

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 Shield of Faith

Ephesians 6:16 In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one.

Genesis 15:1 After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision: "Fear not, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great."

Deuteronomy 33:29 Happy are you, O Israel! Who is like you, a people saved by the LORD, the shield of your help, and the sword of your triumph."

Psalms 18:35 You have given me the shield of your salvation, and your right hand supported me.

Psalms 28:7 The Lord is my strength and my shield; My heart trusts in Him, and I am helped; Therefore my heart exults, and with my song I shall thank Him.

Psalms 33:20 Our soul waits for the LORD; he is our help and our shield.

Psalms 84:11 For the LORD God is a sun and shield; the LORD bestows favor and honor. No good thing does he withhold from those who walk uprightly.

Psalms 91:2-6 I will say to the Lord, "My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust." For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence. He will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness is a shield and buckler. You will not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day, nor the pestilence that stalks in darkness, nor the destruction that wastes at noonday.

Proverbs 30:5 Every word of God proves true; he is a shield to those who take refuge in him.

Romans 5:1-2 *Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.*

Romans 10:17 *So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.*

II Corinthians 10:4 *For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds.*

1 John 5:4-5 *For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?*

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.*

Take The Shield of Faith, My Brother (tune of Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus/Come Thou Fount of Every Blessings)
Take the shield of faith, my brother, hold it boldly in the light;
And its awful, burnished glory will put every foe to flight.

Refrain:

In the mighty name of Jesus,
Ever lift up the shield of faith;
Wield the sword of truth, my brother,
Heav'n will crown thy fight of faith.

Faith is mighty and will conquer, bind it firmly on thy heart;
On the hottest field of battle Thou shalt quench the vilest dart. *[Refrain]*

And when trouble specters round thee come, thy spirit to depress,
Lift the shield of faith abounding, and thy soul shall calmly rest. *[Refrain]*

Then put on the holy armor, and defy the tempting throng;
Over all the foes that gather, shout and sing the victor's song. *[Refrain]*

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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.*

A prayer from *The Valley of Vision*

Holy Father, the battle we are in is fierce, and the enemy we face is strong. We live in a broken, fallen world filled with devils. The temptations to sin are like a thousand arrows pointed at our soul. And we are flesh and finite, weak and foolish. Fear, doubt, anxiety, discord quickly rise in our hearts and minds.

But you are our strength and shield. Strengthen our weak faith and armor us with the shield of faith so we are enabled by you to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the hater of our souls. We thank you that by faith in your power we can be protected from temptation and wrong desires today. Guide us and protect us, keep us from temptation and increase our faith in You.

We give you all the praise, glory and thanks, that through the cross of Jesus and the power of the Holy Spirit our is the victory. Guard us in every trial. Keep our eyes of Jesus the author and finisher of our faith. Enable us to always remember your goodness and mercy as your rod and staff protect us.

We ask all of this for ourselves, our families, our church family and our nation, in Jesus' name, Amen.