

## 1. We Are Constantly Bombarded with Lies in this World...

- a. There are a Billion Lies — but Only One Truth
- b. A Billion Forms of Self-Righteousness—but Only One Righteousness of God
- c. A Billion Different Man-Made Gospels—but Only One Gospel with the Power to Save

***Put on the whole armor of God to stand against the schemes of the devil***

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## I. THE ARMOR OF TRUTH

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### A. WHAT

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#### 1. This is The Armor of Truth... which secures us like a belt

- a) Fastening this tight around the waist was (lit. “girding the loins”)

#### 2. Oxford American Dictionary: To Gird means to Secure and Strengthen...

- a) prepare and strengthen oneself for what is to come.
- b) To prepare oneself for (dangerous or difficult future actions).

#### 3. Peter tells us ***“Therefore gird up the loins of your mind... (1 Peter 1:13)***

**We Secure and Strengthen Our Mind with the Truth**

### B. WHY

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#### 1. Because Our Enemy is a Liar (John 8:44)

#### 2. The Bible Tells Us that the Whole World is under his control (1 John 5:19)

the sway (NKJ) control (ESV) power (NIV) of Evil one

#### 3. But How is this Possible? By the Power of Deception (Revelation 12:9)

#### 4. Satan Deceives the World with Lies (2 Corinthians 4:3–4)

**BUT HOW?**

- a) He tells you what you want to hear...
- b) He told Eve what she wanted to hear,
- c) He Told Judas what Judas wanted to hear
- d) and tells you what you want to hear... Just Like A Scammer or Hacker Does...
- e) Were So Desperate to Hear What We Want to Hear We'll Even Pay & For It!
  - (1) HEADLINE: CA Man Sues Psychic for Fraud... He was having trouble in his marriage and went to see a Psychic. She read his Tarot cards and found out he had a curse put on him by a previous girlfriend. The Good News: She could remove the curse for only \$5,100!
  - (2) But the Psychic didn't help his marriage at all—Now He is Suing her, for Fraud!

#### 5. This is How Satan Works... (2 Thes. 2:7-10) He Tells You What You Want to

**hear so that you will love the lie more than the truth**

### C. HOW

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#### 1. You Have a Choice: To Love the Truth or Love the Lie (John 3:19–21)

- a) Many Times When One is Convicted by the Truth—they Trivialize it

- b) Pilate Knew Jesus Was Innocent, he knew Jesus was handed over because of envy
- c) They had changed the charges against Jesus, so Pilate could charge Jesus with insurrection, rather than a religious charge that had now power over Pilate

**2. But When He asked if Jesus was a King (John 18:36–38)**

- a) When convicted of the Truth, Pilate Trivialized it—and asked, What is truth?

**3. Jesus said this is why he came into the world—to witness to the truth;**

- a) he came to tell people the truth about God,
- b) the truth about themselves, the truth about life, the truth about eternity.

**4. It is Up to Us to Receive and Accept the Truth...**

**To Live in the Truth and the Truth to Live in Us...**

- a) When David was in Sin he was living a lie...
- b) It was only when he Repented of Sin that he was free (Psalm 51:6–10 ESV)

*Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being, and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart. (51:6)*

## II. THE ARMOR OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

### A. WHAT

**1. Next Piece of Armor a Roman Soldier put on was his Metal Breastplate**

- a) It was Both strong & light—an arrow shot from 20 paces left only a light scratch on it.
- b) This piece of frontal armor was vital for protection of the chest, lungs, and heart.

**2. Armor of Righteousness Guards Us like a Breastplate, or Bullet Proof Vest**

### B. WHY:

**1. Satan is the Accuser (Rev. 12:10) who accuses us day and night**

**2. Just as we saw behind the veil into the spiritual realm (Zech. 3:1ff)**

- a) Joshua's Robes were Filthy Because Compared to the Perfection of God...
- b) All of Our Righteousness is like Filthy Rags (Isaiah 64:6)

**3. Although Satan is a Liar, his Accusations Against Us Are True!**

- a) (Prov 20:9) Who can say, "I have made my heart clean, I am pure from my sin"?

**Answer: NO ONE!**

- b) Even if we try to say this it only means we are lying!  
which is Just Another Accusation Against us thats true!

