

## **Sandals, Shield and Helmet** **(Ephesians 6:15-17a)**

***15 and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace;*** (NASB)

**Wuest:** and having sandalled your feet with a firm foundation of the good news of peace;

The picture is of the need to **stand against** the schemes of the devil – vs. 11 (not walking or running)

Two possible meaning for the verse – either that:

- the gospel is the firm foundation on which Christians are to stand or
- that the Christian soldier should be ready to go out to defend and spread the gospel - Isa 52:7; Rom. 10:15

We desperately need the firm footing of the personal application of the gospel of peace in order to stand firm against the schemes of the devil – otherwise we will slip, slide, and give ground.

We do not stand firmly on the gospel of peace when, usually in the midst of suffering:

- we doubt the goodness of God as the giver of the gospel
- we doubt that the gospel has actually been applied to us
- we doubt that the gospel really brings us to a place of peace with our God

Instead, we want to strap on the gospel of peace and personally apply it as our foundation from which to stand firm

***16 in addition to all, taking up the shield of faith with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one.***

Should be, *in addition to all*

*Shield* – almost the size of a door

*flaming arrows* – their purpose:

The shield was even more effective when all used theirs together

FAITH:           Must be shown by obedience  
                      The object of our faith (not bare faith alone) makes it protective

### **How to Take up the Shield of Faith**

- **knowing Scripture passages** - Rom. 10:17
- **knowing doctrine** – the big picture of Who God is, what He is doing, and how He chooses to do it – Jer. 9:24
- **experiencing the faithfulness of God, especially in suffering** - Lam. 3:17-25; Rom. 8:35,37
- **Position the shield between you and the fiery dart coming your way**

- Use it to shield your brethren
- Beware of the random shot, just when you think you're out of danger - 1Kings22:34
- Keep the shield regularly watered by the Word

When you take it up, *you will be able* (or enabled – passive voice) *to extinguish all...*

**17a And take the helmet of salvation...** - 1 Thess. 5:8-11

*Hope* = confident, eagerly anticipated expectation

**In what ways does Satan come at our head (our thinking)?**

- Doubt/confusion
- Discouragement/despair
- Empty philosophies/confident assertions – Col. 2:8; 1 Tim. 6:20
- Peer pressure – “everybody knows...”
- Ridiculing, questioning, twisting Scripture

**How does the helmet of (hope of) salvation protect our head?**

**SALVATION:**            the already and the not yet

- assurance of our accomplished salvation
- expectancy of final salvation - Rom. 13:11-14

In the end, God wins, and we with Him