WHAT O TOWEAR

Ephesians 6:10-13

"Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities,..."

"...against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

wrestle: - (pal'-ay) a contest between two in which each endeavours to throw the other, and which is decided when the victor is able to hold his opponent down with his hand upon his neck.

Romans 16:20 "And the God of peace will crush Satan under your feet shortly."

Mankind is to protect (*shamar*) the eternal purpose of God and to once and for all put the KIBOSH (*kabash*) on His enemies!!!

In our contending with the devil we have a command to **Stand** and a command to **Wrestle**.



Ephesians 1:20-21

"He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come."



Romans 13:12-14 "...let us put on the armor of light. Let us walk properly, as in the day, ... But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh..." Putting on the armour of light is putting on the Lord Jesus Christ. Place yourself in HIM!

Ephesians 6:14-17

"Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth,..."

Acts 28:16

"Now when we came to Rome, ... but Paul was permitted to dwell by himself with the soldier who guarded him."

God prepared a winning strategy and provided effective armour.

Notice the different tense:

- First three pieces of armour: "Having put on"
- Second three pieces of armour:
 - "Taking up"
- The first three are armour that you establish yourself in continually.



Deuteronomy 33:11

"Strike the <u>loins</u> of those who rise against him, And of those who hate him, that they rise not again."

1 Peter 1:13

"Therefore gird up the loins of your mind,..."



If you don't fix yourself in truth you pervert all other instruments of war.

Truth is the first piece of armour to go on.

Truth is the is the central piece of armour.

Not the accumulation of information but foundational sincerity of heart.



Victory or defeat is determined by the loins. Strength is in the loins. The roman soldier kept his money, his sword, his writing instruments, and his garments tucked in his belt.

A person not established in truth will be poor, defenseless, misunderstood, and unkempt

Truth:— An objective standard by which reality is measured. Fidelity to an original or standard. Truth is that which conforms to reality.

What is reality? What is the objective standard?





2 Corinthians 10:3-5

"... we do not war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ,..."

John 14:6

"Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."



John 17:17

"Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth."

1 Timothy 3:15

"...in the house of God, which is the **church** of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth."

John 16:13

"However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come."



Ephesians 6:14 (NASB) says, "Stand firm therefore, having girded your loins with truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness."





Righteousness means I'm in right relationship with God.

It is my position with God. I am in Christ! I am as close to Him as l'Il ever be. He accepts me. It means He isn't mad at me, annoyed with me, frustrated with me, or disappointed with me.





Romans 5:17 (NASB) says, "For if by the transgression of the one, death reigned through the one, much more those who receive the abundance of grace and the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ."

Psalm 14:3 says that "all have turned aside, they have together become corrupt; there is no one who does good, not even one."



Isaiah 64:6 "But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousness are as filthy rags."



Romans 3:22 reminds us that "all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,"











The Lost Lamb, by Del Parson, © Del Parson

Jeremiah 23:6 (NASB)

In His days Judah will be saved,

And Israel will dwell securely;

And this is His name by which He will be called,

The Lord our righteousness.



I Corinthians 1:30 (NASB)

But by His doing you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification, and redemption,



2 Corinthians 5:21 (NASB)

He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.



Righteousness = 536 times!



Clark Whitten "It is my opinion that this subject of righteousness & our understanding of it is the real tipping point for a life lived in freedom and spiritual abundance.



It seems if one receives the gift of righteousness and wholeheartedly embraces the truth of it all, all the other points of truth associated with God's great and magnificent grace fall into place."



"Just as your righteous deeds did not make you righteous, your unrighteous deeds do not make you unrighteous."

Paul Ellis







Isaiah 61:10 (ESV) says, "I will greatly rejoice in the Lord; my soul shall exult in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,



as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself with jewels."



1 John 2:28 (NASB) Now, little children, abide in Him, so that when He appears, we may have confidence and not shrink away from Him in shame at His coming



Hebrews 4:16 (MSG) Now that we know what we have—Jesus, this great High Priest with ready access to God—let's not let it slip through our fingers. We don't have a priest who is out of touch with our reality. He's been through weakness and testing, experienced it all—all but the sin. So let's walk right up to him and get what he is so ready to give. Take the mercy, accept the help.



WHAT O TOVEAR