

Fit for battle– Pt 3 NT armour– truth, righteousness & the gospel

This is our third study on the topic – fit for battle. In our previous teaching we established – what it means in the New Testament for soldiers to be fit for battle and identified that they should know (1) the battle is spiritual and (2) the battle–field is in our mind, soul and members. In this study we establish – (1) to be fit for battle we should put on the whole armour of God, and (2) to be fit for battle – we are to stand therefore, having our loins girt with truth, having on the breastplate of righteousness and our feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace.

Scriptures upon which this teaching is founded.

1. To be fit for battle we put on the whole armour of God.

“Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil (Eph.6: 11). See also verse 13.

i) because we wrestle not against flesh and blood but against spiritual wickedness in high places.

“For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places” (Eph.6: 12).

ii) to stand against the wiles of the devil and withstand in the evil day.

“Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil (Eph.6:11) c.f. “that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day” (Eph.6: 13).

2. To be fit for battle, do all to stand, stand therefore –

a) “**having your loins girt about with truth**”, and

“Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth...” (Eph 6:14).

b) “**having on the breastplate of righteousness**”, and

“Stand therefore, having...on the breastplate of righteousness” (Eph.6: 14).

c) “**your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace**”.

“And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace” (Eph.6: 15).

Illustration to help apply the teaching to our life.

When Karen and I were at BCNZ (now Laidlaw college) we learnt –

- * the bible has errors in it (what we have is the best the scholars can provide), and
- * a satanic symbol out the front of woman’s quarters was acceptable, and
- * the body of Christ is to preach the gospel of the kingdom.

Question to think about.

What are the fruits of Laidlaw college’s teachings?

Our answer from the scriptures.

When a Christian soldier stands we do so with –

- * our loins girt with truth – so if we believe ERROR we have a hole in our basic kit of armour, and the enemies devices will get through and weaken us!
- * The breastplate of righteousness on – so if we accept sin we have a hole in our basic kit of armour, and the enemies devices will get through and weaken us.
- * Our feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace – so if we have no knowledge of the gospel of peace, the gospel of Christ crucified we have a hole in our basic kit of armour, and the enemies devices will get through to weaken us. And, the weaker the individual members – the weaker the body of Christ (1 Cor.12: 26). Let us remember – to be fit for battle we need to stand with truth, righteousness and a knowledge of the gospel that “is the power of God unto salvation” (Rom.1:16).