

Ephesians

Breastplate of Righteousness

October 4, 2026

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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,

- **Breastplate of righteousness** – (Greek, *dikaiosynē*) a state of approval; right standing before God. Roman Officers often wore a molded bronze breastplate that covered the vital organs, especially the heart. The heavy belt was cinched around it at the waist, holding it in place and taking some of its weight off the shoulders.

Isaiah 64:5-6

5 You meet him who joyfully works righteousness, those who remember you in your ways. Behold, you were angry, and we sinned; in our sins we have been a long time, and shall we be saved? 6 We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment.

Philippians 3:8 *Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ*

Romans 3:10, 21-23

10 as it is written: "None is righteous, no, not one;

21 But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it—22 the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

The righteousness here is not our own, but Christ's.

Isaiah 61:10 *he has covered me with the robe of righteousness*

Matthew 6:33 *But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.*

2 Corinthians 5:21 *For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.*

Ephesians 4:22-24

22 That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; 23 And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; 24 And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

Renewed through the truth of God's Word: **Romans 12:2; Ephesians 5:26**

The Point: Your righteousness was never your own. It's Christ's. He took your sin, and He gave you His righteousness (2 Corinthians 5:21). Your approval before God isn't based on your performance; it's based on His. So when the accusations come, don't argue from your record. Stand on His.

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