

Prepared for War

Introduction: As believers we are in a spiritual war. Not only that be the war has intensified and will intensify even more as we approach the return of the Christ.

The purpose of war.

I. The purpose of war.

A. To hinder or stop the advancement of a kingdom.

1. As believers we live in another kingdom.

a) *Jesus is Lord and King of our kingdom.*

b) *He is our commander and chief.*

c) *Ours is the kingdom of light.*

2. Unbelievers are in another kingdom.

a) *They are enslaved by Satan and his army.*

b) *Their kingdom is the kingdom of darkness.*

B. To stop each soldier individually.

1. The armor in Ephesians 6:10-17 was personally fit to the soldier.

2. The swords were a dagger

a) *The Greek word is machaira.*

b) *This was not a big sword but a much smaller swords used in close combat.*

c) *It was a weapon used by one individual and was prepared for them.*

d) *We get the word machete from this word.*

C. The purpose is to stand

Ephesians 6:14 (NASB95)

¹⁴Stand firm therefore, HAVING GIRDED YOUR LOINS WITH TRUTH, and HAVING PUT ON THE BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS,

1. Standing means to not be moved from your position.
 - a) *The Greek word is histemi.*
 - b) *It means to make to stand or to cause to be in place.*
2. In this warfare purpose of the enemy is to move us from our place.
 - a) *Many are being moved.*
 - b) *The Bible tells us that in the last days some will be moved.*

1 Timothy 4:1 (NASB95)

¹But the Spirit explicitly says that in later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons,

II. A piece of armor to help you stand, feet shod.

A. We need all the pieces of armor in this war.

1. Where we lack is where we will be attacked.
2. Paul told us to take the whole armor of God.

B. Having shod your feet

Ephesians 6:15 (NASB95)

¹⁵and having shod YOUR FEET WITH THE PREPARATION OF THE GOSPEL OF PEACE;

1. To be shod means to bind up like a sandal.
 - a) *This does not sound very strong.*

b) *It was very practical.*

C. Understanding the Roman sandal.

1. It was called a caligae.
2. It was very comfortable for a soldier to wear.
3. It was made of thick leather that protected the soldier's feet.
4. It was very versatile.
5. The sole of these sandals had spikes in them.

a) *The soldier had to buy them himself.*

b) *They were meant to give the soldier the ability to stand in battle.*

c) *They were also used to step on their enemy.*

Ephesians 1:22 (NASB95)

²²And He put all things in subjection under His feet, and gave Him as head over all things to the church,

III. What is on our feet.

A. Preparation.

1. Preparation is important word here.
 - a) *As believers we must be prepared for battle.*
 - b) *We must be prepared to stand firm.*
 - c) *Being properly prepare means winning or losing the battle.*
2. The Roman soldier was prepared to do two things.
 - a) *To stand in battle.*
 - b) *To advance in battle.*

c) *Proper preparation for the believers means we can stand when the enemy is fighting with us.*

d) *Proper preparation means we can advance the Kingdom of God*

B. What are we prepared in? The Gospel of peace.

1. The gospel, the good news.

a) *The Greek word euangelion. Good news. We get our English word evangelize from it. (Pronunciation Eu – angel-ion)*

b) *This word was rarely used in society at that time.*

c) *It was used when a runner would come from a battle that had been won.*

d) *He was not allowed to bring the news to the people before he had brought it to the king.*

e) *He would run through the streets saying this one word. Good news. Euangelion!!!!*

2. What is the good news? Peace with God.

Romans 5:1 (NASB95)

Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

a) *The Good news is that we have peace with God!*

It is essential for our standing firm in battle that we know we are at peace with God!

b) *God is not our enemy! He is not mad at us.*

3. We are prepared to stand because of the peace we have with God.

a) *We stand with Him and He stands with us.*

b) *This needs to get inside of us.*

4. We are prepared to advance the Kingdom because God made peace with mankind.

a) *People appropriate this peace by faith.*

b) *Peace is being offered to all mankind that is what we are prepared to tell them.*