

# The Whole Armor of God

And stand there fore (Hold your ground) having tightened the belt of truth around your loins

## The Belt (Girt) of Truth



The Belt is not the most noticeable piece of the armor, however, it is actually the central piece that holds all the rest securely in place and provides for every need during battle. The belt was broad and made of sturdy leather. From it hung an overlapping skirt of leather straps which on the inside surface were armored with small rectangular pieces of metal held in place by decorative rivets which showed on the outside. Also from the belt hung specialized hooks and holders on which to secure the scabbard that contained the sword at the proper angle, the quiver which held lances, and an apparatus on which to rest the large battle shield. Also, on the belt were clips with which to hold the breastplate in its proper place. Supplies of bread, oil and water were also on the belt.

- Having your life surrounded in truth
- It controls all aspects of your life
- Foundation piece of armor and in the life of the believer

### Truth: prominent theme in Ephesians

- 2 Corinthians 6:7 By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness on the right hand and on the left,
- John 14:6
- John 4:24 (NIV) "God is spirit, and his worshippers must worship in spirit and in truth."
- 2 Th 2:10 (NIV) ...They perish because they refused to love the truth and so be saved.

The idea of fastening clothing securely around one's waist signifies preparation for vigorous activity (Luke 12:35, 37; 17:8), in this case, readiness for battle. The apostle's language clearly alludes to the LXX of Isaiah 11, which declares of the Messiah: 'With righteousness shall he be girded around his waist, and with truth bound around his sides' (vv. 4–5). Within its Old Testament context the rule of God's Anointed One in the divine kingdom will be characterized by righteousness and truth. The armour which the Messiah wears in battle is now provided for his people as they engage in spiritual warfare.

The *truth* is armor against the deceitful strategies of powers resisting the truth <sup>1</sup>

'**Truth**', which occupies a prominent place in Ephesians, refers to the truth of God (4:24; 5:9) revealed in the gospel (1:13; 4:15, 21, 24), which has its outworking in the lives of believers who are members of the new humanity (4:25; 5:9). Here in Ephesians 6 both aspects of truth belong together. As believers buckle on this piece of the Messiah's armour, they will be strengthened by God's truth revealed in the gospel,

**Truth** the agreement of our convictions with God's revelation.

Truth gives unity to the different virtues, establishing ourselves in that element, wrapping it round us; That you may be ready for every motion.

**Covers the loins** are described as the seat of power. "To smite through the loins" is to strike a fatal blow. Truth is important to our lives.

*The Christian must gird his loins about with truth. That is his responsibility.*

Q) Where is your bible?

A) Where we live

- We have Christian Streakers in body of Christ

### Example of person who does not have on the loins with truth

- Life is dictated by whim not the truth of God's word
- They think they are called not to be in a church, live in boondocks
- Preaches extreme survival doctrine and does not practice it themselves.
- Is not under authority

- Their background determines their philosophy. They take the Bible into advisement but it is not the final voice and determining factor.

### **How to gird your loins:**

To gird your loins during the Roman Era meant to draw-up and tie your lower garment between your legs as to increase your mobility and agility. This prevented the loose ends of the tunic from becoming snagged on something or entangled with your feet which would cause you to stumble or fall down when moving about quickly.

**The Spiritual Meaning:** "to secure *anything* that will cause us to *stumble or fall down* when moving about quickly in the Christian daily battle". We should always be spiritually sharp, alert and ready to respond with *spiritual mobility and spiritual agility*.

### **Daily battle: look up**

I Peter 1:13-16 (KJV) "*Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ: As obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance: But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, 'Be ye holy; for I am holy'.*"

I Peter 1:13-16 Importance of being spiritually mobile and spiritually agile in order to protect, guard, and defend your most personal areas of weakness. Gird your loins with truth is for Christians to surround or wrap our minds in God's truth and scriptures.

Peter is discussing the same thing Paul wrote about in Ephesians 6:14. Both men are trying to help Christians understand the importance of being *spiritually mobile* and *spiritually agile* in order to protect, guard, and defend your most vulnerable areas of personal weakness (the old sin nature, temptations, and areas you struggle in daily). The key point in "*having your loins girt about with truth*" is for Christians to surround or wrap our minds in God's truth and the scriptures (not our own humanistic or personal truth).

