

BATTLE READY

MAXIMIZING OUR GOD-GIVEN WEAPONS

THE HELMET OF SALVATION - PASTOR BRAD HOWARD

FEBRUARY 6, 2021

Ephesians 6:10-16 NLT

A final word: Be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power. Put on all of God's armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil. For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places. Therefore, put on every piece of God's armor so you will be able to resist the enemy in the time of evil. Then after the battle you will still be standing firm. Stand your ground, putting on the belt of truth and the body armor of God's righteousness. For shoes, put on the peace that comes from the Good News so that you will be fully prepared. In addition to all of these, hold up the shield of faith to stop the fiery arrows of the devil. Put on salvation as your helmet, and take the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

HOW TO EXPERIENCE SALVATION IN EVERY AREA OF YOUR LIFE:

1. SPIRIT - FREEDOM FROM THE PENALTY OF SIN - EXPERIENCED IMMEDIATELY

2 Corinthians 5:17-19 NLT

This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun! And all of this is a gift from God, who brought us back to Himself through Christ. And God has given us this task of reconciling people to Him. For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to Himself, no longer counting people's sins against them. And He gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation.

2. SOUL - FREEDOM FROM THE POWER OF SIN - EXPERIENCED GRADUALLY

Luke 2:52 NIV

And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.

ACTION STEPS FOR A LIFE OF FREEDOM FROM THE POWER OF SIN:

- JOIN A FREEDOM GROUP.
- ATTEND GROWTH TRACK AND BEGIN SERVING.
- CHANGE THE WAY YOU THINK ABOUT YOURSELF.

Romans 12:2 NLT

Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.

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- HAVE A PERSONAL ENCOUNTER WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT EVERY DAY.

2 Corinthians 3:17-18 ESV

Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.

2 Corinthians 10:4-5 NIV

The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.

3. BODY – FREEDOM FROM THE PAIN OF SIN – EXPERIENCED ULTIMATELY

Romans 8:18 NIV

I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.

Revelation 21:4-5 NLT

He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All these things are gone forever." And the One sitting on the throne said, "Look, I am making everything new!" And then He said to me, "Write this down, for what I tell you is trustworthy and true."

1 Corinthians 15:51-54 NLT

But let me reveal to you a wonderful secret. We will not all die, but we will all be transformed! It will happen in a moment, in the blink of an eye, when the last trumpet is blown. For when the trumpet sounds, those who have died will be raised to live forever. And we who are living will also be transformed. For our dying bodies must be transformed into bodies that will never die; our mortal bodies must be transformed into immortal bodies. Then, when our dying bodies have been transformed into bodies that will never die [and our mortal bodies have been transformed into immortal bodies], this Scripture will be fulfilled: "Death is swallowed up in victory."