



There has been a lot said lately about the armour of God. It seems that God has a special desire for us at this time to learn how to put the armour on and how to use it. Therefore, in our next few issues, we will focus on this armour and see what the Bible has to say about it. Ready to start? Let's go!

To start with, let me ask you, children, a question: do you know why we have to put on the armour of God? Yes, you are right, that we might be able to fight against our enemy. Now, it is easy to say, but who is your enemy? It's not your brother or your sister, is it? Your enemy is not a visible enemy. The Bible says that we *wrestle not against flesh and blood* so that means we are not to fight against people.

Ephesians 6 says that your enemy is the devil and his princes.

Now that we know who our enemy is, let me ask you another question: do you think you can recognize when he comes? He doesn't come and say, "Hi, I am the devil and I am here to fight with you," does he? But he comes in various forms. For example, he comes as lying and wants you to lie to your mom; or, he makes you throw fits; or, disobey your dad; or, argue with your siblings. All these things are the enemy that hurts us and, through us, hurts others.

So, how do we fight these invisible battles? Do we go to the store, buy a sword and wave it in the air? No! We fight our battles by putting God's

armour on. The armour of God is not seen with the natural eyes. When I look at you, I cannot tell whether you have it on or not. But I can see it when something happens. Let's look at the following story:

Mercy is playing in her new sandbox. She has built a really high tower. How beautiful! But what is this? Her older brother, Jimmy, is running fast towards the sandbox. What is he going to do? Oh, no! He kicked the tower down! Shame on you, Jimmy! Mercy is ready to cry. She wants to scream out, "You ugly boy! I hate you!" However, she stops for a minute, thinks and then, something else comes out of her mouth, "Jesus, help me! I don't want to be angry with my brother! The Bible says that we are to be

kind one to another.” At that moment, Jesus comes to rescue her from the enemy called Anger. Her heart warms up and she feels so good inside. “It’s okay,” she thinks, “I will build me another tower.” Then, she turns to Jimmy and says sweetly, “Jimmy, I won’t be upset with you because of what you did. Do you want to play together?” Can you tell which one of these children had the armour of God on?

Ephesians talk about the **whole** armour. Do you know, children, what it means to put on the **whole** armour of God? What do you suppose would happen if a soldier was missing, for example, a helmet? The enemy would go after his head and punch him there, wouldn’t he? What if the soldier didn’t have a shield? The fiery darts would easily hit him. If he didn’t have a sword, he couldn’t attack; he would just have to hide himself. If he didn’t have the breastplate, the enemy would pierce him in his heart. If he didn’t have shoes, it would be very hard for him to walk. Just imag-

ine, armour without one of the pieces would be like a picture puzzle without a small piece. The picture would have a hole. So we can see that we have to have everything on and cannot leave anything out.

So, which one of you wants to be one of God’s soldiers? Do you want to put on God’s whole armour? Well, let me give you a task to do until we meet again. And then, in the next issue, we will start

learning how to put the individual pieces of the armour on on a daily basis. Here is your task:

Romans 6:13, *Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God.*

Let me tell you what this verse means. The word members is the Greek word

EPHESIANS 6:10-18

Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. ¹¹Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. ¹²For 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. ¹³Wherefore 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. ¹⁴Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; ¹⁵And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; ¹⁶Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. ¹⁷And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: ¹⁸Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints.

melos and it means a limb or part of the body. For example, the tongue. The word instruments is the Greek word hoplon and it means armour. So, you can get up in the morning and say, “Lord God, I don’t want my tongue to be a member of unrighteousness but righteousness. Please

help me.” Then, you can be sure that God will give you a situation like the one in our story and you will be able to overcome. And if you fall, then rise up and keep trying until you do well.

(Based on children’s lessons given by a number of teachers in Prague, Czech Republic.)

II CORINTHIANS 10:4

For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds.