

ABRAHAM AND THE FULL ARMOR OF GOD-DEFINITIONS
SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON
EPHESIANS 6:14-17 ARMOR OF GOD

NOTE: Before beginning the study on the patriarchs of the Bible and the "Armor of God", I have listed below information for the reader's benefit in understanding the phrases in Ephesians 6:14-17. I hope the reader enjoys the lessons as much as I did in researching the information.

"Stand...having your loins girded about with truth...."

"Stand"-maintain our ground, not yielding or fleeing.

"Truth"-Strong's, Greek, 226, - Not as concealing,
to be true in doctrine,
speak the truth, don't hide it.

John 17:17,"thy **word is truth**".

"And having on the Breastplate of Righteousness..."

"Breastplate"-Strong's, Greek, 2382, the chest, thorax, corselet.

"Righteousness"-Strong's, Greek, 1343, Psalms 119:172,"for **all
thy commandments are righteousness**".

(Note-joins with "truth", faith working righteousness in love.

"And your Feet shod with preparation..."

"Shod"-Strong's, Greek, 5265, - bind on one's feet, take the Truth
with you wherever you go.

"Preparation"-Strong's, Greek, 2091/2680-to prepare, make ready
"inside" as in internal fitness, to construct,
make, ordain, prepare, to prepare
thoroughly

(Note, prepared to do and suffer all that God wills)

"Of the gospel of peace..."

"Gospel"-good news/tidings

"Peace"-Strong's, Greek, 1515, peace, rest quiet (to join), the peace
within, in contrast to the raging of the
outward conflict

Psalms 112:7, 8, **He shall not be afraid of evil tidings: his heart is fixed, trusting in the LORD.**
8, His heart is established, he shall not be afraid, until he see his desire upon his enemies. (Insures success against enemies.)

"Above all, Taking the shield of faith whereby you shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked..."

"Shield"- Strong's 2375-lit. or fig. door, gate, a large shield as door shaped

"Faith"-Strong's 4102-conviction of religious truth, reliance upon God for salvation, assurance, no doubt you shall be able, not you may be able.

Note: I John 5:18,...**but he that is begotten of God keepeth himself, and that wicked one toucheth him not.** (The faithful he, Satan cannot hurt.)

II Peter 1:12, **Wherefore I will not be negligent to put you always in remembrance of these things, though ye know them, and be established in the present truth.** (In other words, be steadfast.)

(Note: Satan's power exists only in respect to the unbelieving, the unfaithful)

NOTE INSERT-"Fiery darts"-found at the end of the shaft of an arrow that would set fire to tents and woodwork.

"Take the helmet of salvation"

"Take"-means accept, receive, offered by God!

"Helmet"-Strong's, Greek, 2776, as the part most taken hold of, around, through, 4012-unchangeable

(Note), the head was the soldier's principal part to be protected as this is where the

deadliest strokes might fall and the head commands the entire body.

Romans 5:5, **And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.**

Note-the head, when one knows and lays hold of the sure tidings or truth or gospel and eternal life, one will not receive false doctrines or give in to Satan's temptations.

"Salvation"-Strong's, Greek 4991, rescue, safely deliver

Note-Subjoined to the "shield of faith" as inseparable accompaniment,

Romans 5: 1, 5, **Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.**

Note-Not an uncertain hope but knowing that God is recreating us in His own image, Gen. 1:26 and the good news or tidings/gospel is that we will be like HIM!!

"Sword of the spirit"

"Sword"-Strong's 3162, fighting, striving

Ephesians 6:17-...**the sword of the spirit, which is word (4487) of God.**

Note-The "sword of the spirit" cuts both ways, striking some with conviction and conversion and others with condemnation.

Also note-there is no armor on the back-means we shouldn't turn our back on the foe but face them and resist them ceaselessly.

Consider the following: How can we fight with the sword if we don't know what the Word of God says. Here's how:

Ephesians 6:18-**Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;**

ABRAHAM AND THE FULL ARMOR OF GOD
SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON

