

# Be Strong in The Lord

Put on the Whole Armor of God

Part 3



Gospel shoes

## **OUR DAILY BREAD**

Junior Edition

12-9-07



## **SOMETHING YOU MUST KNOW:**

God is perfect. He is Holy. We are all sinners. *For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.*

(Romans 3:23a KJB)

None of us could ever make ourselves perfect or holy to be accepted by God. But God loves us all so much, that He gave His only Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, to go to the cross and pay the penalty for our sins IN FULL, ONCE and FOR ALL. Jesus died and rose again. Because of the Lord Jesus Christ, God can now make us holy and acceptable to Himself. *For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit.* (1 Peter 3:18 KJB)

Jesus Christ is our ONLY WAY to God and heaven.

*Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life, no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.*

(John 14:6 KJB)

*Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved.* (Acts 16:31 KJB)

Without Jesus Christ, you can NEVER be accepted by God or go to heaven. When you believe in Jesus Christ as your Savior, God makes you His child. When you leave this world, you will spend all of eternity with Him! *But as many as received him to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name.* (John 1:12 KJB) While you are still here on earth, learn His beautiful Word. Believe it and obey it, so you can enjoy all God has done for you.

*Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom.*

(Colossians 3:16a KJB)

Quite a while ago - back in September in fact, one of our students asked a very important question about how we can resist temptations that would cause us to disobey God. Since then we've been looking into our King James Bible to find out God's answer to that question. We have found out that if you are a believer in Jesus Christ, Satan will do all he can to get you to GIVE IN to all kinds of temptations. Satan can NEVER take you out of God's family once you have accepted Jesus as your Savior, but he can get you to turn your focus away from God if you are UNPREPARED for his sneaky schemes. We've learned that as believers in Christ, we are in a



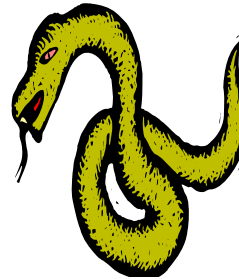
## **SPIRITUAL BATTLE!**

God is on one side & Satan on the other. God wants to save people from the Lake of Fire & give them directions & power & strength to their lives as Jesus would. Satan, on the other hand, does all he can to stop people from accepting Jesus as their Savior and becoming God's children. But if they DO accept Jesus, Satan then tries lots of plots & plans to trick them into being too busy for God. Satan does everything he can to get God's children NOT to believe what God says! Satan has been trying to trick God's people in that way ever since the time of Adam & the woman in the Garden of Eden. Here's what that sly, slip-

perly serpent, the devil, said to the woman to get her to disobey God even though God had given her & Adam EVERYTHING they needed to have a wonderful life with God in that beautiful Garden of Eden.

“Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the filed which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?”

Genesis 3:1 KJB



Satan TEMPTED the woman to disobey God. And because the woman had NOT paid REAL GOOD ATTENTION to what the Lord had told them about the trees in the Garden, she fell for Satan’s scheme! The woman ended up giving in to the temptation to eat from the tree that God told her NOT to eat from. On top of that, she then TEMPTED Adam to eat from it too, AND HE fell for the scheme too!

So we see then, that there definitely IS a SPIRITUAL BATTLE going on in this universe! God wants us to BE PREPARED for this battle so that we can be STRONG and not live lives that are all messed up! God knows that in our human nature we are NO MATCH for Satan. We are NOT strong enough to resist him. So to help us, God has given us SPIRITUAL ARMOR to put on our souls. This SPIRITUAL ARMOR of course CANNOT be seen without our eyes, because it is INSIDE US. It is IN

OUR MINDS! It is an armor that God has designed to PROTECT OUR THINKING! It is an armor that gets us to THINK LIKE JESUS! And as we have learned in other lessons, Jesus NEVER gave in to Satan's temptations. He used all of God's powerful armor too, just as God tells us to do!

"Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.



Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, (that means we do NOT fight against other people) but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places (That's Satan & his crew!)

Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand."

Ephesians 6:12-14 KJB

So far in our study, we have learned about the BELT OF TRUTH and the BREASTPLATE of RIGHTEOUSNESS. To learn something about those 2 pieces of God's Armor for our souls, get lessons 11-18-07, 11-25-07, 12-2-07. And remember EVERY PIECE OF ARMOR SPEAKS OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST!

As we have learned, Jesus IS God's TRUTH! He is GOD'S WORD who BECAME MAN to SHOW us what GOD'S TRUTH IS! See John 1:1-14 and John 14:6 Jesus IS God's RIGHTEOUSNESS. See 2Corinthians 5:21. Jesus is the ONLY ONE who can make us RIGHT WITH GOD! Remember, get those past 3 lessons if you need to review these facts.

Today we will learn about 1 more piece of armor to protect our minds! Special shoes! Now remember, these pieces of armor are NOT really belts & shoes & breastplates. God is using these to give us a PICTURE in our minds of what our souls would look like if we COULD see them all dressed up in armor. God is the BEST TEACHER. He knows that PICTURE WORDS help us humans UNDERSTAND things better!

So now, after we have put on God's belt of truth & God's breastplate of righteousness, God has

## **special shoes**

for our SPIRITUAL FEET!



