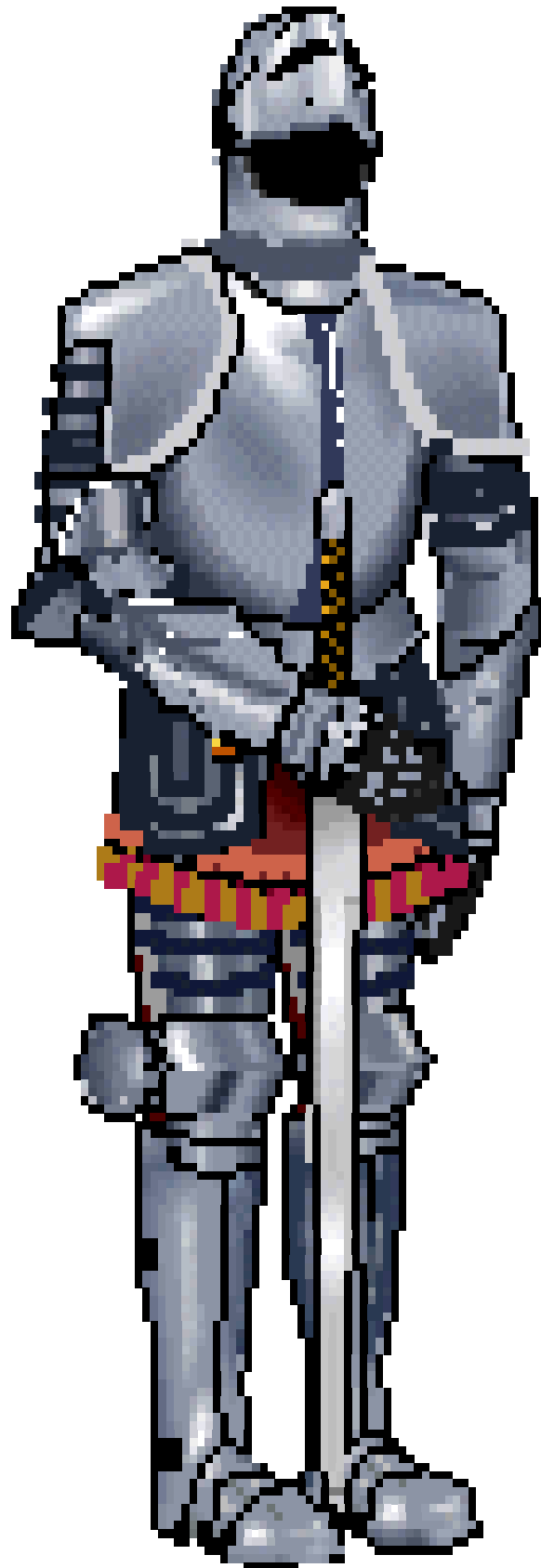


What is the ARMOR of God?



"For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart."

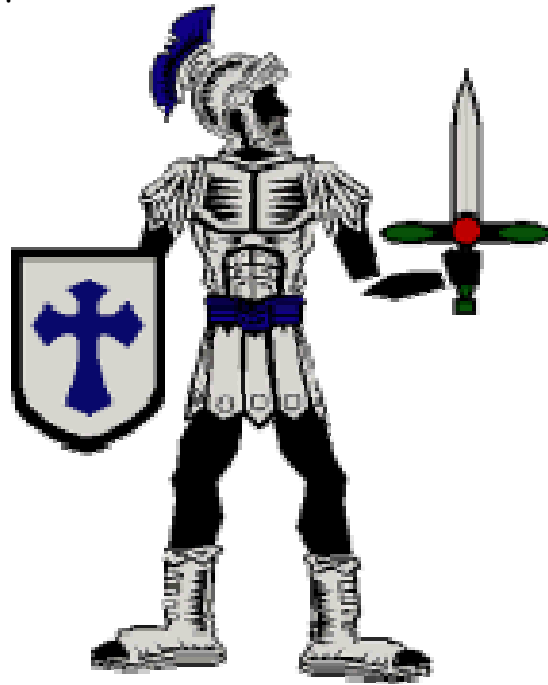
~Hebrews 4:12~

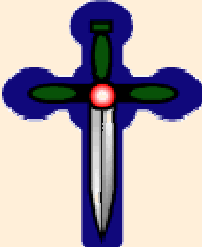
Armour is mentioned many times in the Bible. The word "Armour" in the King James language is the same word that we in the United States spell "Armor". The dictionary says that ARMOR is: "covering to protect the body made of metal".


