

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Teacher HOLY SPIRIT

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*Our value in Christ is the price of Jesus's life. Christ is perfect. He is God incarnate. The creator of the vast universe in the flesh. He came to earth and lived a holy, and spotless life. That is the same worth that has been placed upon us. We can live a free life, knowing that we have so much value. Jesus died for us. He would not have died for something that wasn't worth it. We were worth dying for. God view us as beautiful and wonderful made; there is no flaw in us. We couldn't be more lovely in his eyes. We are the apple of His eye, He doesn't make mistakes. We must truly accept this over ourselves. We are beautiful and worth it. No matter what our circumstances are. No matter what we have or have not done. You are worth the price of Jesus' life. God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son. He thought I was worth dying for.*

### **HOW TO WALK AND LIVE IN THE SPIRIT:**

#### **THE WEAPONS OF THE SPIRITUAL CHRISTAINS BELIEVER.**

Paul describes the born-again believers as soldiers in the spirit realms engaged in spiritual warfare because soldiers arm themselves with weapons to enable them to position themselves to counterattack when the enemy tries to break through their stronghold.

Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, Ephesians 6:14. The entire armor of God is spiritual, not physical armor. Paul used this type of symbolic language to help the listeners understand what he was telling them. The church of Ephesus was familiar with the physical armor as there were many soldiers and warriors in their city and surrounding areas. Paul was able to connect what the Ephesians knew about armor and soldiers to the spiritual armor of God.

The helmet of salvation

#### **Take the Helmet**

When Paul wrote to the Ephesians about the helmet of salvation in the book of Isaiah a description of God shows Him as having put on both the breastplate of righteousness and the helmet of salvation is found in (Isaiah 59:17 But God's equipment was that of no ordinary warrior: He strapped on righteousness as His breastplate And put on the helmet of Salvation. Wrapped in vengeance for clothing and passion as a cloak, *God prepared for war.*) leading us to consider what salvation is, what it has to do with a helmet and what it means for us.

The purpose of the helmet in the Roman army was to protect the head from the attacks of the enemy.

#### **The helmet of salvation**

Salvation basically means to be saved or delivered from something (Exodus 14:13 "In days to come, when your son asks you, 'What does this mean?' say to him, 'With a mighty hand the LORD brought us

out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery). In the New Testament it is generally used to refer to deliverance from the eternal death penalty of sin and deliverance into God's Kingdom. Romans 6:23

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For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 5:8-10

But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.

Every human being has thought and acted in ways that are abominable to God. Our sins break God's commandments designed for our good. Sin is so vile to God that it requires the death penalty. God's justice requires that penalty. But God's loving mercy provided a substitute. Jesus Christ was willing to die in our place! To be *saved*, we need a *Savior*.

### **Receive salvation.**

Acts 2:38

Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."

Ephesians 2:8-9

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.

Salvation cannot be earned. It is a gift from God and not something we can obtain through the right actions, thus obligating God to give it to us. Repentance (abhorring our sins and seeking God's forgiveness and help to obey His laws), faith, accepting Christ's sacrifice and coming to the knowledge of the truth are all steps in accepting the free gift. In no way do these efforts make up for our sins that caused the death of our Creator and Savior!

The New Testament tells us that we "have been saved" (Ephesians 2:5), that we "are being saved" (1 Corinthians 1:18) and that we "will be saved" (Matthew 10:22).

Ephesians 2:4-8

But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace, you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God... Paul makes it clear that "have been saved" equates to the forgiveness of sins and coming under God's grace. We have been taken off death row. 1 Corinthians 1:18  
For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

Salvation can also describe the ongoing conversion process. Paul also calls this being "transformed by the renewing of your mind" (Romans 12:2). This involves having God's laws written in our minds and

meditating on them so we can better follow them (Hebrews 10:16; Psalm 119:97-99). God expects us to obey His commandments. Matthew 10:22

And you will be hated by all for My name's sake. But he who endures to the end will be saved. Our ultimate salvation depends on whether we choose to endure to the end.

### **salvation and a helmet?**

1 Thessalonians 5:8-11

But let us who are of the day be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet the hope of salvation. For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, that whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with Him. Therefore comfort each other and edify one another, just as you also are doing.