Here's what God says about these special shoes:

"And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace." Ephesians 6:15 KJB

Before we learn a little bit about what God is telling us here, let's stop a minute to think about how important SHOES are! Did you ever stop to think about

how important SHOES are? Did you know that shoes are a PROTECTIVE covering for your feet? They protect our feet from dangers on the ground - dirt, germs, sharp obstacles, heat, cold etc. The RIGHT shoes also help us stand & walk without tripping & falling all over the place. When a baby is learning how to stand & walk, it is really important that they wear



sturdy shoes to help them stand straight and have good balance to take their first steps without falling too much.

But that is also important for teenagers & grownups too - especially when we may be running or going up and down stairs! People who play sports must wear good strong shoes or they'll be slipping & sliding all over the place. You sure wouldn't see a soccer player wearing BEACH FLIP FLOPS!

A soccer player who wore flip flops would certainly NOT be able to run or pass the ball or make a goal! A soccer player who wears flip flops would most likely fall all over the place & end up breaking some part of his or her feet or ankles.



And since we are talking about BATTLES, soldiers need to wear GOOD BOOTS to be able to STAND & RUN & FIGHT! Their lives as well as the lives of their fellow soldiers depends upon their being able to STAND & RUN & FIGHT! A soldier

needs GOOD SHOES or BOOTS for a GOOD FOUNDATION so that he won't be falling down when the enemy attacks! Especially when soldiers fight hand to hand combat, they need boots or shoes that will act like an ANCHOR & hold them steady on their feet so the enemy can't knock them down.

And so, God uses that PICTURE of GOOD SHOES to tell us about the FOUNDATION our souls need to be able to RESIST TEMPTATIONS! Our souls need to be ANCHORED to something REAL STRONG so we can STAND STEADY & say NO to Satan & his temptations & YES to God!

Let's read again what God says about how the FEET OF OUR SOULS should be protected! (Remember! Our souls really don't have feet. God is just helping us see what things He has given us to PROTECT our souls, our MINDS, against the devil!)

"And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace."

Ephesians 6:15 KJB



First, here's a little word study. See that word SHOD. Guess what! SHOD is the past tense of SHOE! Instead of saying "Have your feet SHOED. We say, have your feet SHOD! Have SHOES on your feet for PROTECTION!

God is telling us to have our souls protected with a GOOD FOUNDATION! Something STRONG! "What is that something strong"?

"with the preparation of the gospel of peace".

Well, just what IS the GOSPEL OF PEACE that will make




us stand strong so that we can RESIST any of Satan's temptations -even when we might be having lots of troubles? Let's read some of God's Word to find out!

"Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ."

Romans 5:1KJB

What does this mean that we have peace with God? It means that the very instant we believe in Jesus Christ as our Savior, we are NO LONGER enemies of God. You see, God says that anyone who does NOT believe in Jesus Christ is His enemy! But the very INSTANT that person simply believes in Jesus as Savior, they now have PEACE WITH GOD! They are NO LONGER His enemies. Now they belong to God's family FOREVER! When you belong to God, He will NEVER condemn you for anything even though He may have to discipline you sometimes as a good Father. Also, you NEVER have to live in fear of where you will be when you die, because God promises He'll take you right to His beautiful heaven to be with Jesus forever! Read Romans 5:10-11 and John 14:1-6 to learn more about that fact.

And WHY will knowing that we have PEACE WITH GOD make us strong? Well, God says that once we are His, He has EVERYTHING we need for our entire lives ready for us. We NEVER have to worry about anything! Satan HATES when we know we have peace with God. Satan LOVES when we worry and fear. But here's what God says:

 "...If God *be* for us, who *can be* against us? He that spared not his own son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things? Ro 8:31b-32

Jesus is your peace with God! And when you have Jesus, God is FOR YOU! Do you have your gospel shoes on?

# GRACE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Pastor John A. Ricci

## Sunday Morning Service

10:00 A.M.

**Sunday Transportation Service** ~ Call 24 hours Prior

## Weekly Services

Wednesday & Friday Evenings, 7:30 P.M.

## Prayer Meeting

Wednesday & Friday Evenings, 7:00-7:20 P.M.

## Communion Service

First Sunday of Every Month

## Children's Prep School (Ages 5-14) & Mother's Room

Available for Every Service

## Email

info@gracecfellowship.org

### From I-95

- RI Exit #22; *Left* at split to **Rt. 6 W.**
- Take Killingly St (Rt. 128) Exit; *Right* off Exit.
- Take Killingly to end; *Right* on Manton Ave; cross bridge.
- Turn *Left* at light (CVS on corner), and then bear *Left* at the split. You are now on Woonasquatucket Ave.
- Go about 1 mi.
- **G.C.F.** is on the *Left*.

### From Rt. 146

- Mineral Spring Ave Exit in Providence.
- From **146 N** turn *Left* off Exit; from **146 S** turn *Right*.
- Take Mineral Spring to end and stay *Left* around the rotary (pass North Providence Town Hall).
- Take next *Right* onto Woonasquatucket Ave.
- Go about 1½ mi.
- **G.C.F.** is on the *Right*.



## Grace Christian Fellowship

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