- c) All Have Sinned... (1 John 1:8) <sup>8</sup> If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

### C. HOW

**1. How Can We Have the Armor of Righteousness?**

- a) Because We Have Been Give a Robe of Righteousness, The Garments of Salvation

**2. Notice It is Given to us By God! (Isaiah 61:10)**

- a) Not Having Our Own Self-Righteousness Like the Pharisees... (Rom. 10:1-4)

**3. People Make This Mistake Today: 'I'm a Good Person' form of Self-Righteousness**

- a) Paul was a Pharisee Who Learned from His Mistake—(Philippians 3:9)

4. **the Armor of God's Righteousness is like a bullet proof vest against Accusations of the Enemy! (Romans 8:33–34)**
    - a) They Enemy Can Accuse Us, but Cannot Condemn Us!
    - b) Because There is No Condemnation for Those Who Are In Christ (Romans 8:1)
    - c) As Long as We Stay Faithful in Christ, We Are Free from Condemnation
  5. **We Aren't Perfect — but we are forgiven!**
    - a) We Are Now Clothed with Christ in Baptism (Gal 3:27 NASB)
    - b) Our Robes Washed and Made White by the Blood of the Lamb (**Rev. 7:14**)
    - c) and as we walk in the light, the blood of Jesus cleanses us all sin (1 Jn 1:7)
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### III. THE ARMOR OF GOSPEL PEACE

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#### A. WHAT

1. **Footwear for Roman Soldiers was designed for 3 things...**
  - a) STABILITY: They're boot was made for the stability to hold the battle line
  - b) MOBILITY: They were famous for marching great distances in a short time.
  - c) READINESS: You fight with your boots on, and are always ready w/ your boots on
2. **The Gospel of Peace is Critical to Our Ability...**
  - a) To STAND against the enemy...,
  - b) To WALK in the Strength of the Lord!
  - c) To be READY give an answer for the Hope & Peace that lies within us

#### B. WHY

1. **Satan is a Destroyer—**  
**who wants to kill, steal & destroy your peace w/ Guilt & Condemnation**
2. **But the Gospel is God's Power to Save!** *"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation" (Rom 1:16)*
3. **So Satan Wants to Separate You from the Power of the Gospel by offering counterfeit gospels....** —So You Can Think You're Saved Even When You're Not

#### > THREE TYPES OF SALVATION....

#### 1—SALVATION AS SELF-FULFILLMENT

(Jack Cottrell, God the Redeemer)

- (1) Hinduism (2) Buddhism (3) Gnosticism (4) New Age belief systems
- Each of these belief systems seek salvation through Self-Actualization "Enlightenment"
- Salvation here is not to be saved from separation from God because of sin...
- But to be saved from **ignorance of your true self** — your true identity:  
that you are Divine and All is a part of the Divine...
- That there is no being called God—but that everything is God including you
- Therefore God does not save—you must save yourself...

**THE PROBLEM is Divinity comes with a price, one you might not have expected:**

**Since You've Convinced Yourself You're a god...** "any ill that befalls you, any anguish, any disaster, any tragedy—is no one's fault but your own. You're responsible for your entire reality (b/c you are god after all) You have to cure your own cancer, heal your own problems and prevent your own death, you have to maintain the universe. (Greg Koukl, *The Story of Reality*)

## **2—SALVATION AS THE HEALING OF SOCIETY**

### **(1) Marxism (3) Secular Humanism (2) Christian Liberalism / ‘Liberation Theology’**

- Each of these belief systems define salvation as the healing of society, not saving a soul
- This Salvation has little or no need for God—we must save ourselves for heaven on earth
- This Secular salvation sees man’s problems not in himself—but in social structures.
- A Liberation Theology that wants to Liberate man from unjust social structures, economic and racial oppression. These social structures must be destroyed and replaced
- If salvation is achieved it will be by man himself...**
- Man will save himself and be Politically Enlightened and Liberated from Oppression.

## **3—SALVATION AS FORGIVENESS AND ACCEPTANCE FROM GOD**

### **(1) Judaism and (2) Biblical Christianity**

- Only Those Who Know God and His Word will understand the true nature of salvation.
- That our sins have separated us from God who is holy—
- Our God who is light, and no darkness is in Him
- But who gave us free-will, even with it’s terrible price, so we have the capacity to receive His love and love Him in return
- But who does not want any to perish but all to come to repentance
- Who send His Son to die for our sins and has a New Heaven and New Earth for His people
- But who will one day separate the good from the evil, so the forgiven can be free from the oppression of darkness and works of evil

## **B. HOW**

### **1. This is the Work that ONLY Jesus Could Accomplish at the Cross...**

- a) Jesus Paid Our Debt in Full by His Blood!
- b) This is the Good News! This is the Gospel of Grace!

### **2. This is what brought us peace with God (Romans 5:1–2)**

- a) This the Grace in Which We Stand in the strength of the Lord

## **CONCLUSION:**

- 1. We Are Protected by the Armor of TRUTH**
- 2. We Are Protected by the Armor of RIGHTEOUSNESS**
- 3. We Are Protected by the Armor of the GOSPEL OF GRACE**

**Even if everything we else we trust in this Life Fails—We Have the Hope of Heaven!**

*You are of God, little children, and have overcome them,  
because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. (1 John 4:1,4)*

**He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world**