We can receive tremendous hope and comfort by focusing on the incredible sacrifice Christ gave to save us and the amazing Kingdom that is the goal of our salvation. This hope works like a helmet to protect our minds from the discouragement and despair in this world. John 17:15-16

I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one. They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. We have been called out of this world. Though we remain in it, we are not of it and remain separate from it. Our way of living and even of *thinking* should differ from the world's. We are to develop the mind of Christ (Philippians 2:5), and as we have seen, that means having God's laws written on our hearts and minds so we can remember to always obey God.

1 Peter 5:8-9

Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.

Our enemy hates that we have chosen this path and will stop at nothing to destroy us because of it. Just as the helmet protects the vital but vulnerable head from otherwise fatal blows, the hope of salvation can protect our thoughts from our enemy's attacks and temptations to disobey God. Without the helmet of salvation, we will be unprotected from the "cares of this world" that bombard our thoughts and feelings. Imagine not knowing what the future ultimately holds. The worries and problems produced by living in this world would overwhelm us!

Psalm 27:1

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall, I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

With the helmet securely fastened, we can have the same confidence that Paul did that "the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us" (Romans 8:18). We understand that *it doesn't matter* what happens to us now. No matter what trials we face, we know that at the end of it all waits God's Kingdom and an eternity of His perfect reign.

Wearing the helmet of Salvation.

The apostle urged all faithful in Jesus to put on a complete set of armor. Put on signifies the thought of permanence. A Christian's armor should be worn their whole life and once and for all. You don't put it on and take it off every now and then. Putting on the spiritual attire enabled the soldier to

stand secure in his preparation against the devil's wiles. Paul's illustration of a soldier draws vivid mental images of sundry men laden with packs, ammo, and weaponry silently moving through dense jungle into positions for battle. Satan disguises his schemes via the ideas of friends and family members to start disagreements and ignite chaos. Wicked schemes spread through the sinful world system by his demon hosts. After a soldier snap on the helmet of salvation securely, he might pick up the offensive piece of equipment referred to as the sword of the spirit. That's the word, and it is a two-edged sword that teaches, exhorts, corrects, and offers peace, the unique characteristic of the sword is it's not just for spiritual battles. You can pick it up to delight in the Lord, know His laws or make a joyful noise.

Actions a believer can take to keep this helmet fastened and functioning:

1. Renew our minds. Our minds are battlefields. The outcomes of those battles determine the course of our lives. Romans 12:1-2 instructs us to renew our minds by allowing the truth of God's Word to wipe out anything contrary to it. Old ideas, opinions, and worldviews must be replaced. We must allow God's truth to continually wash away the world's filth, lies, and confusion from our minds and adopt God's perspective.
2. Reject doubts that arise from circumstances. Human beings are sensory creatures. What we cannot fathom with our five senses, we tend to disregard. If we allow them to, circumstances may convince us that God does not really love us or that His Word is not true. It is impossible to have faith and doubt at the same time. God rewards our faith. With the helmet of salvation firmly in place, we can choose to believe what appears impossible (Hebrews 11:6; 1 Peter 1:8-9).
3. Keep an eternal perspective. When life crashes in around us, we must remember to look up. Our salvation is the most precious gift we have received. Keeping our eyes on that can help us weather life's storms. We can choose to live our lives by the motto: "If it doesn't have eternal significance, it's not important" ( Matthew 6:20; 1 Corinthians 3:11-13).
4. Remember that victory is already accomplished. When we consider ourselves "dead to sin but alive to God" (Romans 6:11), we eliminate many of the opportunities Satan uses to entrap us. When choosing sin is no longer an option for us because we recognize ourselves to be "new creatures" (2 Corinthians 5:17; 1 John 3:9), we effectively cut off many avenues of failure.
5. Find all our hope in Him. Psalm 73:25 says, "Whom have I in heaven but You? Besides you, I desire nothing on earth." Our helmet is most effective when we treasure what it represents. The salvation Jesus purchased for us cannot share the place of importance in our hearts with earthly things. When pleasing the Lord is our supreme delight, we eliminate many of Satan's lures and render his evil suggestions powerless. As we wear the helmet of salvation every day, our minds become more insulated against the suggestions, desires, and traps the enemy lays for us. We choose to guard our minds from excessive worldly influence and instead think on things that honor Christ (Philippians 4:8). In doing so, we wear our salvation as a protective helmet that will "guard our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:7; Isaiah 26:3; 1 Peter 1:5).

And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."

Philippians 4:7

