

Armour

“And Saul armed David with his armour, and he put an helmet of brass upon his head; also he armed him with a coat of mail.

And David girded his sword upon his armour, and he assayed to go; for he had not proved it. And David said unto Saul, I cannot go with these; for I have not proved them. And David put them off him.

And the Philistine said unto David, Am I a dog, that thou comest to me with staves? And the Philistine cursed David by his gods.

And the Philistine said to David, Come to me, and I will give thy flesh unto the fowls of the air, and to the beasts of the field.

Then said David to the Philistine, Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied. This day will the LORD deliver thee into mine hand; and I will smite thee, and take thine head from thee; and I will give the carcasses of the host of the Philistines this day unto the fowls of the air, and to the wild beasts of the earth; that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel.

And all this assembly shall know that the LORD saveth not with sword and spear: for the battle is the LORD’S, and he will give you into our hands”, 1 Samuel 17:38–39 & 43–47.

“Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;

And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;

Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.

And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God”, Ephesians 6:13–17.

Two battles. Two sets of armour.

For the Philistine army, they were there as Satan’s forces to annihilate Israel, God’s Chosen.

For the Israelite army, they were there to learn that a trust in God would enable the most junior, and probably the smallest person at the war front to win the war.

The first passage of Scripture also teaches us that man made protection can be overpoweringly heavy.

(Armour, in the days of David, was made from brass and iron. Saul was a large man, his armour would also be large, and weigh anything between one-hundred and fifty and two-hundred pounds.)

Thus, what type of person is God looking for?

Obedient People. Jesse could, and would normally have sent any of his servants from the eldest to the most junior.

God wanted David at the front to destroy the one that the fighting men feared.

Jesse was obedient to the Spirit's desire, and David was obedient to God's Will.

Jesus said, "And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me", Luke 9:23.

Those Who Are Related to Him. It is clear from verse 47 that David did have a working relationship with God.

Jesus said, "...for there is no man which shall do a miracle in my name, that can lightly speak evil of me.

For he that is not against us is on our part", Mark 9:39-40.

People Who Rely On Him. David told the Philistine warrior, it will not be I who will win, but God, verse 47.

Jesus said, "...Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you", John 16:23

In the second portion of scripture, it is made clear that the armour of God is not cumbersome, but usable by all.

Whereas the first battle was clearly against an oversized person, this battle, because of the presence of God in our lives, is very much a spiritual battle, and not a physical battle with another human.

If Satan was prepared to seek a 'face to face' battle with Jesus in the wilderness, Matthew 4:1-11, then as brothers in the Lord we must expect the same.

When Satan stands against us, WE MUST STAND OUR GROUND,

The armour God offers us at this time is an exact copy of what our Lord wore,

Truth,

Righteousness,

The gospel of peace,

The shield of faith,

The helmet of salvation,

The sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God

The most important in the above list is the shield of faith, for the shield will deflect the 'missiles' Satan directs against us.