

## EPHESIANS 6:15

### GOD'S POWERFUL PANOPLY (PART 3 – PEACE)

#### **Piece three: the Gospel of Peace**

*"A common epigram – 'the cobbler's children have no shoes' – expresses the irony of missing that which so surely ought to be ours because of our relationship and position. If we are Christians, we have peace with God because of the work of Christ. But the tragic irony is that many of us do not have the peace of God because we have pushed it away through rebellion and neglect. And as a result we are ever falling in battle."<sup>1</sup>*

– R. Kent Hughes

#### **Defined.**

*The calmness of mind generated by settled confidence in a superior power and trustworthy promises.*

*"It is the gospel of peace, and it is so called, as every reader must perceive, from its effects; for it is the message of our reconciliation to God, and nothing else gives peace to the conscience."<sup>2</sup> – John Calvin*

#### **Dressed.**

##### **Salvation**

*Romans 5:1; Colossians 1:21-22*

*"When man fell out with God, he fell out with himself, and all the world besides; and he can never come to be at peace with these, till his peace be made with God. Tranquillus Deus tranquillat omnia—a tranquil God tranquilizes all things."<sup>3</sup>*

– William Gurnall

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<sup>1</sup> R. Kent Hughes, *Ephesians* (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books, 1990), 233.

<sup>2</sup> John Calvin, *Calvin's Commentaries, Volume XXI*, (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 2023), 339.

<sup>3</sup> William Gurnall, *The Christian in Complete Armour* (Carlisle, PA: Banner of Truth Trust, 1964), 492.

## Sanctification

*Psalm 94:19; Philippians 4:6-7*

1. Enhance your gospel knowledge from the Scriptures.
2. Encompass your gospel understanding with the Scriptures.
3. Echo the gospel realities of the Scriptures
  - a. By hearing God's Word
  - b. By reading God's Word
  - c. By studying God's Word
  - d. By singing God's Word
  - e. By memorizing God's Word
  - f. By sharing God's Word
4. Explore the character of the God of the gospel, Heb. 6:11-20

## Defended.

*The peace we derive from the gospel holds tremendous importance...*

**Before the battle**, cf. Deut. 20:1-8

**During the battle**, cf. Ps. 3:1-6 **and**

**After the battle**, cf. Zeph. 3:14-17 w/ Ps. 23:4; Isa. 11:1-10