

37-Armor of God--- Shield of Faith

Each day I put on the Armor of God. At the beginning of the day, I speak with God. The dialogue is “Next, I **take up the shield of faith**. Protect me from Satan's fiery arrows. Place me shoulder to shoulder with Your army to oppose the devil's schemes.”

Why take up the shield of faith? Because we are under attack daily by an enemy who wants to interfere with our walk. We are encouraged by **Luke 10:19** “Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall hurt you.” Nothing shall hurt you is a promise you can depend upon. Not only do you have authority to tread on serpents, but you have divine power to destroy the enemy's strongholds. **2 Corinthians 10:4** “For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds.” Our strength does not come from ourselves, it comes from our Creator. We draw our strength from the Lord and His might. **Ephesians 6:10** “Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might.”

If you are going to be protected from Satan and his fiery arrows you must be one with the Father. You must submit yourself to God, then resist the devil, and then, deploying the authority and power of God the devil must FLEE. **James 4:7** “Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.” **1 Peter 5:8** “Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.”

We stand shoulder to shoulder because we cannot stand alone. Fellowship provides an Army to face off against the devil and his schemes. Shoulder to shoulder means to support one another during a difficult time. We stand shoulder to shoulder with our brothers and sisters because we all face trials and none of us want to face trials alone. We also need to stand together so we can share how the Lord has carried us through our trials with our fellow believers. The testimony of how others have endured trials brings us confidence when we face similar trials. **1 Peter 5:9** “Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world.”

Verses:

1 John 5:5 “Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?”

1 Corinthians 10:13 “No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptations he will also provide the way to escape, that you may be able to endure it.”

1 Peter 5:8 “Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour”.

John 10:10 “The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full”.

Personal Reflection:

Who are you standing shoulder to shoulder with? Where are you coming under attack? Are you sharing these attacks with your brothers? If not, why not?

Group Discussion:

How can we stand together with our brothers?

How about encouraging those who are struggling?

How can we pull together?