





The Breastplate of Righteousness

“With all diligence, guard the heart: for out of it are the issues of life.” *Proverbs 4:23*



The Breastplate of Righteousness

“BraveHeart”

“With all diligence, guard
the heart: for out of it are the
issues of life.” *Proverbs 4:23*

The Breastplate of Righteousness

“the body is the temple of the Holy Spirit.” *1 Cor. 6:19*

The human body is constructed spiritually like God's Temple and Tabernacle. In that understanding our body's heart is like the Temple's Holy of Holies.

Our Holy of Holies contains the treasures of our hearts as does the Temple's Holy of Holies.

And the treasures of this life, both material and immaterial, produce the desires that motivate us to do everything that we do.

The Breastplate of Righteousness

The heart was designed by God to worship. Failing to worship God, it will fill the vacuum, creating its own gods to worship. “Das Herz Ist Eine Idolfabrik.”

Pride is the high priest of this worship. So powerful and insidious is pride that God turns His “full armor” against the man who is filled with this form of self-worship. “God opposes the proud....,” *James 4:6*

The **righteousness of Christ imputed** to our account through faith by grace is a monsterously mighty gift against pride and self-righteousness.

The Breastplate of Righteousness

The powerful, life-giving sentinels of the Holy Spirit are beautifully and metaphorically pictured by the lungs. They breathe forth life into the warrior's armored soul, standing in constant vigil. Striking intruders of falseness, the Spirit's Sword and the mind of Christ join forces to protect the fragile human heart.

The heart's propensity to merit its own righteousness, to produce false-guilt or shame, and to rely upon self-justification is directly targeted by real, authentic, God-given **righteousness**, which is putting on Jesus.

Breastplate of Righteousness

“Guard the Heart”

“With all diligence, guard the heart: for out of it are the issues of life.” *Proverbs 4:23*

“The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it?” *Jeremiah 17:9*

“For from within, out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, foolishness. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.” *Mark 7:21-23*

Breastplate of Righteousness
“Growing the Heart”

“Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart.” *Psalms 37:4*

“Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.” *Psalms 51:10*

“I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.” *Psalms 119:11*

Breastplate of Righteousness

“Give Attention To the Heart”

“For from within, out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, foolishness. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.” *Mark 7:21-23*

“For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”
Matthew 6:21

“I the Lord search the heart and test the mind, to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his deeds.” *Jeremiah 17:10*

Shod With Preparation
of the Gospel of Peace

“Boots on the Ground”

“Now I would remind you, brothers, of
the gospel I preached to you, which you
received, in which you stand,”

1 Corinthians 15:1-2



Roman Sandals, Hadrian's Wall, Northumberland

Boots on the Ground

Deo- Bind, Forced Joining of Elements

Hupo'- Under

Hupodeo - To Bind Under

Etoimos- Ready, Describing the Conclusive End of a
Period of Preparation

While Maintaining A Strong Internal Spiritual Defence
We Are to Live Always Ready to Go on Offense.

The Greatest War Is Waged By A Gospel of Peace.
And Will Be Won By A Gospel of Peace.

Boots on the Ground “Gospel Going”

Go Into All World *Mark 16:15*

How Beautiful Upon The Mountain....*Isaiah 52:7*

Your Word Is A Lamp Unto My Feet *Psalms 119:105*

Ponder The Path Of Your Feet *Proverbs 4:26*

Quick To Share Bad News-Gossip

Quick To Run In The Face Of The Enemy-Cowardice

Making Haste To Run To Evil Proverbs 6:18

Flee Youthful Lusts 2 Timothy 2:22

Boots on the Ground “Gospel Grounded”

History of God Putting “Boots on the Ground.”

1. First Gospel, the ProtoEvangelium, Genesis 3:15
2. To the Fulfillment, Road to Emmaus. Luke 24:27
Garden to the Grave, From Eden to Emmaus
3. To His Final Rule, All Things Put Under His Feet

Boots on the Ground
“Gospel Gripped”

Stand Gripped in the Radical and
Powerful Concept of The Gospel of Christ

“I can do all things through him.....” *Phillippians 4:13*

“...for apart from me you can do nothing.” *John 15:5*

“...stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong.”
1 Corinthians 16:13



Shield of Faith

“Gimme Shelter”

“But the Lord is faithful. He will
establish you and guard you
against the evil one.”

2 Thessalonians 3:3



“Gimme Shelter”

Take Up The Shield of Faith

“Where Are You?” - “We Were Hiding?”
“Why Were You Hiding?” - “We Are
Naked.” - “Who Told You That You
Were Naked?” *Genesis 3: 8-13*



The Roman Shield

“thyreos”- door-sized shield
“scutum”-Latin 2.5’ X 4’

Wooden planks glued together

Handle inside protected by “boss”

Meant to be used by the individual
and, corporately, as a shield wall.

Only Intact Roman Scutum



Found Dura-Europos 1935, Dated 256 AD



“Gimme Shelter”

“Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.”

Hebrews 11:1



“But you, O Lord, are a
shield about me, my glory,
and the lifter of my head.
Psalm 3:3”

“I long to dwell in your
tent forever and take
refuge in the shelter of
your wings”. *Psalm 61:4*

No Shield Baptism

No historic evidence whatsoever that Romans soaked their shields in water. The construction of the Roman scutum itself would extinguish fiery darts.



A group of soldiers in full combat gear, including helmets and rifles, are silhouetted against a bright, cloudy sky. They are standing on a grassy hill, with some soldiers looking towards the camera and others looking away. The scene is dramatic and evocative, suggesting a moment of reflection or camaraderie in a military setting.

Comaraderie

“My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.” *John 15:12-13*



Confidence

“Though an army encamp against me my heart shall not fear; though war arise against me yet I will be confident.” *Psalm 27:3*



Covering

“The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases;
his mercies never come to an end; they are new
every morning; great is your faithfulness.

Lamentations 3:22–23

Biblical faith is a real and measurable mental capacity

Faith Based on God's Record/ Witness of History

Deuteronomy 7:9

Faith Based on God's Word/ Inerrant Scriptures

2 Timothy 3:16, John 17:17

Faith Based on God's Covering/ God's Power

Thessalonians 3:3, Psalm 18:2

Faith Based on God's Promises/ Christ's Resurrection

1 Corinthians 15:3

Faith Based on God's Character/ Spirit Witness

Romans 1:19-20