

Colossians 3:16

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly,
teaching and admonishing one another
in all wisdom,
singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs,
with thankfulness in your hearts to God.



The Whole Armor of God

Ephesians 6:10-20 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints, and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak.

Reflections from Scripture on The Breastplate of Righteousness

Ephesians 6:14 Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness.

Psalms 4:1 Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness!

You have given me relief when I was in distress. Be gracious to me and hear my prayer!

Psalms 5:8 Lead me, O Lord, in your righteousness because of my enemies; make your way straight before me.

Psalms 145:17 The Lord is righteous in all his ways and kind in all his works.

Isaiah 59:17 He put on righteousness as a breastplate, and a helmet of salvation on his head; he put on garments of vengeance for clothing, and wrapped himself in zeal as a cloak.

Romans 1:16-17 For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith."

II Corinthians 5:21 For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Philippians 3:8-9 Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith.

I Thessalonians 5:8-9 But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ

Song

Psalm 59:16 But I will sing of your strength; I will sing aloud of your steadfast love in the morning. For you have been to me a fortress and a refuge in the day of my distress.

Be Thou My Vision

Be Thou my vision, oh Lord of my heart
Nought be all else to me, save that Thy art
Thou my best thought in the day and the night
Waking or sleeping, Thou presence my light.

Be Thou my wisdom, be Thou my true word
I ever with Thee and Thou with me Lord
Thou my great Father and I Thy true son
Thou in me dwelling and I with Thee one.

Be Thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight
Be Thou my armor and be Thou my might
Thou my soul shelter, and Thy my high tower
Raise Thou me heavenwards, oh power of my power.

Riches I need not, nor man's empty praise
Thou mine inheritance through all of my days
Thou and Thou only though first in my heart
High king of heaven my treasure Thou art.

Oh high king of heaven, when battle is done
Grant heaven's joy to me, bright heaven sun
Christ of my own heart, whatever befall
Still be my vision, though ruler of all.

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Prayer

II Chronicles 7:14 If my people, who are called by my Name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

Holy Father, there is none who is righteous, not even one. We have all fallen and missed the mark. Yet how often do we think we are right and defend ourselves when others disagree with us or oppose us. You alone are holy and right and righteous, and your righteousness never fails. You alone can make us right with you and righteous with Christ's righteousness.

We thank you for the gift of Christ in our lives. We thank you for the power of your Holy Spirit living in us, through us, every single day. We're so aware of our constant need for you. Today as we read through these verses, we're reminded again to securely put on the breastplate of righteousness to protect our hearts and our lives from the dark forces at work among us. We ask for your powerful covering in the temptations we face and the battles we find ourselves struggling through even now. Thank you that because of Christ's forgiveness and righteousness, we are made new and set free. You've given us fresh purpose and hope; and we know that through you, anything is possible. Help us to shine your light in a world that often feels dark. Give us the strength and boldness we need to share your truth with those who are desperately searching for hope.

Thank you for Jesus, the Holy and Righteous One, the Lamb of God, who takes away our sin. Infuse us with his righteousness, so our lives might reflect holiness and righteousness on earth as it is in heaven. May your righteousness cover the earth as the waters cover the sea. I pray that you put on me the breastplate of righteousness and give me the power to stand against any arrow fired at me. And yes, Lord, I wear Your righteousness today against all condemnation and corruption. Fit me with Your holiness and purity—defend me from all assaults against my heart. Strengthen me today Lord and let me be free by your power. In the righteous name of our righteous Savior, Amen.