

IX. PRAYING ON THE WHOLE AMOUR OF GOD

EPHESIANS 6:10-18

I. FACTS TO REMEMBER

A. THE REAL ENEMY IS INVISIBLE==v. 12 “Flesh and blood”, in other words- Man is not the enemy. The enemy will use man for their evil purposes.

i. Ephesians 2:2-3 identify the enemy as listed below.

a) The World System==Eph. 2:2a; 1 John 2:15-17;

b) Satan== “the prince of the power of the air” = Eph. 2:2b; John 12:31 (Matt. 4:8-9); (1 Cor. 2:7-8) Rev. 12:9-10; 20:2-3, 7-10;

c) The flesh==Eph. 2:3; In this passage the emphasis is on the lusts and desires of the flesh which we as unbelievers lived to fulfill. But now in Christ Jesus as believers the term flesh is used in reference to the actions of a believer who has yielded by choice to the power of indwelling sin which indwells our fleshly body and members. See Romans 7:17-18 where Paul states in 17b “but sin that dwelleth in me. For I know that in me (that is, IN MY FLESH) dwelleth no good thing:” 18a. In verse 20b “but sin that dwelleth in me” refers to the power of sin indwelling the flesh as explained in verse 18a. In verse 22 Paul states “For I delight in the law of God after the inward “man” which refers to the spirit of the believer, where the Holy Spirit dwells (John 3:6b; Romans 8:9, 11, 16; 1 Cor. 6:19; Eph. 1:13-14;). In Rom. 7:23 Paul again speaks of “the law of sin which is in my members” 23c, members being part of the flesh again emphasizing the power of indwelling sin in the flesh and members. When we even seek to serve Christ in the energy of the flesh with its indwelling sin using fleshly methods, energies, programs and efforts as Martha served Christ in Luke 10:38-42 we also get “cumbered about with serving” v. 40a and “careful and troubled about many things” v. 41c, words of rebuke to Martha from the Lord and will not such works be counted as “wood, hay, stubble” (1 Cor. 3:12) which will be burned up at the Judgement Seat of Christ 1 Cor. 3:13-15? Additional scriptures which refer to the conflict we have with the power of indwelling sin in the flesh and the members are: Rom. 8:2-7; 13:14; 2 Cor. 10:2-5; Gal. 5:13-26; Col. 3:5-9.

B. GOD'S WAYS AND THOUGHTS ARE DIFFERENT FROM MAN'S==Isaiah 55:8-9; 1 Samuel 16:7==Man looks at the outward body but God looks at and emphasizes the spirit (John 3:6-7;). Nicodemus thought in terms of the physical (John 3:4) while Jesus was concerned with the spiritual which is typical of man and God. God emphasizes the ETERNAL while man puts emphasis and importance on the TEMPORAL.==2 Corinthians 4:16-18. Thus in reference to the whole armour of God, the armour is invisible and the armour is for the inward man that we might stand against the invisible enemy to thus live in victory as

more than conquers through Christ==Romans 8:35-37; John 15:5d; Phil. 4:13.
 C. REMEMBER THAT GOD CREATED MAN IN HIS IMAGE AS A TRINITY==
 (1) Spirit, (2) Soul and (3) Body==Genesis 1:26-27; 1 Thessalonians 5:23. The
 body is indwelt by sin=Romans 7:17-23 and is concerned about fleshly
 matters=Romans 8:5a. The spirit of the believer is indwelt by the Holy
 Spirit=John 3:6; 1 Corinthians 6:19; Rom. 8:9, 11; and delights in spiritual
 matters=Romans 7:22, 14a. Therefore we see a conflict between the spirit which
 is indwelt by the Holy Spirit, and the body which is indwelt by sin. The soul,
which is between the spirit and body, becomes the area of conflict and struggle. It
 is of the (1) mind- the conscious think part of the brain, (2) emotions- the feelings
 and desires which result from the information stored and received by the brain,
 and (3) will- that part of the soul by which decisions are made based on the
 information of the mind and emotions. It is in the soul decisions are made to obey
 indwelling sin and walk after the flesh or obey the indwelling Holy Spirit and
 walk in righteousness (Romans 8:2-7). Since the soul is the area where decisions
are made which direct the whole man, this is the area where the enemy attacks
and where the invisible armour is needed!
 (Refer to the BIBLICAL PICTURE OF MAN diagram on page 5.)

