

THE CHRISTIAN'S ARMOUR

Dealing with the Devil's Darts of Doubt

Read - **Job 2:6-12.**

Text - **Ephesians 6:16** "Above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one."

THE SOLDIER'S SHIELD

The Greek word translated shield (θυρεός, thureos) refers to the Roman soldier's large rectangular wooden shield, called in Latin scutum, about 4 ft (1.2 m) high, and 2.5 feet wide, covered with leather on the outside. Before a battle in which flaming arrows might be shot at them, the soldiers wet the leather covering with water to extinguish the arrows. The Roman legionaries could close ranks with these shields, the first row holding theirs edge to edge in front, and the rows behind holding the shields above their heads. In this formation they were practically invulnerable to arrows, rocks, and even spears.

These **DARTS** were not only **HOT WITH BURNING PITCH**, but some were **HOT WITH DEADLY POISON**.

This was a **MAJOR PIECE OF HIS ARMOUR**.

THE CHRISTIAN'S SHIELD

It is **FAITH, NOT ONLY SAVING FAITH**, but **FAITH THAT GROWS**. **Galatians 5:22** 'The fruit of the Spirit is... faith'

Like all fruit, **IT NEEDS TO BE CULTIVATED**, and **GROWS** as we walk with God. This is a **FAITH**, which is a profound trust in **THE GODHEAD**. **John 14:1** and **James 2:19**

It includes - **OUR FAITH IN THE WORD OF GOD - FAITH IN THE PROMISES OF GOD** and **FAITH IN THE PLANS OF GOD**. etc.

NOTE - OUR FAITH SHOULD NOT BE PLACED JUST IN GOD'S ABILITY - BUT IN HIS INTEGRITY.

THE DEVIL'S DARTS

Based on the fact that **FAITH IS THE SHIELD**, I believe **THE DARTS** to be **DARTS OF DOUBT**.

SATAN'S INTENTION

To **MAKE US QUIT - DESERT – DEFECT**, (Leave the **ARMY**), or **WOUND US**. **Geneses 3:1-4**

1) THE BOW OF DECEPTION

There is a lot around **WITHIN THE CHURCH WORLDWIDE** at the moment from **SO CALLED CHRISTIANS**.

It comes under the **UMBRELLA OF PROGRESSIVE CHRISTIANITY** = 'developing gradually over time.'

They say, we don't need the **OLD FASHIONED STANDARDS THESE DAY – WE HAVE MOVED ON**.

In reality it is **REGRESSIVE** – Moving away from **FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH**.

NEW AGE 1) Tarot cards 2) Crystals 3) Meditation 4) Yoga

2) THE BOW OF DIFFICULTY

Matthew 7:14 We are the **FOCUS OF SATAN'S ARROWS**
- because **WE HAVE COME TO FAITH IN JESUS.**

Matthew 10:35 Family – Jobs – Housing

3) THE BOW OF DISAPPOINTMENTS

In the **GARDEN OF EDEN SATAN** was responsible for
**BREAKING OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD. HE WANTS
TO BREAK IT AGAIN.**

He can use **DISAPPOINTMENT TO DO THAT.**

ILL/ The **DISCIPLES** on the road to **EMMAUS** faced this
AFTER THE DEATH OF JESUS.

Luke 24:17 and Luke 24:21

We need to **EXERCISE FAITH** in the **PROMISE** – All things
work together for good to those who love God.

This is when **OUR ONLY PROTECTION IS FAITH.**

**THE SHIELD OF FAITH THEN IS, TRUSTING WHEN WE
CANNOT SEE, BECAUSE OF OUR BELIEF IN THE
INTEGRITY OF THE CHARACTER OF GOD.**

NOTE – By the way **PAUL NEVER TELLS US TO TAKE
THE ARMOUR OFF.**

4) THE BOW OF DISASTER

No one that I know has had difficulties as bad as **JOB'S** who **LOST HIS:-**

a) Children. b) Cattle. c) Servants. d) Wealth e) Respect.
(Of his wife and friends) f) Health.

Satan's **AIM** in the life of **JOB** could be summed up in what **HIS WIFE SAID. Job 2:1-10**

But in this **CALAMITY**, he was able to say:-

Job 13:15 'though He slay me, yet will I trust Him.'

Job 19:26 'And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God.'

Here's a **LIST** those who **FACED DISASTER. Hebrews 11:36-40**

I heard a song the other day – **'GOD SEES THE STORM FROM THE OTHER SIDE.'**

Should we not **EXPECT DISASTER** now we in the **NEW COVENANT AGE?** Jesus said:- **Matthew 10:28**

What about **STEPHEN – STONED** to death. **JAMES – Killed** by the **SWORD - ALL THE DISCIPLES** were **MARTYRED** bar one (John)

POSITIVE CONCLUSION

1 Peter 5:9-11 and James 4:7

Note the **"YOU CAN 'you will be able' (not maybe able to) DEFEAT THE ENEMY."**