

Have You Tested Your Armor?



Examining Our Armor

Our armor consists of God's word, and elements that come from His word

- ... having girded your waist with truth... (John 17:17)**
- ... having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace...**
- ... the shield of faith... (Romans 10:17)**
- ... the breastplate of righteousness... (Luke 1:6)**
- ... the helmet of salvation... (Acts 13:26; Romans 1:16; Ephesians 1:13)**
- The Sword of the Spirit (Hebrews 4:12; Revelation 1:16; Revelation 2:12)**

Our Training

Study

- “But against all these we prevailed by skillful selection of recruits, by teaching, as I have said, the principles of war...”
- “For knowledge of military science nourishes boldness in combat.”
- **Romans 10:2** - For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge
- **2 Peter 3:15-16** - and consider that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation--as also our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given to him, has written to you, as also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which untaught and unstable people twist to their own destruction, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures.

Our Training

Study

- **Studying the Bible is much more than just reading**
- **Take advantage of every learning opportunity**
 - **Bible classes**
 - **Sermons**
 - **Gospel meetings**
 - **Home study**
 - **Other Bible studies**

Our Training

Practice

“...by hardening them in daily exercise, by acquainting them beforehand through field manoeuvres with everything that can happen in the line of march and in battles...”

Our Training

Practice

- **Hebrews 5:12-14** - For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the first principles of the oracles of God; and you have come to need milk and not solid food. For everyone who partakes only of milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. **But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.**

Our Training

Practice

- **Luke 1:6** - And they were both righteous before God, walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless.

Our Training

Practice

- **James 1:22-25** - But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does.

Our Training

Practice

- **James 2:20** - But do you want to know, O foolish man, that **faith without works is dead?**

Our Training

Mental Preparation

“No one fears to do what he is confident he has done well...”

Our Training

Mental Preparation

- **Genesis 39:7-9** - And it came to pass after these things that his master's wife cast longing eyes on Joseph, and she said, "Lie with me." But he refused and said to his master's wife, "Look, my master does not know what is with me in the house, and he has committed all that he has to my hand. There is no one greater in this house than I, nor has he kept back anything from me but you, because you are his wife. How then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?"

Our Training

Mental Preparation

- **Daniel 1:8** - But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's delicacies, nor with the wine which he drank; therefore he requested of the chief of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself.
- **Daniel 3:16** - Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego answered and said to the king, "O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to answer you in this matter.

Our Training

Drill with Our Fellow Soldiers



Our Training

Drill with Our Fellow Soldiers

“...by acquainting them beforehand through field manoeuvres with everything that can happen in the line of march and in battles...”

Our Training

Drill with Our Fellow Soldiers

- **Philippians 1:27-28** - Only let your conduct be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of your affairs, that you **stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel, and not in any way terrified by your adversaries,** which is to them a proof of perdition, but to you of salvation, and that from God.

Our Training

Drill with Our Fellow Soldiers

- **Hebrews 3:12-13** - Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God; but **exhort one another daily, while it is called "Today,"** lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.
- **Ephesians 4:1-3** - I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Our Training

Drill with Our Fellow Soldiers

- **Ephesians 5:19** - speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord,
- **Colossians 3:16** - Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord

Our Training

Drill with Our Fellow Soldiers

- **Exhort and be exhorted** – 1 Tim. 4:13; 5:1; 6:2; 2 Tim. 4:2
- **Admonish and be admonished** – Rom. 15:14; 2 Thess. 3:15; Titus 2:3-4
- **Comfort and be comforted** – 2 Cor. 1:3-4; 1 Thess. 4:18; 1 Thess. 5:14
- **Sharpen each other** – Proverbs 27:17 - As iron sharpens iron, So a man sharpens the countenance of his friend.

Our Training

Discipline

“...by severe punishment for indolence...”

- **Administer and accept discipline**

- **2 Timothy 4:2** - Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching.
- **Titus 1:13** - This testimony is true. Therefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith,
- **Titus 2:15** - Speak these things, exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no one despise you.

Our Training

Discipline

- **Accept discipline from God**
 - **Revelation 3:19** - As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore be zealous and repent.
 - **1 Corinthians 11:32** - But when we are judged, we are chastened by the Lord, that we may not be condemned with the world.
 - **Hebrews 12:5-11**

Have You Tested Your Armor

God has equipped us with everything we need

- **1 Corinthians 10:13** - No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.
- **2 Timothy 3:16-17** - All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness,.
- **2 Peter 1:2-4** - Grace and peace that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

Have You Tested Your Armor

God has equipped us with everything we need

- **Can we use what He has given us? Have we:**
 - **Do we study?**
 - **Do we practice?**
 - **Are we prepared mentally?**
 - **Do we train with our fellow soldiers?**
 - **Are we accept disciplined?**