

JACOB 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;**

JACOB AND THE FULL ARMOR OF GOD
SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON

- Say - Welcome to Sabbath School; let's bow our head and ask God for understanding as we study today. This lesson is the third in a series about the patriarchs and how they wore the "Whole armor of God" in their lives. This lesson will focus on Jacob from the perspective of how he wore the "Whole Armor of God".
- Say - We can start by asking how did Jacob, "Stand with his loins girded with the TRUTH of God. How did Jacob "Put on the BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS". How did Jacob "Shod his feet with the PREPARATION OF THE GOSPEL OF PEACE". How did Jacob "Take the SHIELD OF FAITH". How did Jacob "Take the HELMET OF SALVATION" in his daily walk with God. We will look at the Bible for our answers in both the Old and New Testament.
- Say - In the previous lessons in this series, we have talked about Noah, "His servant", Abraham, "My friend" and in this lesson, "Jacob whom I loved". Why did God "Love" Jacob, we will find out. As always we will look to the Bible for our answers.
- Say - Jacob is one of the patriarchs or fathers listed along with Abraham and Isaac. Remember the genealogy goes like this: Abraham and Sara had a son named Isaac who married Rebekah and they had twin sons named, Esau and Jacob. In our study today we will find Jacob's name was later changed to Israel.
- Say - As we have said, Jacob was a twin and his twin brother's name was, Esau. From the beginning, the Bible tells us, they were opposites, even in the womb. God told Rebekah that one would be stronger than the other and the oldest son, Esau, would be a servant to the younger twin, Jacob, Gen. 25:2.
- Say - As twins, they had different characters, manners and habits. Jacob was plain and passive while Esau was wild and rebellious. Jacob liked to live in tents. Esau, on the other hand, was a hunter and loved the outdoors and open fields, Gen. 25:27, 27:40.
- Say - Forgetting that God had made provisions that Jacob would receive the birthright (the right of the firstborn), Jacob and his mother, Rebekah, took it upon themselves and played a part in what Esau called "Taking away my birthright", Gen. 27:36. Now Jacob having received the birthright, it was time for him to leave home. Fearing for his life from his brother, yet increasing the danger and

loneliness on his way; he took the seldom traveled road to his uncle Laban's homeland.

Say - During his first night away from home as he headed for Haran, (the same city his grandfather Abraham had headed for when he left Ur), as the sun set, he gathered up stones for his pillow and slept in an open field, Gen. 28:11. Jacob was troubled and worried God had forsaken him.

Say - That night Jacob had a dream. The dream became known as "Jacob's Ladder". This was the beginning of God bringing Jacob under submission to Him. The vision erased any fears Jacob had that God had left him.

Say - In the dream, God stood at the top of the ladder as it reached toward the heavens and Angels of God were traveling up and down the ladder. God spoke to Jacob, "I am the Lord God of Abraham thy father, and the God of Isaac: the land on which you lie, to you I will give and to your children.....through you shall ALL the earth be blessed, Gen. 28:14.

Say - As Jacob awakened from the dream, he realized God was with him and he poured oil on the stones on which he had slept, he marked the spot and said, this is Bethel, which means the "House of God", Gen. 28:19. Bethel was one of the places in Abraham's journey where he had sacrificed to God in thanksgiving.

Say - God also promised to provide Jacob with food and clothing and protection and Jacob made a vow that he would worship the true God, the God of his father, Isaac and Grandfather Abraham, Gen. 28:20 (See definitions, "Stand").

Say - Jacob, "Whom God had chosen"..., Ps. 135:4, was putting on the whole armor of God. The Bible says, "God showed Jacob His Word, His Truth...", Ps. 147:19, (See definitions "Stand having your loins girded about with truth, "Thy word is truth", John 17:17. (See definitions, "Truth")

Say - The Bible says..., "He established ...RIGHTEOUSNESS in Jacob", Psalms 99:4 (See definitions, "And having on the breastplate of Righteousness", "All God's laws are righteousness", Ps. 119:172). And in Psalms 78:5-7 God says, "He established a testimony and law with Jacob in Israel...that they might set their hope, their "Faith", in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments" (See definitions, "Shield" and "Faith").

Say - God told Jacob, "Fear not, for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness. Anyone that is against thee shall.....perish", "They that war against thee shall be nothing" For I the Lord thy God will hold thy right hand, Fear not; I will help thee", Isaiah 41:8-14 (See definitions, "Of the gospel of peace..."). "I am the Lord thy God, your Savior (See definitions, "Helmet of Salvation" and "Salvation")...I have loved thee.....you are my witness....there is no other Savior" (See definition, "Salvation"), Isaiah 43:3-11.