- Say - Welcome to Sabbath School, let's bow our heads and ask God for understanding as we study today.
- Say - Today our lesson is the second in a series about the patriarchs and how they wore the "Whole armor of God" in their lives. Our lesson today will focus on Abraham from the perspective of how he wore the "Whole Armor of God".
- Say - Look at the map showing the city of "Ur" (Babylon, Iraq, see map), <http://www.keyway.ca/htm2000/20000214.htm> the city where Abraham lived and grew up with his family. Ur was 12 miles from the original Garden of Eden (see map), <http://www.keyway.ca/htm2002/eden.htm> (Print out the maps for your individual Sabbath School notebooks.)
- Say - We can start by asking how did Abraham, "Stand with his loins girded with the TRUTH of God". How did Abraham "Put on the BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS". How did Abraham, "Shod his feet with the "PREPARATION OF THE GOSPEL OF PEACE". How did Abraham, "Take the SHIELD OF FAITH". Finally, how did Abraham take the "HELMET OF SALVATION" in his life on earth?
- Say - We will look to the Bible for our answers in both the Old Testament and the New Testament.
- Say - The story of Abram (Abraham) begins about 400 years after the flood of Noah. Abraham knew well the story of the great flood and the protection God had given Noah, his family and the animals inside the ark for Noah lived 350 years after the flood and the stories were passed on to Abraham through the genealogy (recorded history of relatives) of Noah's son, Shem, Gen. 11:10-27.
- Say - Other than Abraham and his family, the city was infected with idol worship, Joshua 24:2. In fact the practice of "Fire-worship" mixed with "superstition" was rampant in Babylonian/Chaldean's culture. It is interesting to note that, Ur, Abraham's birthplace, means "light or fire" Gen. 11:31.
- Say - Just like God has called us and told us to "Come out of her (Babylon), my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins", Rev. 18:4, Terah, Abraham's father, "took", (accepted God's call see "take" in definition page under "Helmet of Salvation") Abraham and his wife, Sara which means "My Princess", and Abraham's nephew,

Lot, out of Babylon. Why did he do this? Because God was directing all that happened in their lives and they were to go to the land of Canaan. Babylon was the wonder of the world but God had a different place for His "Chosen People".

Say - The Bible tells us Abraham was a servant of God, Gen. 18:5, Ps. 105:42 and a follower of Righteousness, all of God's Laws, (see definitions, Breastplate of righteousness) Isaiah 51:1-3, Psalms 119:172. Without questioning God's command, Abraham, now 75, left his home with his father, Terah, and his wife, Sara, and nephew, Lot, and traveled to Haran. There his father died and shortly after God directed Abraham to travel on to the land of Canaan, the land of promise, Gen. 12:5, Acts 7:1-4.

Say - God told Abraham that He would make from him a great nation and ALL the nations of earth would be blessed", Gen.11:31, 12:1-3. All of this was dependant on Abraham's obedience to God; what would he do, what would you have done?

Say - Why did God want Abraham to leave Babylon and go to the land of Canaan? The Bible tells us it was so God's people could observe His laws and statutes and build a nation free from idolatry, Psalms 105:42-45.

Note of interest about Babylon - Why does God want His followers today to "Come out of her (Babylon) my people", Rev. 18:4? It is because Babylon, the Greek word for Babel, is symbolic of opposition, resistance, disobedience to God's way, His Truth, taught in the Bible, Rev. 14:8, Isaiah, 21:9. Babylon or Babel represents a false religious system of confusion, of manmade religions composed of truth and error. Babylon represents a religion and culture where idol worship is accepted. Babylon represents a Godless society, a society where God's Holy Righteous Laws are ignored and hated.

Say - Canaan, on the other hand, was chosen by God as the fittest of all land. Canaan, known as The Promised Land, was to serve as the cradle of God's Holy people and they were to be an example nation for the entire world to bring them to the true God! Not only had God brought Abraham out of the pagan land of Ur to Canaan but He had made a promise to Abraham. He said, "All that you see I will give to you and to thy generations forever". "Go", God said, "And take a look", Gen. 13:17.

Say - Immediately upon arrival in Canaan, Abraham built an altar unto God and established the worship of the true God, denouncing all the false Gods of Babylon (Ur) and declared his faith in the promise God had made to him, Gen. 12:8. Abraham knew and believed, "As the mountains are round about Jerusalem", so God would be

“round about him FOREVER” Psalms 125:1-2 as his "Helmet of Salvation", (see definition, “Helmet of Salvation”).

Note of interest about Canaan - An interesting note about Canaan; Remember in our definition of the word, "Helmet", meant "around". In the above verse, Psalms 125:1-2, the mountains which surrounded Canaan served as the border "Around" God's Holy nation; they were a source of protection for His people. God used a physical item to explain the spiritual meaning that God is "around" His people, or our "Helmet of Salvation". Canaan is symbolic of the opposite of Babylon. It is a land flowing with milk and honey and is the physical symbol of the Heavenly Canaan which will be established on this earth when Christ returns and just as Jerusalem/Salem, was the capital or center of God's nation at the time of Abraham, so Jerusalem will be the capital or center of God's throne out of which His Law will flow to all peoples of the earth. Canaan is symbolic of the KINGDOM OF GOD!!

