

THE ARMOR OF GOD

Tom Stoltz | August 6-7, 2022

Week 4: The Pathway to Peace

10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power. 11 Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. 12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

13 Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. 14 Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, 15 and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. Ephesians 6:10-15 (NIV)

1. These aren't running shoes to flee in...
These aren't dancing shoes to skirt around the issue...
These aren't slippers for comfort...
These are shoes that help you _____
2. Readiness... preparation.
It is good to be ready... It is good to prepare...
but your trust must be in the Lord not in your preparations.

Preparation can lead to _____ and a false _____.

16 And He told them this parable: "The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest. 17 He thought to himself, 'What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.'

18 "Then he said, 'This is what I'll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store my surplus grain. 19 And I'll say to myself, "You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry."'

20 "But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?'

21 "This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God." Luke 12:16-21 (NIV)

What do I stand on? What do I stand in? What do I stand for?

The gospel (good news) of _____!

1. What is peace?

Jesus Himself is our peace... Ephesians 2:14 (NIV)

The _____ source of peace

The _____ source of peace

Peace starts in our heart... in our soul.

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts... Colossians 3:15 (NIV)

Jesus Christ is the Prince of Peace.... He's the source.

2. What does peace protect me from?

"Peace I leave with you; My peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."
John 14:27 NIV

Peace protects me from falling prey to _____.

The world promotes _____.

Jesus provides _____.

3. How do I put on peace?

"Don't worry about anything; instead pray about everything; tell God your needs and don't forget to thank Him for His answers.

If you do this, you will experience God's peace, which is far more wonderful than the human mind can understand." Philippians 4:6-7 (LB)

"If a person's thinking is controlled by his sinful self, then there is death. But if his thinking is controlled by the Spirit, then there is life and peace."

Romans 8:6 (ICB)

_____, _____, _____

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Preparations can lead to pride and a false security.

16 And He told them this parable: "The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest. 17 He thought to himself, 'What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.'

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The gospel (good news) of Peace!

1. What is peace?

For He Himself is our peace... Ephesians 2:14 (NIV)

The sole source of peace

The soul source of peace

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Peace protects me from falling prey to panic.

The world promotes panic...

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Pray, Thank, Think