

Ephesians

Belt of Truth

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Ephesians 6:10-14

10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. 11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. 12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. 13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm.

14 Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness,

- **Schemes of the devil – Spiritual warfare extends beyond what we can see, hear, or touch. Three views of the Demonic:**
 - 1) Dismiss Satan/Demons as not real.
 - 2) Give them too much credit.
 - 3) Aware, but not fixated.
- **Stand** – (Greek, *histēmi*) to be firmly established
- **The belt of truth** – As Paul writes this letter, he's chained under Roman guard, so he's seen soldiers and their armor up close every day. The belt secured the soldier's tunic, anchored the breastplate, and carried his sword and dagger. The hanging leather strips in front, often weighted with metal, protected the lower body and made a sound when he moved.

For a Roman soldier, the belt said who he was, held everything together, and kept him ready to move.

John 8:42-44

*42 Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love me, for I came from God and I am here. I came not of my own accord, but he sent me. 43 Why do you not understand what I say? It is because you cannot bear to hear my word. 44 You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies. Cf. **Genesis 3:1-7***

John 14:6-7

6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. 7 If you had known me, you would have known my

Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.” Cf. John 1:9, 14; 6:32; 15:1

John 17:14-19

14 I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. 15 I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one. 16 They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. 17 Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. 18 As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. 19 And for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be sanctified in truth.

2 Timothy 3:16-17

16 All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

The Point: Satan lies, but you decide what you believe. Put on the belt of truth by anchoring your life to Jesus and His Word, and you'll stand firm when the lies come.

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