II. PRAYING ON THE ARMOUR:

Ephesians 6:11a “Put on the whole armour of God” indicates this is an act we must
 do which involves the will. It is God's will that we put on the armour. In John 15:5b
 Jesus states “for without me ye can do nothing”. Philippians 4:13 “I can do all things
 through Christ which strengtheneth me”. In John 5:14-15 we are told that if we ask
anything according to God's will, He hears us and will grant the petition. Thus, I
 suggest you pray something like the following each day in putting on this armour
 like you put on your physical clothes each day one piece at a time using Ephesians
 6:14-18a as a guide.

DEAR LORD, PLEASE GIRD UP THE LOINS OF MY MIND (1 Peter 1:13a
 “Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind”--Peter reveals what the loins picture)
WITH TRUTH (Jesus is the Truth-John 14:6. Know is a key word to look for in
 studying God's word because it points out truth God wants impressed on our minds.
 Romans 6:2-10, 16-18; 7:1-6. Know the purpose of the law-Romans 7:7-13. Know
 the effects of trying to live the Christian life under the law==Romans 7:14-15 the
 results are defeat. Know the victory available in Christ==Romans 8:1-39; 6:2-22.
MAY MY THOUGHTS TODAY BE CENTERED AROUND YOU, LORD JESUS,
AND “WHATSOEVER THINGS ARE TRUE, HONEST, JUST, PURE, LOVELY,
OF GOOD REPORT, VIRTUOUS AND WORTHY OF PRAISE”. Philippians 4:8.
PLEASE BRING INTO CAPTIVITY EVERY THOUGHT TO THE OBEDIENCE
OF CHRIST AND CAST DOWN IMAGINATIONS AND EVERY HIGH THING

THAT EXALTETH ITSELF AGAINST THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD. 2
Corinthians 10:5. PLEASE BRING DOWN EVERY STRONG HOLD OF EVIL IN
ME (2 Corinthians 10:4) AND CONFORM MY THOUGHTS TO YOUR
THOUGHTS (Isaiah 55:8-9).

PLEASE SURROUND MY EMOTIONS (Ephesians 6:14b=the breast plate covers
the heart which pictures the emotions. Heart=a broken heart, my heart is sad, my
heart longs for you, etc.) WITH RIGHTEOUSNESS. MAY THERE BE NO ROOM
FOR LUSTFUL LONGINGS, EVIL EMOTIONS, CARNAL CRAVINGS,
SENSUAL SINS, WICKED WANTS, DECEITFUL DESIRES OR EVIL
ENVYINGS WITHIN MY EMOTIONS TODAY. PLEASE PRODUCE THE FRUIT
OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN MY EMOTIONS WHICH IS LOVE, JOY AND PEACE.
I CHOOSE FOR YOUR AGAPE LOVE TO FLOW THROUGH ME TOWARD
ALL I MEET TODAY (Romans 5:5). MAY YOUR JOY SPRING UP IN MY
SPIRIT, PASS THROUGH MY SOUL AND REFLECT THROUGH MY
COUNTENANCE FOR YOUR GLORY TODAY. MAY YOUR PEACE KEEP MY
EMOTIONS AND MIND TO DAY SO THERE WILL BE NO ROOM FOR EVIL
ANGER OR EVIL FEAR OR FRUSTRATION. (Galatians 5:22)

PLEASE SHOD MY WILL (feet denote action, movement, and decision which
picture the will==our chooser) WITH THE PREPARATION OF THE GOSPEL OF
PEACE (Ephesians 6:15). PLEASE USE ME TO WITNESS TO THE SINNER
AND TO SHOW HIM HOW HE CAN HAVE PEACE WITH GOD THROUGH
RECEIVING YOU, LORD JESUS (Romans 5:1). PLEASE WORK THROUGH ME
TO SHOW THE CHRISTIAN HOW TO ALLOW THE PEACE OF GOD TO RULE
IN HIS LIFE (Philipians 4:6-7) SO HE WILL NOT WORRY OR BE ANXIOUS
ABOUT ANYTHING AND MAY THIS BE TRUE IN MY LIFE AND
EXPERIENCE.

