

THINKING RIGHT – DOING RIGHT

(#2 – A JOURNEY THROUGH EPHESIANS)

Introduction: Paul's concept in Ephesians:

- strong family + strong church = defeat enemies.

- Armour of God in Ephesians 6 is a summary of what's gone before.
 - Belt of truth
 - Holds scabbard for sword
 - Strips of leather to protect lower body
 - Holds breastplate in place



1. Stand Firm

Ephesians 6:14 *Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place...*

- Stand firm – but don't stand still
- Be on the lookout because the devil schemes

Ephesians 6:11 *Put on the full armour of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.*

2. Put on Breastplate of Righteousness

- Righteous = thinking right; doing right
- OT Summary – God is righteous because He speaks and acts in accordance with His own holy nature (Baker's Evangelical dictionary)
- Sometimes our nature doesn't seem holy
 - Remember the promise of the New Covenant.

Jeremiah 31:33 *"This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel after that time," declares the LORD. "I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people..."*

- When we believed, it was credited to us as righteousness.

3. Think Right

- Breastplate guards our hearts

A) Right thinking: Power to keep

Ephesians 1:13-14 *And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession—to the praise of his glory.*

- Key words:
 - Included
 - Believed
 - You were marked
 - Guaranteeing our inheritance

B) Right thinking: Power to love

Ephesians 3:17-19 *...so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.*

- Key words:
 - Established
 - Grasp
 - Filled

4. Do Right

- Right thinking leads to doing right

Ephesians 4:22-24 *You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.*

- Key words:
 - Taught
 - Put off old self
 - Made new
 - Put on new self