Say - Now, with a light heart, Jacob went on and completed his journey to Haran and there he inquired of his uncle Laban. Soon in the distance, a young lady came with her father's sheep to be watered at the nearby well. Her name was Rachael, the shepherdess of her father's sheep, Gen. 29:6.

Say - Jacob rolled the stone away from the well covering and watered the sheep for Rachael. Jacob told her who he was and Rachael shared the news with her father. Laban ran to meet and greet him and kissed him and brought Jacob to his home, Gen. 29:1-13.

Say - Jacob agreed to work seven years and his pay would be that he could marry Rachael. Jacob loved beautiful Rachael and wept and thanked God for her, Gen. 29:11, 15, 16, 17,18.

Say - After seven years had passed it was time for the wedding but now Jacob would be a receiver of deception just like his brother Esau had been deceived by him years ago. When Jacob woke up the next morning, he had been given Leah instead of Rachael. Jacob had to work seven more years before he could marry Rachael, the one he loved, Gen. 29.

Say - God came to him in another dream and God said to Jacob, "Here am I ...I have seen all that Laban has done....get thee out from this land (of Haran) and return unto Canaan, the land of your family", Gen. 29:10; 31:3,13 (See definitions, "Take" under "Helmet of Salvation").

Say - Many years had passed and Jacob had become very wealthy with a great variety of cattle, sheep and camels. It is interesting to note that his brother Esau who he feared when he left Canaan, now he feared upon returning to Canaan but we will see that God kept his promise to be with Jacob and protect him.

Say - None the less, Jacob was nervous to meet the brother who accused him of "taking his birthright". He sent messengers on ahead to Esau that he was in need of nothing and that he just wanted to travel on through his territory. But they returned saying only that Esau was coming to meet him. Separating his servants and cattle, he put together a gift for Esau to soften the meeting. The gift consisted of 500 head of various kinds of cattle which would be of great value to Esau.

Say - Waiting until morning, Jacob couldn't sleep that night and so he got up and walked ahead to test a ford on the Euphrates River for crossing. Seeing it was worthy to cross, he sent his family on their way and prayed for God's blessings and protection on all he had set in motion, Gen. 32.

Say - Now Jacob alone once again, spent another sleepless night. All that night he wrestled with a man until dawn. Jacob could not overcome the match and the dual left him with a limp from a disjunctured thigh and hip bone. It was God he had wrestled with that night. From now on Jacob's name was changed to Israel and God blessed him and told him he would have power with God and men (See definition, "Sword of the spirit"), Gen. 32:28.

Say - The next day, with God directing all things, the meeting of Jacob and Esau came and they hugged and kissed and wept over each other. It had been twenty long years! In parting Esau took the gracious gift Jacob had brought for him and Jacob traveled on towards Canaan, declining the offer of Esau's assistance.

Say - Soon they arrived in Succoth, then Shalom and at Bethel in Canaan he set up an altar to God, Gen. 33:17-20, 35:1,7. The Bible says, "The terror of God was upon the cities that were 'round about them' to protect Jacob and His family, (See definitions, "Helmet of Salvation"). The cities were full of evil of all kind as they worshipped their false gods but nothing harmed Jacob and his family, Gen 35:5 (See definitions, "Peace").

Say - Now in Canaan, God reconfirmed his name was changed to Israel, renewed the covenant/agreement for Jacob and his descendants and renewed also the promise that there would be kings come out of his line, Gen 35:10-12. Jacob was now the third link in God's plan to start a nation and spread the "Gospel of Peace" (See definitions, "Gospel of Peace") to all the nations surrounding Canaan.

Say - Here is what God said to Jacob, "... O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed (rescued, see "Salvation" definitions) thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine....when thou passest through the waters (danger or violence), I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee (be swept away): when thou walkest through the fire (as in warfare), thou shalt not be burned (by the tip of a weapon or head of a spear,) (See definitions, "Taking shield of faith whereby you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked). Why...For I am the LORD thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Saviour:" (See definitions "Salvation"), Is. 43:1-3.

Say – God continued, "Fear not, thou worm (means humility) Jacob, and ye men of Israel; I will help thee, saith the LORD,...Behold, I will make thee a new sharp threshing instrument having teeth:(See definitions, "Sword of the spirit", it cuts both ways; some to conviction, some to condemnation) thou shalt thresh the mountains (nations), and beat them small, and shalt make the hills as chaff, (separating the grain from the chaff, or good from evil). Thou shalt fan them, (God will scatter their enemies) and the wind shall carry them away, and the whirlwind (wind symbolizes God's power) shall scatter them: and thou shalt rejoice in the LORD, and shalt glory in the Holy One of Israel....That they may see, and know, and consider, and understand together, that the hand of the LORD hath done this...Isaiah 41:14-20.

