

THE HELMET OF SALVATION.

- A. Now that we are looking at the helmet, we can see that it protects the head and that the head represents the mind. In effect, we are talking about a helmet which protects our minds.
- B. We saw previously that the battlefield on which this entire spiritual war is being fought is the mind of humanity. Because the mind is the battlefield, it is obvious that we need to be particularly careful to protect our own minds.
- C. The good soldier may be very brave and efficient having excellent equipment, but when he is wounded in the head, it becomes very difficult for him to use his equipment effectively. When a person's mind is not focused on what they are to do, everything begins to breakdown. Such maladies can be depression, discouragement, worry, grief, anger, sadness, despair, doubt, self-pity and loneliness.
- D. Optimism is the helmet. While we keep it on, our minds are protected against all Satan's subtle attacks of doubt, discouragement, self-pity, mistrust, and so on.
- E. Some scriptures concerning our salvation:
 1. Ex. 15:2.
"The LORD is my strength and song,
And He has become my salvation;
This is my God, and I will praise Him;
My father's God, and I will extol Him.
 2. 2Sam. 22:3; 22:47.
(2Sam 22:3) My God, my rock, in whom I take refuge,
My shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold and my refuge;
My savior, You save me from violence.
(2Sam 22:47) "The LORD lives, and blessed be my rock;
And exalted be God, the rock of my salvation,
 3. Psa. 3:8; 37:39; 51:12; 62:2; 96:2; 119:174.
(Psa 3:8) Salvation belongs to the LORD;
Your blessing be upon Your people! Selah.
(Psa 37:39) But the salvation of the righteous is from the LORD;
He is their strength in time of trouble.
(Psa 51:12) Restore to me the joy of Your salvation
And sustain me with a willing spirit.
(Psa 62:2) He only is my rock and my salvation,
My stronghold; I shall not be greatly shaken.
(Psa 96:2) Sing to the LORD, bless His name;
Proclaim good tidings of His salvation from day to day.
(Psa 119:174) I long for Your salvation, O LORD,
And Your law is my delight.
 4. Micah 7:7.
But as for me, I will watch expectantly for the LORD;
I will wait for the God of my salvation.
My God will hear me.
 5. Hab. 3:18.
Yet I will exult in the LORD,
I will rejoice in the God of my salvation.
 6. Ac. 4:12.
And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved."
 7. 2Cor. 6:2.
for He says,
"AT THE ACCEPTABLE TIME I LISTENED TO YOU,

AND ON THE DAY OF SALVATION I HELPED YOU.”

Behold, now is “THE ACCEPTABLE TIME,” behold, now is “THE DAY OF SALVATION”--

8. Phil. 1:28.
in no way alarmed by *your* opponents--which is a sign of destruction for them, but of salvation for you, and that *too*, from God.
9. 2Tim. 3:15.
and that from childhood you have known the sacred writings which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.
10. Heb. 5:9.
And having been made perfect, He became to all those who obey Him the source of eternal salvation,
11. 1Pet. 1:5,9.
who are protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time...
9 obtaining as the outcome of your faith the salvation of your souls.
12. 2Pet. 3:15.
and regard the patience of our Lord *as* salvation; just as also our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given him, wrote to you,

THE SWORD OF SPIRIT.

- A. There is one thing that distinguishes the sword from the other five items that we have examined. The sword is the first item that is not purely defensive. Without it, we have no way to drive off the devil. The only thing in that list that can do that is the sword, which is called “the Word of God” (Heb. 4:12).
- B. Since it is indicated in Scripture that Jesus Himself uses the sword of the Word of God, we would do well to study just how Jesus used it in His earthly life. The clearest picture of this is found in Mt. 4:1-11, which describes the temptation of Jesus by Satan in the wilderness.
 1. First, neither Jesus nor Satan questioned the authority of Scripture.
 2. Second, the basis of every temptation against Jesus was a temptation to doubt.
 3. Third, as I have already indicated, Jesus did not vary His method of dealing with Satan, but always used the same weapon of the Word of God against him. “It is written...; it is written...; it is written...”
- C. It is significant that the sword of the Spirit is not the Bible on the bookshelf or on the nightstand. That does not scare the devil. But when you take the Scripture in your mouth and quote it directly, then it becomes the sword of the Spirit.
- D. Some scriptures concerning the word of God:
 1. Mt. 4:4; 15:6.
(Mt 4:4) But He answered and said, “It is written, ‘MAN SHALL NOT LIVE ON BREAD ALONE, BUT ON EVERY WORD THAT PROCEEDS OUT OF THE MOUTH OF GOD.’”
(Mt 15:6) he is not to honor his father or his mother.’ And *by this* you invalidated the word of God for the sake of your tradition.
 2. Lk. 8:11 (8:4-15); 11:28 (11:14-28).
(Lk 8:11) “Now the parable is this: the seed is the word of God.
(Lk 11:28) But He said, “On the contrary, blessed are those who hear the word of God and observe it.”
 3. Ac. 4:31; 6:2; 6:7.
(Ac 4:31) And when they had prayed, the place where they had gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and *began* to speak the word of God with boldness.
(Ac 6:2) So the twelve summoned the congregation of the disciples and said, “It is not desirable for us to neglect the word of God in order to serve tables.
(Ac 6:7) The word of God kept on spreading; and the number of the disciples continued to increase greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were becoming obedient to the faith.
 4. 2Cor. 2:17; 4:2.
(2Cor 2:17) For we are not like many, peddling the word of God, but as from sincerity, but as from God, we speak in Christ in the sight of God.

