there was no intercessor: therefore his arm brought salvation unto him; and his righteousness, it sustained him.

Isaiah 59:17

For he put on righteousness as a breastplate, and an helmet of salvation upon his head; and he put on the garments of vengeance for clothing, and was clad with zeal as a cloke.

Isaiah 60:18

Violence shall no more be heard in thy land, wasting nor destruction within thy borders; but thou shalt call thy walls Salvation, and thy gates Praise.

Isaiah 61:10

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall be joyful in my Elohim; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels.

Isaiah 62:1

For Zion's sake will I not hold my peace, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until the righteousness thereof go forth as brightness, and the salvation thereof as a lamp that burneth.

Isaiah 62:11

Behold, the Lord hath proclaimed unto the end of the world, Say ye to the daughter of Zion, Behold, thy salvation cometh; behold, his reward is with him, and his work before him.

Isaiah 63:5

And I looked, and there was none to help; and I wondered that there was none to uphold: therefore mine own arm brought salvation unto me; and my fury, it upheld me.

The name most of the world has come to know as Jesus was actually Yashuah or Yeshua opinions varies.

I won't argue which is correct. The idea that saying a name correctly grants power has its root in demonology and is something anyone who Knows God should also know not to entertain.

I bring it up only because his name has an interesting meaning.

The true statement that there is no other name under heaven by which men may be saved; is about authority which is recognized by God it is not about pronunciation.

If the King of all creation sends a messenger to a certain person or nation and the messenger pronounces the name of his King wrong. Those hearing the message know of whom he is speaking. I ask you will they escape the wrath of disobedience or will they be excluded from the reward of obedience?

This is a completely different thing from preaching a different Messiah or a different Gospel. When what is taught is against the witness of the scriptures then Jesus cannot contradict who He is.

I bring up the name to point out that Yashua is YHWH's salvation for this is what His name means. So the scripture serves as a witness of His salvation not the means of accomplishing that salvation.

Truly even Messiah himself is the means by which our salvation is brought to and provided for us. The salvation itself is of YHWH meaning it is unshakable, undeniable, and immutable.

Anything found within our heart and mind that is opposed to His ways shall be changed and renewed as we put our trust in Him.

It is this that inspired John to write that if our heart condemn us God is greater than our heart. The success of your salvation is sealed if you are in Messiah because it does not draw anything from you.

So when the valley of the shadow of death darkens your walk or when evil threatens to take you. The protection from such is that salvation is of God not us

It is He who is your maker not yourself.

He gives a living righteousness that has no need of our efforts.

He has predestined you.

He is your aid.

He is your victory

He is your health.

He is your prosperity.

He is your help.

He is your salvation.

If God is for us who can be against us?

Lean not to your own understanding but trust Him for those who put their trust in Him will not be ashamed.

The sword of the Spirit

Ephesians 6:1

And take THE HELMET OF SALVATION, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

Isaiah 11:4

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.

2 Thessalonians 2:8

Then that lawless one will be revealed whom the Lord will slay with the breath of His mouth and bring to an end by the appearance of His coming;

Revelation 1:16

In His right hand He held seven stars, and out of His mouth came a sharp twoedged sword; and His face was like the sun shining in its strength.

Revelation 2:12

"And to the angel of the church in Pergamum write: The One who has the sharp twoedged sword says this:

Revelation 2:16

'Therefore repent; or else I am coming to you quickly, and I will make war against them with the sword of My mouth.

John 14:26

But the Comforter, [which is] the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

John 16:13

Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, [that] shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.

Galatians 5:22-23

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith

Acts 2:33

Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, he hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear.

Acts 2:38 –

Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

1 Corinthians 2:10

But God hath revealed [them] unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.

Galatians 1:12

For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught [it], but by the revelation of Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians 10: 3-5

"For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;"

1 Timothy 6: 12

"Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses."

2 Timothy 2: 3-4

"Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier."

2 Timothy 4:7

"I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:"

Ephesians 6: 10-12

"Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places."

Hebrews 4: 12

"For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart."

Finally a sword! This is what we have waited for. We will mow down our enemies like a cycle through wheat. Now we are ready to fight, but wait.

How do we use this sword? A sword has the purpose of consuming flesh by piercing and cutting it away. Not only this, our sword is the Spirit of God.

I ask you do men wield God or does God wield men? Surely it is the later.

What do the scriptures say of the Holy Spirit?

1) He separates the wheat from the chaff. The seed (wheat) is the living Word of God the chaff (flesh) is not fit to be made the bread of life so it is thrown into the fire (consumed, crucified in the cross of Messiah).

2) He slays the wicked and the lawless one. Wicked means twisted but He has promised to make us straight paths (the way).

The law of sin and death reveals to us that in our flesh (life received from Adam) we are lawless; for in our flesh dwells no good thing.

The law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has by Messiah carrying my flesh to death in His cross made the Spirit to be my life; writing Gods law on my heart and mind.

It is this life of the Spirit in us Paul speaks of when he says those having not the law does by nature the things taught in the law.

Jesus by the Spirit is a living way.

3) The Spirit makes war, but not with unbelievers or demons. He makes war with saints who as Balaam try to manipulate God for gain. He is against those who teach other believers to take part in the sins of the world to the end that they can use them for their own benefit.

4) He pulls down strongholds in our own heart and mind by casting down the imaginations of the flesh and every other thing that the flesh puts in place to take from the full dependence of the believer on Him.

5) He divides between the soul (function of life) and the spirit (source of life), the actions and generative source, and judges the plans and motives of our heart.

So the purpose of the sword is to remove all hint of the flesh life/death in us.

We have the hope (a desired expectation) of glory (Gods manifested presence) within us, but God will share His glory with no flesh.

When the beam is removed from our own eye we will see clearly to help our brethren remove the speck from their eye.

Our fight is not to defeat the world, the flesh, and the devil. Instead it is a fight of faith; to have faith that Yashua already has by the making us one with Him.

God is by his Spirit performing every promise of His life in us. Your enemy is not your neighbor or your rulers or false teachers. Your enemy is any trust placed in yourself or any other man. Your sword shall without doubt defeat your enemies and deliver you to the throne of heaven without spot or wrinkle.

I hope the Lord blessed you through this writing. If you would to take the time to review this book I would appreciate it. If you would rather not then be blessed and filled with grace and peace until we all see each other in our Fathers house. Thank you.

Other books by Rick Rosamond

The Kingdom of heaven: How to live in God’s grace

Available on amazon.