

Whole Armor of God – Feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; Ephesians 6:15 and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace;



1. Shoes: Mixture of leather and metal. The bottom had cleat-like nails measuring 1" – 3" and were used to hold the soldier in place as well as kick, wound, and kill an opponent.

2. Greaves:

- Bronze; Covered from top of the knee to the ankle
- Specifically formed to each soldier
- Prevented bruises, lacerations, & breaks

The *caliga* as a unit is similar in function to a modern soccer player's shine guard and cleats. The Roman soldier frequently wore this half-boot, which was not strictly a weapon but part of his equipment that was used especially in long marches.



Isaiah 52:7 How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who proclaims peace, who brings glad tidings of good things, who proclaims salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns!" In its original context of Isaiah 52 the picture is painted of a lone messenger whose beautiful feet are drumming across the mountaintops with all the swiftness of a gazelle (Song 2:17; 8:14), bringing good news to Jerusalem. As he comes within earshot of the city he shouts 'peace', 'good tidings', 'salvation', 'Your God reigns'

Shoes of readiness/preparation

- Readiness: To put on sandals means to be ready for action
 - The sign of the Christian is that he is eager and willing to be on the way to share the gospel of peace with others who have not heard it.
 - The gospel can firmly ground a world reeling under the weight of desperate need and conflict. The heart of the believer is to fill that need.
- Preparation: Being prepared and having a solid foundation (The Christian's victory)
 - The language is used metaphorically to signify that those who are properly equipped with God's armor have their feet fitted, prepared, and ready in their own spiritual warfare.
 - In verses 13 & 14 we are exhorted to stand firm. The hobnailed shoes kept the soldiers footing sure in battle.

Gospel: Good news

Peace: freedom from worry, harmony, free from disorder; prosperity, eternal rest

Romans 10:15 And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, who bring glad tidings of good things!"

Luke 1:79 To give light to those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace."

- He promises you peace: The "peace" within forms a beautiful contrast to the raging of the outward conflict

Spiritual warfare: There is conflict and warfare for the souls of men – Satan hates a Christian witnessing

Nahum 1:15 Behold, on the mountains the feet of him who brings good tidings, Who proclaims peace! O Judah, keep your appointed feasts, perform your vows. For the wicked one shall no more pass through you; He is utterly cut off.

Christians are pictured in vv. 10-16 as standing, not advancing. This refers to a believer's stability or surefootedness **from the gospel** which gives him **peace** so he can stand in the battle.

Christians who are ready to witness for Christ have an easier time defeating the evil one.

Revelation 12:11 And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death.

The spiritual foes belong under your feet: Romans 16:20 And the God of peace will crush Satan under your feet shortly.

Luke 10:19 Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you.

Walk on enemy territory:

Joshua 1:3-4 Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given you, as I said to Moses. ⁴ From the wilderness and this Lebanon as far as the great river, the River Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and to the Great Sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your territory.

The soles keep us going over hard ground, and equip us with something to offer the needy souls along the way.

How to put on the shoe of the preparation of the gospel of peace?

1. Prepare yourself to follow the Lord no matter what. Preparation refers to that which is already accomplished and ready.
2. Know and be equipped to share the gospel.
 - ALL believers are called to shod their feet with the gospel of peace
 - Make sure you understand the message we are to take to the world. Whether you are a singer, writer or teacher it we all have one message and focus, and that is to spread the love of Christ.

2 Timothy 4:2 Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching.

Peace in warfare, healing broken lives

We need to remind ourselves of the reason for the battle we are engaged in. Christ has translated out of the kingdom of darkness into the kingdom of light (Colossians 1:13). He equips us to walk in victory in our own life and to bring that victory to others.

"There is no calling without the gospel. No sacrifice without an understanding. A barefooted man shrinks back. But when the will and heart are prepared and ready to serve the Lord, the Christian feet is shod: prepared and equipped to face any trouble he must go through to complete the task ahead." ~ Author Unknown