(2Cor 4:2) but we have renounced the things hidden because of shame, not walking in craftiness or adulterating the word of God, but by the manifestation of truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God.

5. 1Th. 2:13.
For this reason we also constantly thank God that when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you accepted *it* not *as* the word of men, but *for* what it really is, the word of God, which also performs its work in you who believe.
6. Ti. 2:5.
to be sensible, pure, workers at home, kind, being subject to their own husbands, so that the word of God will not be dishonored.
7. Heb. 13:7.
Remember those who led you, who spoke the word of God to you; and considering the result of their conduct, imitate their faith.
8. 1Pet. 1:23.
for you have been born again not of seed which is perishable but imperishable, *that is*, through the living and enduring word of God.

THE UNPROTECTED AREA

- A. We have now covered all six items of protective armor. They are the girdle of truth, the breastplate of righteousness, the shoes of the preparation of the gospel, the shield of faith, the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.
- B. The one area for which there is no protection is our back. I believe this is very significant and has a two-fold application.
- C. First, never turn your back on the devil because if you do you are giving him an opportunity to wound you in an unprotected area. In other words, never give up!
- D. Some scriptures on endurance:
 1. Mt. 10:22; 24:13.
(Mt 10:22) You will be hated by all because of My name, but it is the one who has endured to the end who will be saved.
(Mt 24:13) But the one who endures to the end, he will be saved.
 2. Lk. 21:19.
By your endurance you will gain your lives.
 3. Jn. 6:27.
Do not work for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give to you, for on Him the Father, God, has set His seal."
 4. 1Cor. 10:13; 13:7.
(1Cor 10:13) No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it.
(1Cor 13:7) bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.
 5. 2Th. 1:4.
therefore, we ourselves speak proudly of you among the churches of God for your perseverance and faith in the midst of all your persecutions and afflictions which you endure.
 6. 2Tim. 2:12; 4:5.
(2Tim 2:12) If we endure, we will also reign with Him;
If we deny Him, He also will deny us;
(2Tim 4:5) But you, be sober in all things, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.
 7. Heb. 12:1.
Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,

8. Rev. 2:3.
and you have perseverance and have endured for My name's sake, and have not grown weary.
- E. Second, we are not always able to protect our own back. To withstand this problem, we must be able to trust our fellow soldiers. When we find ourselves under pressure, we ought to know who will be there to protect our back when we cannot.
- F. Some scriptures concerning our duty to be "brother keepers":
 1. Rom. 12:10,16; 13:8; 14:19; 15:7.
(Rom 12:10) Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; give preference to one another in honor;
(Rom 12:16) Be of the same mind toward one another; do not be haughty in mind, but associate with the lowly. Do not be wise in your own estimation.
(Rom 13:8) Owe nothing to anyone except to love one another; for he who loves his neighbor has fulfilled *the* law.
(Rom 14:9) So then we pursue the things which make for peace and the building up of one another.
(Rom 15:7) Therefore, accept one another, just as Christ also accepted us to the glory of God.
 2. 1Cor. 12:25.
so that there may be no division in the body, but *that* the members may have the same care for one another.
 3. Gal. 5:13,26; 6:2.
(Gal. 5:13) For you were called to freedom, brethren; only *do* not *turn* your freedom into an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.
(Gal 5:26) Let us not become boastful, challenging one another, envying one another.
(Gal 6:2) Bear one another's burdens, and thereby fulfill the law of Christ.
 4. Eph. 4:2; 4:32.
(Eph 4:2) with all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing tolerance for one another in love,
(Eph 4:32) Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.
 5. Col. 3:13.
bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you.
 6. 1Th. 5:11.
Therefore encourage one another and build up one another, just as you also are doing.
 7. Heb. 3:12,13; 10:24,25.
(Heb 3:12-13) Take care, brethren, that there not be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart that falls away from the living God. **13** But encourage one another day after day, as long as it is *still* called "Today," so that none of you will be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.
(Heb 10:24-25) and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, **25** not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging *one another*; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.
 8. Jas. 5:16.
Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another so that you may be healed. The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much.
 9. 1Pet. 4:8-9.
Above all, keep fervent in your love for one another, because love covers a multitude of sins. **9** Be hospitable to one another without complaint.
 10. 1Jn. 4:7,11-12.
Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.... **11** Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. **12** No one has seen God at any time; if we love one another, God abides in us, and His love is perfected in us.