PLEASE KEEP ME AWARE OF THE SHIELD OF FAITH (Ephesians 6:16;
Habakkuk 2:4b; Romans 1:17; Galatians 3:11; Hebrews 10:38;) THAT I MAY USE
IT TO STOP ALL THE FIERY ARROWS (the unexpected troubles, fears and
temptations to doubt the Lord that the invisible enemy will whisper to my mind in
first person singular--"I wonder if the Lord really cares about this need?" "If God
really loved me, why did He let this happen?" These lies the enemy often whispers to
our mind using "I" so we think it is our own thought and begin to meditate on it to
the delight of the enemy and the doubting of our all wise Lord who is working
(Romans 8:28-29; Ephesians 4:13) WHICH THE ENEMY WILL ATTACK ME
WITH TODAY.

PLEASE ENABLE ME TO REMEMBER THAT I AM WEARING THE HELMET

OF SALVATION. THANK YOU THAT YOUR SALVATION IS **THREE FOLD**. YOU HAVE SAVED ME FROM (1) THE PENALTY OF SIN (Romans 6:23; Revelation 20:14-15; 21:8;) AND I WILL NEVER EXPERIENCE THE SECOND DEATH. THANK YOU LORD FOR THIS WONDERFUL FACT ABOUT THE PAST. YOU ARE SAVING ME FROM THE POWER (2) OF SIN IN THE PRESENT (Romans 6:2, 4-6, 9-14, 16-18. 22; 8:2) AND I DO NOT HAVE TO OBEY SIN OR LIVE UNDER IT'S CONTROL. THANK YOU LORD FOR YOUR WONDERFUL DELIVERANCE FROM SIN'S BONDAGE! THANK YOU (3) THAT YOU WILL DELIVER ME FROM SIN'S PRESENCE IN THE FUTURE (1 Corinthians 15:52-57; 1 John 3:1-5; Revelation 21:4, 7, 27;)

DEAR LORD, I KNOW THAT YOU HAVE HEARD THIS PRAYER AND THAT YOU WILL ANSWER IT AS YOU PROMISED IN 1 JOHN 5:14-15. THANK YOU THAT I CAN CLAIM THIS FACT AND ACT ON IT. THANK YOU THAT YOU HAVE MADE THIS ARMOUR WHICH I MUST CHOOSE TO PUT ON DAILY THAT I MAY STAND AGAINST THE ENEMY AND WALK IN VICTORY TO YOUR HONOR, GLORY AND PRAISE! I READILY ACKNOWLEDGE THAT YOU ARE MY LIFE AND THAT WITHOUT YOU I CAN DO NOTHING (John 15:5b). PLEASE LIVE THROUGH ME TO YOUR GLORY TODAY!

AND NOW LORD, AS I PICK UP THE SWORD OF THE SPIRIT WHICH IS THE WORD OF GOD (Ephesians 6:17b-c; Hebrews 4:12;), PLEASE OPEN MY SPIRITUAL UNDERSTANDING AND MY MIND AS I READ YOUR TRUTH. ENABLE ME TO HIDE YOUR WORD IN MY HEART THAT I MIGHT NOT SIN AGAINST YOU TODAY (Psalm 119:11). PLEASE ENABLE ME TO MEDITATE ON YOUR WORD TODAY ALSO THAT I MIGHT OBEY (1 Samuel 15:22) AND DO (James 1:22-25) YOUR WILL (Colossians 3:16; Joshua 1:7-8).