In the Bible in the book of Ephesians it tells Believers to: "put on the full armor of God". Let's read what that passage that explains it

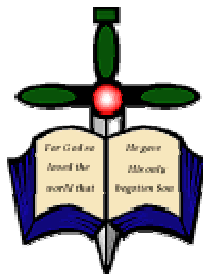
Ephesians 6:10-18 - The Armor of God	
6:10	Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.
6:11	Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.
6:12	For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.
6:13	Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.
6:14	Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;
6:15	And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;
6:16	Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.
6:17	And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:
6:18	Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

Let's look at the parts of our ARMOR so we will know what we need to wear:



Parts of the Armor of God:	What it signifies:
<p>Helmet</p> <p>A defensive head-gear worn by soldiers - <u>1 Samuel 17:5,38</u>; <u>2 Chronicles 26:14</u>; <u>Jeremiah 46:4</u> & <u>Ezekiel 23:24</u></p> <p>Figurative - <u>Isaiah 59:17</u>; <u>Ephesians 6:17</u> & <u>1 Thessalonians 5:8</u></p>	<p>Helmet of salvation</p>
<p>Sword</p> <p>The equipment of a soldier - <u>Jeremiah 46:3,4</u> & <u>Ephesians 6:14-17</u></p> <p>Figurative - <u>Romans 13:12</u>; <u>2 Corinthians 6:7</u>; <u>10:4</u>; <u>Ephesians 6:11-17</u> & <u>1 Thessalonians 5:8</u></p>	<p>Sword of the Spirit - which is the Word of God</p> 
<p>Breastplate</p> <p>Armor for soldiers - <u>Revelation 9:9,17</u></p> <p>Figurative - <u>Isaiah 59:17</u>; <u>Ephesians 6:14</u> & <u>1 Thessalonians 5:8</u></p> <p>Worn by Aaron <u>Exodus 29:5</u>; <u>Leviticus 8:8</u></p>	<p>Breastplate of Righteousness</p>

<p>Feet shod</p>	<p>with the preparation of the gospel of peace</p>
<p><u>Shield</u> - Defensive armor - Different kinds of, designated as buckler, shield, target - <u>Psalms 35:2</u> & <u>Ezekiel 38:4</u></p> <p>Figurative - Of God's protection: <u>Genesis 15:1</u> & <u>Psalms 5:12</u> Of God's truth: <u>Psalms 91:4</u> Of an entire army: <u>Jeremiah 46:3</u></p>	<p><u>Shield</u> of faith</p>
<p>Armor</p> <p><u>Nave's Topical Bible</u> says this about ARMOR:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The equipment of a soldier <u>Jeremiah 46:3,4</u>; <u>Ephesians 6:14-17</u> • FIGURATIVE <u>Romans 13:12</u>; <u>2 Corinthians 6:7</u>; <u>10:4</u>; <u>Ephesians 6:11-17</u>; <u>1 Thessalonians 5:8</u> 	<p>~Put on the Armor of God</p> 
<p>Loins</p> <p>~Some information from Nave's Topical Bible~</p> <p>Girdle of Truth - <u>Ephesians 6:14</u></p> <p>Wrestle against---- Figurative of: <u>Genesis 30:8</u>, <u>32:24,25</u> & <u>Ephesians 6:12</u></p>	<p>-to be girt with truth</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Used to bear arms <u>1 Samuel 18:4</u>; <u>2 Samuel 20:8</u>; <u>2 Kings 3:21</u> • FIGURATIVE <u>Isaiah 11:5</u>; <u>22:21</u>; <u>Ephesians 6:14</u> • SYMBOLICAL <u>Jeremiah 13:1-11</u>; <u>Acts 21:11</u>; <u>Revelation 15:6</u>



We as Christian believers are all suppose to be soldiers. We are in the Lord's army. Do you know the "game plan"? Do you have all the equipment that you need?

~Armor~

Armor is a covering used primarily for protection in battle. Through the centuries, such materials as animal skins, bronze, and steel have been used to make armor. Until the invention of firearms, increasingly effective armor was designed to match advances in weapons. However, the use of individual armor declined when it became so heavy in order to be bulletproof that it could not be worn. Today, armor is used mainly on ships, tanks, and other military vehicles.

In early times, primitive people wore layers of animal hides to soften blows from clubs and axes. The Assyrians and people of other early civilizations carried shields and wore helmets and body armor made chiefly of leather strengthened with bronze. The Greeks and later the Romans wore helmets, cuirasses (short body armor), and greaves (leg armor), and they carried large shields. Greek and Roman armor was constructed mainly of bronze or steel, and it served as protection against arrows, spears, and swords.

During the Middle Ages, the use of armor reached its peak. During the 1200's, chain mail (tiny rings of metal linked together) served as the major form of protection. Suits of chain mail covered a knight's body from head to foot and provided protection against arrows, lances, and swords. The crusaders and many other knights also wore metal helmets that covered the face.

By the 1300's, foot soldiers fought with such weapons as crossbows, longbows, maces, and axes. Arrows fired from a longbow or crossbow could pierce chain mail, and blows from an axe or a mace would crush it. As a result, armorers (armor makers) began to produce plate armor consisting of large pieces of steel. By the 1400's, suits of plate armor were designed to cover the entire body. Helmets, gauntlets (gloves), and shoes--all of steel--completed the outfit. Horses wore armor as well. Plate armor was highly effective, but it was extremely heavy and hot to wear. A suit of armor was also expensive, costing as much as a small farm.

