

Breastplate of righteousness

When we are slow to use our shield against the enemy's fiery darts or missiles, we become vulnerable to spiritual attacks. To counteract this vulnerability, it's crucial to put on and use the breastplate of righteousness.

Ephesians 6:14

Stand therefore, having girded your loins with truth, and having **put on** the breastplate of righteousness.

The breastplate of righteousness, which represents the right standing or righteousness of God, protects us as a physical breastplate protects vital organs like the heart and lungs. Just as the physical heart and lungs are essential for physical life, our spiritual heart and life need protection from spiritual attacks.

Insights on the Breastplate of Righteousness

1. Identity in Christ:

- Allow God's Word to define who we are in Christ, not the opinions of others.

2 Corinthians 5:17 (AMP)

Therefore if any person is [ingrafted] in Christ (the Messiah) he is a new creation (a new creature altogether); the old [previous moral and spiritual condition] has passed away. Behold, the fresh and new has come!

- Do not judge by appearances; see ourselves as God sees us based on His Word.

1 Samuel 16:7 (AMP)

But the Lord said to Samuel, Look not on his appearance or at the height of his stature, for I have rejected him. For the Lord sees not as man sees; for man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.

2. Effects of Sin:

- Engaging in forbidden activities brings sin, guilt, and condemnation, making us feel unworthy before God. Sin is a direct attack against the breastplate of righteousness, intensified by demonic activity.

3. Maintaining Righteousness:

- Keep clean through ongoing repentance and confession.

1 John 1:7-9 (RSV)

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

4. Enemy's Tactics:

- The enemy seeks to make us feel defeated, worthless, and unrighteous. Feelings of unworthiness reduce the effectiveness of the breastplate of righteousness and give the enemy a foothold to accuse us of our sins.

5. Restoration:

- Any damage to our breastplate of righteousness can be repaired through the blood of Jesus, restoring us to right standing with God.

Psalms 23:3 (AMP)

He refreshes and restores my life (myself); He leads me in the paths of righteousness [uprightness and right standing with Him—not for my earning it, but] for His name's sake.

In summary, the breastplate of righteousness is vital for our spiritual protection. It is maintained through understanding our identity in Christ, avoiding sin, regular repentance, and embracing God's forgiveness and restoration.

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