**November 4, 2018 “The Belt of Truth” Ephesians 6:10-17**

As we begin our study concerning the armor of God which He has provided to His children, let us remember that we are in spiritual war with Satan and all his host of demons. What this tells us is that at some time or another you will experience in your Christian life a spiritual conflict with the very forces of Hell itself. I cannot tell you what that battle will be like nor can I tell you when it will occur, but I can tell you that it will come if you are a Christian in action and deed… not one in name only.

This is why it was so important for us for us to take our time through the first five and a half chapters through this book. Remember the first three chapters deal with all the things that God has done for us through Christ and the rest of the Book is telling us how to put all this information into action. Make no mistake, we are here in this earth at this time by the Divine and express purpose of God and we, like Christ, must adopt the attitude of “not my will but Thy will be done”.

How does Satan attack you and me? We have the answers in God’s Word clearly defined for us…

1. Genesis 3:1-6… has God really said this?
2. I John 1:5-10… knowing what to do and not doing it, thinking we are OK
3. Mark 4:3-4… birds came and ate the seed
   1. Birds are a sign of false doctrines and false teachers
   2. Mark 4:14-15… take what you have heard and sow doubt
      1. Why your life is anything but what you heard from your favorite TV preacher?????
4. Proverbs 6:16-19
5. I Thessalonians 2:5-12
   1. I Thessalonians 2:9… it’s not going to get any easier the longer you walk with the Lord
6. I John 2:15-17… things of this world

OK… so I know all this… but what am I to do?

1. Ephesians 6:11 and Ephesians 6:13… note what is being mentioned twice
   1. Put on the full armor of God
      1. Purpose
         1. So, we can stand firm
   2. Take up the full armor of God
      1. So, we can resist
2. Stand firm
   1. Girded your loins with TRUTH
      1. Ephesians 4:14
         1. Waves and wind of doctrine
            1. Represent all kinds of teaching which have little or no merit
   2. What does it mean to “gird your loins”
      1. I Kings 18:46… Elijah girded up his loins and ran
         1. Belt to be worn to hold up the tunic
         2. Sam Browne belt
            1. Designed for wearing a sword or pistol
   3. Putting on the belt
      1. Mean… I am ready to fight
         1. Hebrews 12:1-3
            1. Fix your eyes on the Captain
   4. Belt of truth
      1. Telling the truth
         1. To yourself
            1. Revelation 3:15-16

What is your spiritual temperature?

Watch modern preaching of today

Can’t we just all get along?

Why you are so narrow minded?

* + 1. Why truth?
       1. John 8:31-32
          1. Truth will make you free
       2. Impossible to tell only one lie
          1. One leads to another to another to another
          2. John 8:43-47

Truth is…

You can only be in one camp or the other

Army of God

Army of Satan

No in-between

* 1. I Corinthians 9:24-27
     1. Run in such a way that you may win…
     2. Do not shadow box
     3. Discipline that body
        1. Who is the hardest person to say “No” to?
        2. It is yourself…
        3. How do we win this battle of the body?
           1. By saying “Yes” to Christ
  2. Romans 12:1
     1. “Present your bodies as a living sacrifice”
        1. Most of us don’t want to sacrifice for Jesus, do we?

You see the biggest problem in our lives and in our churches is a lack of commitment. I will attend this church as long as you ask nothing from me. As long as you do not step on my toes I will be there. Don’t talk to me about drinking or smoking. Don’t talk to me about gambling or my sex life. Don’t you dare to pry into my life, because if you rile me at all… I am out here in a New York second. If you ask for money I am out of here. I you ask me to change my life, I am out of here.

Why do people say these things?

Commitment is not something required by a church, it is something that is required by God. Do you want to follow Him?

Unless you eat My flesh and drink My blood you have not part of Me. Pick up your cross and follow Me. Fix your eyes on Jesus and in all thy ways acknowledge Him and He will direct your paths.

Without commitment, the armor of God is useless!!!!!!