

**OVERCOMING TEMPTATION**  
**PART 5g-THE CHRISTIAN'S ARMOR AND ARSENAL**  
**"THE HELMET OF SALVATION"**  
**EPHESIANS 6:17**

**INTRODUCTION**

*1 Peter 5:8 - "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:"*

*Ephesians 6:11- "Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil."*

Satan is a planner and a schemer. The plans and schemes of Satan include you and me. Satan has what I like to call some "Devouring 'D's'" he likes to use!

Satan wants to **distract and delay** us if he can.

Satan will do everything he can to **divert or detour** us from doing the will of God. Sometimes he uses **discord** and **divisions** in Churches to accomplish this!

Satan wants us to live a defeated life and he will do whatever he can to **defeat** us! He wants us to sin against the Lord, and He will do everything in his power to get us to fail in our Christian walk! To accomplish this he uses both our **disobedience** and **defilement**.

Have you ever known someone who had great potential for the Lord, but they were defeated by Satan and never amounted to what they could have for the Lord?

Satan will also try to fill our lives with **disbelief** or **doubt**! If that doesn't work he'll use **dullness** and **deadness** in our Christian life.

He will have us **doubting** God's goodness, God's provision, God's will and God's commands!

Satan will use every opportunity to **discourage** us! After some of the greatest victories in our Christian lives, he attacks us and tries to get us **discouraged** or **disappointed** when things don't go the way we think they should have!

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That's what he did to the great prophet Elijah, who one minute was calling fire down from Heaven, killing false prophets and praying to end a 3 year drought, and the next minute he was running from a wicked queen, sitting under a juniper tree and wanting God to take his life!

Satan is against us and we can be assured that he is going to be after us! That's the bad news! The good news is that if you are a Christian, God is at work in your life!

*1 John 4:4 - "Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world."*

Over a number of weeks now we have been showing how that God has made His armor available to us so that we can stand against the wiles, schemes, or methods of the devil.

So far we have looked at:

The Girdle of Truth - Word of God

The Breastplate of Righteousness - Christ living through us

The Shoes - Preparation of the Gospel of Peace

The Shield of Faith

And this week we see the headgear that will help us in the battle. It is the "*helmet of salvation*".

A Roman soldier entered battle wearing a metal helmet. The obvious reason was to protect his head!

The head is the place from which the whole body is controlled! It is important that it be protected!

As Christians, we need to protect our Spiritual heads!

The head is the control center! It is the home of our brains, our thinking mechanism! If Satan can control how we think, he will have us defeated for sure! So, we are told to take the "*helmet of salvation*"!

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A practical working knowledge of our salvation is something we need in order to defeat Satan!

Most folks only think of salvation as a past event, and indeed it is!

But salvation is also a current event! If we have trusted Christ as Savior, we are in a process! We are being saved right now from the power of sin as we walk through this life!

Furthermore, Salvation is also a future event! There will be a day when this life on earth will be over and we are in the presence of Jesus and we will be saved, once and for all from the very presence of sin forevermore!

We need to take or accept the helmet of salvation.

When we do, we are remembering three tenses of salvation.

THE PAST - SAVED FROM THE PENALTY OF SIN

THE PRESENT - SAVED FROM THE POWER OF SIN

THE FUTURE - SAVED FROM THE PRESENCE OF SIN

This outline is not original with me, but is a great summary of our salvation.

**I. THE PAST - SAVED FROM THE PENALTY OF SIN!**

One of the things Satan tries to do is get us to grieve over past sins!

He will take us back in our thinking and have us remember those things which we have done that were wrong!

Sometimes we might hear a voice from the inside of us bringing up all our past failures, all of our past sins—both before and after our salvation!

That's when we need the helmet of salvation!

When Jesus died he died for all of our sins!

He paid for them all on Calvary! He didn't miss a one!

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Horatio Spafford put it this way in his hymn "*It Is Well With My Soul*"

*My sin oh, the bliss of this glorious thought:*

*My sin not in part, but the whole*

*Is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more,*

*Praise the Lord, Praise the Lord, Oh my soul.*

The moment we trusted Christ as our Savior, we were no longer condemned to die for our sins! Jesus took our place! We are free! We will not face hell fire, if we know Christ!

*John 3:16-18 - For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God!*

You may say, "*That's all well and good, Pastor, but what about my sins since I've been saved? Some of them have been horrendous!*"

When Christ died, he died for all our sins!