Armorers were highly skilled craftsmen. Their job was to preserve lives, particularly those of leaders. After armor became a safe defense, armorers concentrated on decorating armor for tournaments and parades. Gothic armor produced in northern Italy and southern Germany became especially well known for its gracefulness and elegance. German Maximilian armor of the early 1500's was fluted (grooved) to give it extra strength and a glancing surface. By the mid-1500's, armor was etched or engraved with designs or scenes, and was often gilded or silvered. Later examples imitated current fashions in dress, or were exaggerated and grotesque.

Guns changed the ways of waging war and therefore the protection needed. Armor, made ever thicker and heavier to be bulletproof, became too heavy to wear. By the mid-1600's, only helmets and breastplates continued to be used.

Later developments. By the 1900's, the only armor soldiers wore was a helmet. Engineers began to work on group protection, armoring trains, ships, and other vehicles. During World War I (1914-1918), the British developed the tank. The tank became one of the most important weapons in World War II (1939-1945) and later conflicts. During the Korean War (1950-1953) and the Vietnam War (1957-1975), soldiers wore bulletproof body armor made of light, strong synthetic material.

~Above Information from The World Book Encyclopedia~



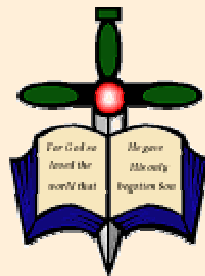
~Helmet~

Helmet is a covering of metal or other sturdy material designed to protect the head. Most helmets have soft liners so they may be worn comfortably. Many people wear helmets, including firefighters, police, motorcyclists, and construction workers. Athletes in certain sports wear helmets. Astronauts wear special helmets for space travel. In tropical climates, pith helmets or cork helmets provide protection from the sun.

Helmets once were worn only in war. The first helmets, worn by Ethiopian soldiers, were the skulls of horses, complete with mane and ears. The ancient Assyrians, Greeks, and Romans wore dome- or cone-shaped helmets made of bronze. Knights in the Middle Ages wore helmets of chain mail or plated steel. They were dome-shaped so that sword blows glanced off the surface. In many cases, the helmet covered the entire head, leaving only slits or holes for seeing and breathing. Some helmets were attached to body armor so they could not be knocked off.

Combat soldiers in World Wars I and II wore steel helmets that could also be used as a cooking pot, dish, or wash basin. Since 1978, soldiers in the United States Army have worn helmets made of an acrylic fiber that is stronger than steel.

~Above Information from The World Book Encyclopedia~



~Shield~

Shield was the chief means of personal protection in war from earliest times until the invention of firearms during the 1300's. Shields were carried in one hand or on the arm to ward off enemy blows. The other hand was free to use a club, sword, or spear.

The earliest shields were made of bullhide or wood. Some were covered with metal. They were of many sizes and shapes. The ancient Egyptians had large shields that were often oblong in shape with a curved top. Sumerian and Assyrian shields were round. The ancient Greek soldier carried a heavy round or oval shield. The Romans introduced a rectangular curved shield made of leather-covered wood.

During the Middle Ages, armored knights used a small triangular shield. After helmets covering the face were introduced, a knight was recognized by the coat of arms painted on

his shield. Foot soldiers carried a small round shield called a buckler. Archers reloaded their bows behind a pavise, a large shield set on the ground. In the 1300's, knights began wearing plate armor consisting of large pieces of steel, and they no longer needed shields. Shields were also discarded because they offered little protection against guns.

Shields have special uses today. For example, police officers sometimes carry shields made of synthetic materials as protection during riots.

~Above Information from The World Book Encyclopedia~



~The Sword~

Sword is a sharp-edged metal weapon. It is used in hand-to-hand fighting to deliver cutting or stabbing blows.

Swords consist chiefly of a blade and a handle called a hilt. Sword blades have either one cutting edge or two, and they are made in a variety of sizes and shapes. Some are broad like that of the Scottish claymore, but others are narrow like that of the rapier. The Persian shamshir, sometimes called a scimitar, has a highly curved blade. But the saber has one that is only slightly curved. Hilt also vary. For example, the hilts on some of the swords of European Vikings and Japanese samurai warriors are highly ornamental works of art. But the hilt on the Roman gladius is purely practical.

About 3500 B.C., people discovered how to make bronze, and early swords were made of this metal. By about 1000 B.C., swords were commonly made of iron, a metal harder than bronze and so better suited for swordmaking. Most early iron swords were only 18 to 24 inches (46 to 61 centimeters) long. Few armies used them as their principal weapon.

During the Middle Ages, sword makers in Europe and Japan perfected the long sword. Long swords ranged from 3 to 6 feet (0.9 to 1.8 meters) in length, and could be swung with either one or two hands. They were extremely deadly, and they were among the most important weapons in warfare of the time.

By the 1600's, firearms had been developed and the use of swords declined as a result. However, cavalry soldiers continued to use such swords as sabers and broadswords into the 1900's. At that time, tanks and other advanced weapons made cavalry itself useless. Today, some military officers still wear swords as a sign of authority. In addition, blunt-edged swords are used in the sport of fencing.

~Above Information from The World Book Encyclopedia~