**Victory**

**"The Armor: Part One"**

**Ephesians 6:14-15**

**I. Belt of Truth**

When the belt was fastened, the soldier was "on duty," ready to fight.

***John 8:44, “He (Satan) was a murderer from the beginning, and has nothing to do with the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies.”***

***John 10:10, “The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.”***

 **HOW DO YOU FASTEN THE BELT OF TRUTH?**

 A. Acknowledge there is a standard of absolute truth.

God's truth, as revealed to us through Jesus Christ, forms the foundation of victorious Christian living.

 B. Integrate truth into your daily life.

**II. Breastplate of Righteousness**

**When you put on the breastplate of righteousness:**

 A. You claim Positional Righteousness

***2 Corinthians 5:21, “God made him (Jesus) who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.”***

***“For God took the sinless Christ and poured into him our sins. Then, in exchange, he poured God's goodness into us!” (The Living Bible)***

B*.* You commit to Practical Righteousness

The life we live either fortifies us against Satan’s attacks or makes it easier for him to defeat us.

***Romans 6:13, “Do not offer the parts of your body to sin, as instruments of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God, as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer the parts of your body to Him as instruments of righteousness."***

***Ephesians 4:24, “and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.”***

**III. Shoes...the readiness given by the gospel of peace**

A. Allow the Peace of God to rule in your heart

***Colossians 3:15, “Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.”***

B. Accept that the Peace of God will guard your heart

***Philippians 4:6-7, “Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”***