As Christians, when we sin, God does not kick us out of the family!

There are times when He "*spanks*" us, if you will, or rather "*chastises*" us because He loves us, and wants us to do what is right!

*Hebrews 12:6 - "For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth."*

And when we sin, the line of communication between us and our Heavenly Father is broken down. *Psalm 66:18 - "If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me:"*

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We are not kicked out of the family, but God is grieved when His children sin! How do we fix it?

*1 John 1:9-10 - "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."*  
(Comment on this)

There are times when we may have to live with the **consequences** of our sins! But we are still forgiven and can return to having fellowship with God if we have confessed our sins!

So when we are troubled by sin in our lives, we must take the helmet of salvation!

First, realize that Christ died for all our sins! We are not condemned! Second, realize that God cleanses us from any sin that we confess as sin! Just deal with the sin and then relax! You've been cleansed!

*THE PAST - SAVED FROM THE PENALTY OF SIN!*

**II. THE PRESENT - SAVED FROM THE POWER OF SIN!**

We have already seen that we can have power over sin as we discussed *Galatians 2:20 - "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me."*

*Romans 6:14 - "For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace."*

I want us to think of a very specific way Satan tries to work on us!  
Satan tries to make us think that we are alone!  
He tries to make us think that we have been cut off or separated from God and His love!

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Please turn to **Romans 8:35-39**

Put this "*helmet*" on when Satan tries to think God has deserted you!

**Vs. 35**

**Tribulation** - the vast array of circumstances that are common to life and are unpleasant

**Distress** - It means a very narrow place where one is cramped and pressed in by oppressive circumstances. We might say it is when we are between a rock and a hard place.

**Persecution** - being picked on, hurt, or even destroyed for the cause of Christ.

**Famine** - to suffer physical want, which has happened to some saints.

**Nakedness** - lack of clothing.

**Peril** - precarious situations where you are in danger.

**Sword** - loss of life for Christ's sake

**Vs. 37** - In all these things we are not just winners, not just victorious, but more than conquerors!

When we have on the helmet of salvation, we are more than conquerors!

In tribulation we can be more than patient!

In distress we can be more than victorious!

In persecution we can be more than a good testimony!

In famine and nakedness we can be more than content!

In peril and sword we can be more than joyful!

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**Not through our own strength, not through our own power, not through our own resources, but through Him that first loved us!**

**Vss. 38-39** - Paul was persuaded or convinced and we should be too!

**Death** can not separate us from the love of God! - It unites!

**No life situation** can separate us from the love of God!

**Neither good angels, nor bad angels, or the devil himself** can separate us from God's love!

**There is nothing high or low, or anything else for that matter**, that separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord!

Before we were saved sin could separate from God!

In Christ it can no longer separate us from God!

*THE PAST - SAVED FROM THE PENALTY OF SIN!*

*THE PRESENT - SAVED FROM THE POWER OF SIN!*

**III. THE FUTURE - SAVED FROM THE PRESENCE OF SIN!**

*1 Thessalonians 5:8 - "But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation."*

In this verse the *helmet of salvation* is called the *helmet of the hope of salvation!*

The word "*hope*" here is not wishy-washy. Paul is speaking of hope as a certainty! A sure expectation!

When we are certain about something good we look forward to it happening! We hope for it!

There will be a day when the process of salvation will be completed! As we hope for salvation, we can look forward to two things!

**First, we look forward to the day when Jesus will come for all of his saints!**

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*1 Thessalonians 4:16-18 - "For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord."*

*Titus 2:13 - "Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;"*

My friend Jesus could come at any moment!

And when He does, we will be in His presence!

But there is another part to that hope!

If we die, we will be absent from this body and present with the Lord!

We are looking forward to a time when we will enjoy all the benefits of some new things.

Turn please to **Revelation 21:1-7** - READ AND COMMENT

Now, turn over to **Revelation 22:1-5** - READ AND COMMENT

**Conclusion**

Until we leave this earth we will be under attack from Satan and his forces!

However, the children of God can stand firm against that attack!

When Satan starts to mess with your mind, especially to discourage you, please make sure you have taken the Helmet of Salvation!

IT COVERS:

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OUR PRESENT - SAVED FROM THE POWER OF SIN!

OUR FUTURE - SAVED FROM THE PRESENCE OF SIN!