**January 27, 2019 “The Helmet of Salvation” Ephesians 6:10-17**

As we continue in our study concerning the armor the Lord, I hope that you like me will not look only at one or two aspects of the armor but rather that we would reflect on how this armor is vital to our understanding of Ephesians as a whole.

You see when we look at the first five chapters of Ephesians, we see all the blessings and privileges of what it means to be a child of God but then we see in the culmination of this book that there is a tremendous battle being waged and I might add that is it being waged throughout the life of the believer.

I do not know how many times it has been discussed in my life about how many times it is so easy to get derailed or sidetracked when we are either engaged in prayer or Bible study. How many times do our minds wander during a sermon or teaching that we really want to hear and yet are distracted over the smallest things?

Perhaps the greatest key to unlocking the book of Ephesians is found in Ephesians 3:14 – 4:1. Let’s turn there to re-read that passage again using the words “in order that” in place of the words “so that” which I believe will help us gain a greater understanding of this book written for our benefit.

Now concerning the armor of the Lord, we have noted that there are two divisions in this armor. There are the main parts and then there are the ancillary parts.

Note the main elements of the armor

* Loins girded with truth or truthfulness
  + Ready for the battle with a complete mindset for victory
    - Why?
      * Greater is He that is in me, than he that is in the world
* Breastplate of righteousness
  + Live a righteous life
    - That all men may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven
* Feet shod with the Gospel of peace
  + Peace with God
  + Peace from God

These three are the main parts of the armor or that which is essential for the battle. Then there are the three ancillary items.

* The shield of faith
  + Believing God, no matter what
  + Taking His Word and applying it to our lives

Now we come to the 5th item of the armor which is the helmet of salvation

1. What is the helmet for?
   1. Protecting the head
      1. Usually made of metal or a thick leather
      2. So that blows made to the head would be deflected
   2. So, what is Paul saying here?
      1. Is he saying, please remember to get saved?
      2. Is that the 5th element mentioned here?
      3. If so, why was Ephesians 2:4-10 written earlier?
2. Correct understanding of salvation
   1. Three aspects of salvation
      1. Past
      2. Present
      3. Future
   2. Past aspect of our sins
      1. When were you saved?
         1. When you came to an altar and repeated some prayer?
         2. Or was it when you and I placed all our hope of salvation on Christ alone?
         3. Romans 6:1-4
            1. You and I died to sin when we placed all our hope on the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ
            2. We died to sin when He died for our sins
            3. Romans 6:11… even so consider to be dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus
      2. When you and I died with Christ all our past sins were forgiven
         1. Period!!!!!!
   3. Present aspect of our sins
      1. Romans 8:1
         1. There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus
         2. Why is there none?
            1. Romans 8:33-34

Who is interceding for you right now?

Who is pleading your case before the throne of Grace right now?

Hebrews 7:23-25, 27

* 1. Future
     1. I Thessalonians 5:8… the hope of salvation
     2. Race of our lives
        1. Hebrews 12:1-4
        2. II Timothy 4:6-8
        3. I Peter 1:3-4
        4. Romans 8:20-25

There is a finish line somewhere for you and me. Some day we will fully know that salvation God has planned for us. I do not know when or how it will happen but rest assured… it is coming.