Say – God had blessed Abraham greatly. The Bible says “Not only did he have many cattle, he was rich with silver and gold”, Gen. 13:2. Can you imagine what the people thought when Abraham, “reliant upon God for his salvation” (see definitions, “faith”) took his family and left for an unknown land? With God as his “Shield of Faith” (see definition, “Shield of Faith”), did exactly that. "When he was called to go out into a place which he should go...he obeyed; and he went out, not knowing where he was going", Heb. 11:8.

Say – Once in Canaan, Abraham's faith was tested again for immediately a severe famine came upon the land. Abraham did not ask, "Why have you brought me here to die" nor did he say, "There is no food for my family and cattle and there is no water to drink". Instead Abraham was determined to follow God and temporarily moved to Egypt to wait out the drought, Gen. 12:10-20.

Say - After the famine had passed; he and his nephew, Lot, returned to Canaan with their great herds of cattle and Abraham renewed, once again, his allegiance to God. But a new problem developed. The Bible tells us there was not enough land and water for their great herds of sheep and cattle; it was time for Abraham and Lot to separate. The herdsmen had already begun to squabble over who would possess which land.

Say – Abraham being a righteous man and of the character of God, said, “Let there be no strife between us or our herdsmen for we are a family”. You see Abraham had been raised in a God fearing family, he knew how to get along. With the hand of God directing all the events in Abraham’s life, he told Lot, “You take first choice of all the land you see”, Gen. 13:9. Lot chose the well-watered plains of Jordan and Abraham stayed in Canaan.

Say - Even though Lot chose the beautiful Jordan pasture land, its borders connected to the sinful cities of Sodom and Gomorrah and the land was full of wickedness, Gen. 13:13. During a rebellion in his new land, Lot and his family were captured Gen. 14:12.

Say - What did Abraham do upon learning of his brother's capture? With Abraham's heart and mind "established in the Truth of God" (see definitions, "Gospel, Peace"), Abraham was not afraid of the "raging conflict" (see definition, Ps. 112:7,8). Showing more faith and courage from God, he immediately armed 318 of his servants and when night fell, he pursued the enemy. They rushed upon the encampment from all directions and struck down the tent poles. Panic erupted among the mob and the kings were defeated and Lot was rescued, Gen. 14.

Say - King Melchizedik of Salem, (Hebrew name for Jerusalem, means; "peace"), a priest of the most high God, came out to meet and bless Abraham and his nephew, Lot, Gen.14:18-20 as they returned from battle.

Note of interest about Melchizedik - "Melchizedik", is a "Type of Christ", (Psalms 110, Heb. 5, 6, 7). "Malchi" in Hebrew means, "King" and "Tzedek" means "Righteousness". While Melchizedik was a TYPE of Christ, Christ is the true "Prince of Peace" and the "Peace" He brings is the fruit of "Righteousness" or the fruit, the results, from obedience to God's Law and "All God's Laws are Righteousness", (Psalms 119:172) (see "Gospel of Peace" in definitions).

Say - You see because of Abraham's faith, "conviction of truth" (see definition, "faith") and obedience to God and His Laws, he was saved from the foe. Abraham believed God when He said, "The rod of the wicked shall not fall upon the righteous", (Psalms 125:3). He also believed God when he said, "Touch not my anointed and do my prophet no harm", Psalms 105:15. Is it any wonder Abraham was called, "A friend of God", James 2:23.

Say - Even though Abraham had great faith, he was human and after the conquest experience, the Bible says Abraham was worried there could be revenge but God came to him in a vision and said, "Do not fear, I am your shield" (see "Shield of Faith", definitions) and "I will give you a great reward", Gen. 15:1.

Say - Finally when Abraham was 99 and Sara 90 years old, the reward finally came. Sara gave birth to the "Child of the Promise". His name was Isaac which means "One laughs" because Abraham and Sara laughed at the thought of having a child at their old age, Gen. 17:17-19; 18:9-15, 21:6.