Say - Israel means, "A Prince Who Prevails with God"; Jacob had prevailed! Jacob/Israel, whom God had blessed with twelve sons, were now in Canaan as the Nation of Israel. From here God would build each son into a numerous tribe, Gen. 49:7. Benjamin was the only son born in Canaan/Israel and Judah, his fourth son, through whom God eventually brought King David, and Jesus, the Messiah, and whom will soon come again, not as a baby but to rule this world as the KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS, our Savior, our "Helmet of Salvation" and High Priest, Matt.1:15-16!

Note: The term Jacob and Israel are used interchangeably throughout the Bible.

Say - Remember I said we would find out why God said, "Jacob have I loved, Esau have I hated", Rom. 9:13. Jacob was repentant of his sins and chose to worship the God of his grandfather, Abraham and father, Isaac. Esau chose to do neither and God hated his rebellious ways. Someday Esau will turn from his rebellious ways and God will love him as Jacob.

Say - But there is another reason God loved Jacob/Israel and we will discuss this additional reason in the lessons to follow in this series.

Say - The continued story of Jacob and his family can be found in the remaining chapters of the book of Gen. 36-50. The book of Exodus recounts the story of Israel's slavery for hundreds of years to Pharaoh and the book of Joshua, tells the exciting story of the Israelites entering and conquering the Promised Land.

MEMORY VERSE

I AM THE LORD YOUR GOD...
YOUR SAVIOR (Helmet of Salvation)...
THERE IS NO OTHER SAVIOR.
ISAIAH 43:3, 11

MEMORY VERSE FOR TOTS

MEMORY VERSE

I AM THE LORD YOUR GOD
YOUR SAVIOR...
ISAIAH 43:3, 11

Practical lesson application: The continued story of Jacob and his family can be found in the remaining chapters of the book of Genesis, 36-50. It is a fascinating story.

BELOW IS THE SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON FOR TOTS

JACOB AND THE WHOLE ARMOR OF GOD

ABRAHAM AND SARA, AT AN ELDERLY AGE, GAVE BIRTH TO ISAAC,
THEIR LONG AWAITED SON;
ISAAC CHOSE REBEKAH AND THEY HAD TWINS, JACOB AND ESAU,
THAT'S TWO, NOT JUST ONE.

EVEN THOUGH ESAU WAS THE FIRSTBORN, GOD HAD DIFFERENT
PLANS;
IT WAS JACOB WHOM THE BIRTHRIGHT WOULD BE PLACED IN HIS
HANDS.

SOON JACOB WAS OFF TO HIS UNCLE LABAN'S HOME; TO AVOID HIS
UNHAPPY BROTHER, HE TOOK A ROAD SELDOM TRAVELED;
THAT NIGHT IN AN OPEN FIELD HE LAID DOWN TO SLEEP AND WITH
STONES FOR HIS PILLOW, THERE HE PLACED HIS TIRED HEAD.

THAT NIGHT IN A DREAM, A LADDER CAME DOWN FROM THE
HEAVENS; ANGELS TRAVELED UP AND DOWN AS GOD
SPOKE;

"I AM THE LORD YOUR GOD, THE LAND ON WHICH YOU REST, IS
YOURS AND ALL THE EARTH WILL BE BLESSED AND THEN
JACOB AWOKE"!

"FEAR NOT", GOD TOLD JACOB, "FOR I AM WITH YOU, I AM THE LORD
YOUR GOD, I AM YOUR SAVIOR";
NOW WITH A LIGHT AND HAPPY HEART, JACOB COMPLETED HIS
JOURNEY AND AT A NEARBY WELL, RACHEL HE MET, AND SHE
BECAME HIS WIFE AFTER MANY YEARS OF LABOR.

SOON IT WAS TIME FOR JACOB TO RETURN TO CANAAN WITH HIS
GREAT WEALTH OF SHEEP, CATTLE AND CAMELS. BUT ON THE
WAY, HIS NAME TO "ISRAEL" GOD DID CHANGE;
IN CANAAN, BENJAMIN WAS BORN, NOW HE WAS THE FATHER OF
TWELVE SONS AND FROM HIS FAMILY, WOULD COME GREAT
KINGS!

FROM JUDAH, THE 4TH SON, JUST AS GOD HAD PROMISED, CAME
KING DAVID AND CHRIST JESUS, THE MESSIAH;
WHO SOON WILL COME AGAIN TO RULE OUR GREAT EARTH AS OUR
KING OF KINGS, OUR SAVIOR AND HIGH PRIEST, HALLELUJAH!!

I AM THE LORD YOUR GOD (husband)...
YOUR SAVIOR, THERE IS NO OTHER SAVIOR.

ISAIAH 43:3, 11

By B. R. B.