

Remnant Life Church
Sunday, March 17, 2013

“Everyday Armor
Part 6 – The Helmet of Salvation”

Ephesians 6:17; Isaiah 59:17

“Take up the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit which is the Word of God.”

- Read the attachment – “*How Did We Ever Survive?*”
 - Caution that we are raising a generation of children who do not know how to work through adversity and feel entitled to everything.
 - Failure, when understood for what it is, can be an incredible teacher
 - Edison
 - Children are resilient

- In battle a blow to head is most often lethal
- If a hit is taking place in the crime world you guarantee success with a head shot
 - Lincoln (4.14.1865)/Kennedy (11.22.1963) – two of the most famous head shots
 - As much attention has been given to the refining of the soldier’s helmet as any other piece of equipment

- Paul uses the writings of Isaiah in this book – breastplate and helmet
 - Perhaps using this as a way to verify or strengthen his words

- The Helmet
 - Foot soldiers – (**slide 1**) - most often made of leather with flaps on the side and a piece down the neck
 - The officers, (**slide 2**) from the rank of Centurion (commander of hundreds), were most often metal and marked with a colored plume to designate their rank.

- So too in spiritual warfare a head shot can often be lethal
 - One of the great battlefields is that of the mind

- Satan is focused on affecting our thinking in an effort to separate us from God
 - What are the focal points of the enemy's head shots against us?
 - (The Cycle of Struggle)*
 - **Doubt** – beginning to question everything we know as Christians to be true
 - **Pride** – when doubt is seeded pride enters in to fill the gaps
 - **Depression** – we begin to realize that we are incapable of doing all that needs to be done in our lives
 - **Hopelessness/Despair** – giving up hope means we don't see an end to the issue or a way for things to get better
 - **Unworthy** – we know who God is and what He has done; allowing all those things to occur leads us to believe we are unworthy of God's love bringing doubt and starting the cycle all over again.
 - Paul talks about the helmet a second time
 - *But since we belong to the day, let us be self-controlled, putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and **the hope of salvation as a helmet.** For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Thessalonians 5:8, 9*
1. A soldier without his helmet was at risk of injury or at least disorientation
 2. A Christian without the hope of salvation cannot keep his head up and face the enemy.
 3. The hope is not our grasping to a fleeting desire
 - a. *Webster definition* - "implies little certainty but suggests confidence or assurance in the possibility that what one desires or longs for will happen."
 - b. I hope I hit a home run
 - c. I hope it doesn't snow this week
 4. The hope written by Paul is what salvation gives us for our future, our eternity (Elpis)
 - a. **Col. 1:27** – Christ Jesus, our hope of Glory.
 5. It culminates in the return of our Savior to take us home with Himself to eternity in paradise
 - a. Only if you have made a commitment to accept Him as your savior
 - b. This hope is a certainty of future good

- Using the helmet
 - Focus on what is instead of what is not
 - Live every day in a spirit of gratitude for what God has done for you
 - Count your blessings
 - Salvation
 - Food/shelter
 - Family/friends
 - Allow God to use you to bless others

Next week we will briefly examine what was happening during the last week of Jesus' life on earth.

- Palm Sunday
- Teaching through the week
- Maundy Thursday
- Good Friday
- Resurrection Day