- Say - Soon Abraham would be tested once again. Now God told him to bring their long awaited son, Isaac, to be sacrificed on Mt. Moriah, Gen. 22:2. Isaac, a young boy carried the wood that would be used for the burnt offering. It was a three-day journey and on the way, Isaac asked his father, "Where's the lamb for the burnt offering"? Abraham answered him confidently, "God will provide the lamb", Gen. 22:8.
- Say - Finally the alter was built, Abraham bound his son and laid him on the alter. As he stretched out his hand to slay Isaac, God called out to him and said, "Abraham, Abraham, Here I am", "Lay not your hand upon your son, for I know thou fear God seeing you would not have withheld your son from me", Gen. 22:1-16.
- Say - Abraham looked and a ram was caught in a nearby bush by his horns and the angel spoke again and said, "...because you have obeyed me, I will bless you in multiplying your seed as the stars of heaven and the sand of the sea", Gen. 22:18. Soon the blessing and the promise would be passed on to Isaac, who later married Rebekah, and they gave birth to twins, Esau and Jacob, Gen. 25:20-26.
- Say - We can see from the story of Abraham's life how he wore the "Whole Armor of God". He was a servant to God, Gen. 18:3, a slave to God, he listened to God and obeyed his word. He worshiped God in mind and deed that is what "Put on the Breastplate of Righteousness" means. Abraham was able to "stand his ground against evil" (see definitions, "Have your loins girded about with truth") even in his family because he knew the TRUTH of God (Jn. 17:17).
- Say - Not only did he wear the BREASTPLATE OF RIGHEOUSNESS, he was ""prepared" to do and suffer ALL God willed in his life" (see definition, "Shod your feet with preparation") because he knew the author of PEACE, Jesus Christ. Above all, God was with him as his SHIELD OF FAITH, Gen. 15:1, and "round about him" as his HELMET OF SALVATION and therefore Satan could do him no harm, I John 5:18. We are told in Gen. 26:1-4, the blessing God gave to Abraham would be passed on to Isaac. Why? "Because Abraham obeyed my voice, and kept my charge, my commandments, my statutes, and my laws" Gen. 26:5.
- Say - "Abraham looked for a city whose builder and maker is God....he died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and was persuaded of them and embraced them,

and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth"
Hebrews 11:9-13.

Say - Now we must ask, are we persuaded and convicted to "Come out of
Babylon" and follow God above all else as Abraham did? Do we
have on the "Whole Armor of God"? Are we prepared to do all God
asks of us? We will be if we know and obey the Truth of God.

MEMORY VERSE

AS THE MOUNTAINS ARE ROUND ABOUT JERUSELEM,
SO GOD
WOULD BE ROUND ABOUT HIM FOREVER!
PSALMS 125:1-2

MEMORY VERSE FOR TOTS

MEMORY VERSE

GOD WOULD BE ROUND ABOUT HIM
FOREVER,
PSALMS 125:2

Practical lesson application: Choose a Bible character and using the
definitions, Bible Commentary, Bible dictionary and Concordance,
research how they wore the Whole Armor of God.

BELOW IS THE SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON FOR TOTS

ABRAHAM AND THE WHOLE ARMOR OF GOD

“UR” WAS A CITY IN BABYLON WHERE ABRAHAM
LIVED;
WITH IDOL WORSHIP AND SUPERSTITION, IT WAS
WICKEDLY FILLED.

“GET OUT OF THE COUNTRY” GOD TOLD ABRAHAM
ONE DAY;
FOR OUT OF YOU SHALL COME A GREAT NATION
GOD CONTINUED TO SAY.

BY FAITH ABRAHAM OBEYED AND OFF TO THE
PROMISED LAND HE AND HIS FAMILY FLED.
NOW THEY COULD OBSERVE GOD’S LAWS FREE
FROM IDOLATRY JUST AS GOD HAD SAID.

WITH GOD AS HIS “HELMET OF SALVATION”;
ABRAHAM HAD NO FEAR;
BY FAITH HE WALKED ON FOR ABRAHAM KNEW
GOD WOULD ALWAYS BE NEAR.

GOD WOULD BE ROUND ABOUT HIM FOREVER.
PSALMS 125:1-2

By B. Burnham

PLEASE FIND AN APPROPRIATE PICTURE TO COLOR WHICH
COMPLEMENTS THE STORY OR MEMORY VERSE. BELOW ARE THE
MEMORY VERSES TO BE CUT OUT AND PLACED WITH THE
APPROPRIATE PICTURE FOR THE SABBATH SCHOOL NOTEBOOK.

MEMORY VERSE

AS THE MOUNTAINS ARE ROUND ABOUT JERUSELEM,
SO GOD
WOULD BE ROUND ABOUT HIM FOREVER!
PSALMS 125:1-2

MEMORY VERSE FOR TOTS

MEMORY VERSE

GOD WOULD BE ROUND ABOUT HIM
FOREVER,
PSALMS 125:2