WEEKLY WORSHIP GUIDE

Ephesians 6:17a--August 6th, 2023



Sermon Recap:

The Armor of God: Helmet of Salvation

I. What is the Helmet of Salvation?

a. Past Salvation

• Justification- We were saved by faith (Ephesians 2:8).

b. Present Salvation

• Sanctification- We are being saved as we are being conformed to the image of Christ in this life.

c. Future Salvation

- Glorification- We will be saved one day when we are fully conformed to the image of Christ, in heaven, in a new body void of pain or death or sin.
- The helmet of salvation is referring to the promise and *hope* of future salvation. <u>READ 1 Thess.</u> <u>5:8-10</u>.

II. Why Do We Need the Helmet of Salvation?

a. Assurance

• The promise of glory provides us assurance/confidence that we are secure in our salvation, allowing us to stand against the lies and accusations of Satan.

b. Hope

- Hope is an absolute conviction that this promise is true and certain.
- Future salvation is not secure in ourselves, but in Christ. Therefore, we can be certain that it is true.

c. Perseverance

- This hope allows us to persevere.
- We are conditioned to give up when we lose hope. The helmet of salvation provides the hop[e needed to continue this battle, knowing that victory is certain.

III. How Do We Take the Helmet of Salvation?

a. Secure the Mind

- 2 Cor. 10:3-5--We must take every thought captive.
- Instead of listening to ourselves or the lies of Satan, we talk to ourselves; reminding ourselves of the truths we are prone to forget. Remind yourselves of the promise of future salvation.

b. Meditate on Your Salvation

- Satan attacks our mind, causing us to doubt our salvation, that we may lose joy.
- Take helmet of salvation by reflecting on your own testimony, the call, the repentance, the price of your forgiveness, the cross, the new life, and the spiritual growth that has taken place.

c. Gaze Upon Eternity

- The reality is that life is difficult, suffering is real, and hardships are present.
- However, these hardships are not the end for us. We who are saved by faith are destined for a
 future glory.
- The beauty and weight of the coming glory will be so great that these current circumstance, no matter how difficult, by comparison will appear light and brief.
- Set your gaze upon eternity, hope in that salvation. This is the helmet that will protect your mind today.

Discussion Questions:

- What is the helmet of salvation?
- How does the helmet of salvation provide assurance?
- What is hope? How does the helmet of salvation provide hope?
- How does hope enable us to persevere?
- How does the helmet of salvation protect our mind?
- How can we practically "take the helmet of salvation?"
- How do we "take every thought captive?"
- Considering your own salvation, when was the most joyous time in your past or present salvation?
- · How does having an eternal perspective protect us against the enemy?

Application:

- Are there areas of your life where you feel that you are engaged in spiritual warfare?
- Are there specific ways that your mind is being attacked?
- When was the last time you meditated on your own salvation? Consider your own testimony. Spend some time writing it out, stopping to reflect and rejoice in the call, repentance, forgiveness, and transformation.
- What circumstances are currently being used to steal the "joy of your salvation?" How can you look past those to the promise of a future salvation?
- In which of the three steps to "take the helmet of salvation" are you strongest? Weakest? Share those strengths with a brother or sister to encourage them in their battle. Confess the weaknesses to a brother or sister, asking for prayer and accountability.