IN THE STRONG NAME OF MY LORD JESUS I PRAY,
AMEN

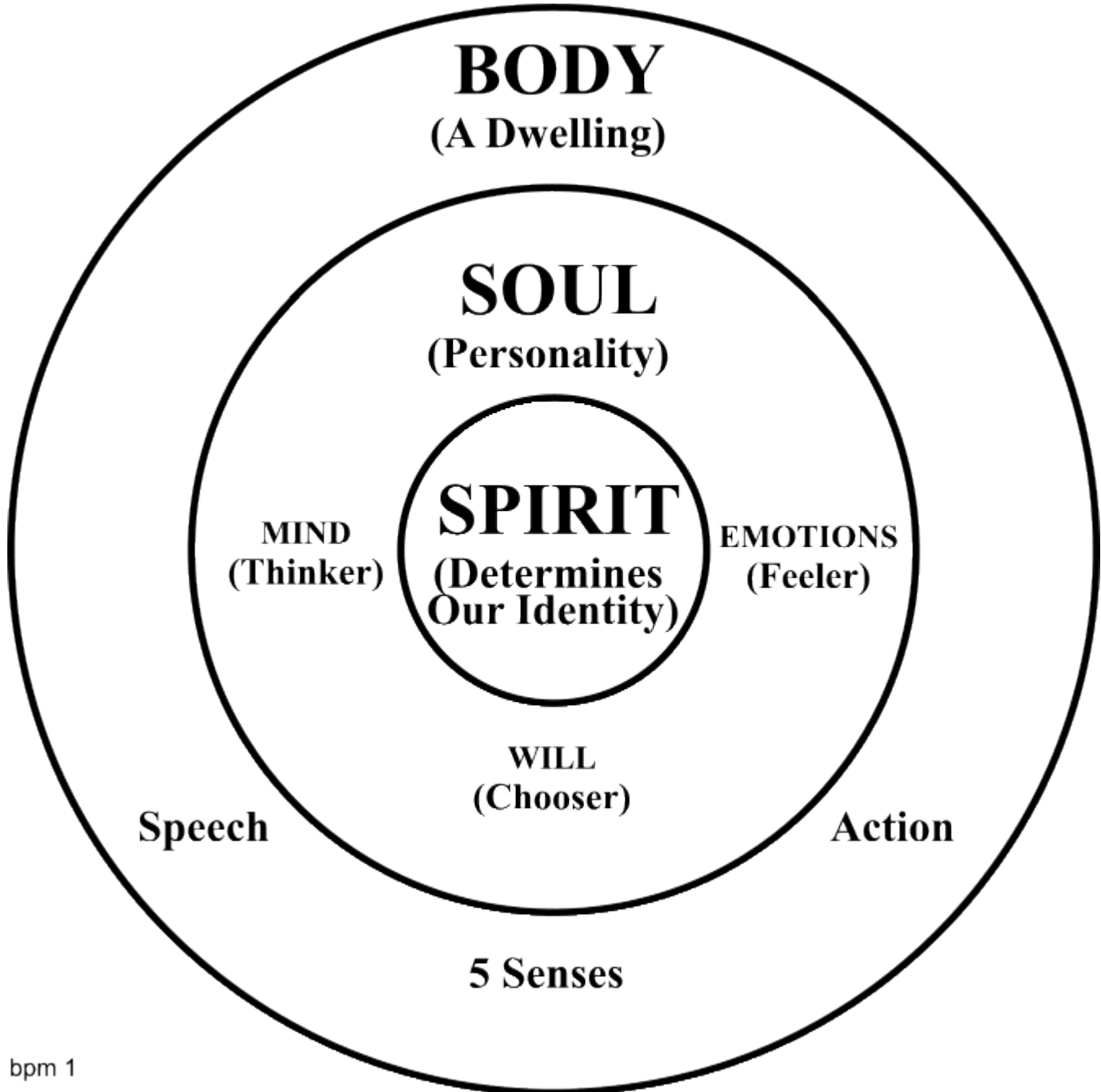
Testimony of one who has found the whole armour effective in daily living.

“I was preaching one Wednesday night at the Bangor Baptist Church in Bangor, Main several years ago when a friend of mine introduced me to the idea of praying on the whole armour of God. I had often tried to apply the armour in my life but never understood how it would work until he shared some of the basic facts I have shared with you in this outline. I know from personal experience the victory available by praying on this armour each day. It will bring blessed victory into your life also through Christ Jesus if you consistently put it on.”

MAILING ADDRESS: Bread of Life Broadcast, C/O Bob Griggs, P.O. Box 825,
Ignacio, Colorado 81137-0825, U.S.A.

A Biblical Picture of Man

Man - A Three-Part Whole
(1 Thessalonians 5:23)



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