

Jesus Makes All Things New (Part 8) *Fill Your New Year with Hope* Pastors Ryan & Linaya Bunbury February 21, 2021

Anyone who belongs to Christ is a new person. The past is forgotten, and everything is new. 2 Corinthians 5:17 CEV

"I make all things new." - Jesus, Revelations 21:5 KJV

THE BIG IDEA: Jesus makes all things new.

Today's Tutorial Scriptures:

- For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds. 2 Corinthians 10:4 KJV
- We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ. 2 Corinthians 10:5 NIV

The Apostle Paul articulates a tutorial on how to win when fighting in spiritual warfare:

- ¹⁰ Finally, be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power. ¹¹ Put on the full armor of God, so that you can make your stand against the devil's schemes. ¹² For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this world's darkness, and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. ¹³ Therefore, take up the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you will be able to stand your ground, and having done everything, to stand. ¹⁴ Stand firm then, with THE BELT OF TRUTH buckled around your waist, with THE BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS arrayed, ¹⁵ and with your feet fitted with the readiness of THE GOSPEL OF PEACE. ¹⁶ In addition to all this, take up THE SHIELD OF FAITH, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷ And take THE HELMET OF SALVATION and THE SWORD OF THE SPIRIT, which is the word of God. ¹⁸ PRAY in the Spirit at all times, with every kind of prayer and petition. To this end, stay alert with all perseverance in your prayers for all the saints. ¹⁹ PRAY also for me, that whenever I open my mouth, words may be given me so that I will boldly make known the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰ for which I am an ambassador in chains. PRAY that I may proclaim it fearlessly, as I should. Ephesians 6:10-20 NIV

SIX NON-NEGOTIABLES AND ONE CHARGE WHEN FIGHTING TO WIN:

1. THE BELT OF TRUTH (Ephesians 6:14a)

How do you define truth?

"One of Satan's ploys to retard spiritual productivity is getting Christians preoccupied with humanistic philosophy and other bankrupt substitutes for God's truth." John MacArthur

- "I am the way, the TRUTH, and the life." - Jesus, John 14:6a KJV
- TRUTH came through Jesus Christ. John 1:17b NIV

When you know Jesus you know the truth.

Truth, like a belt, will hold you together through a worldwide pandemic, economic uncertainty and proliferated racial tension and turmoil.

- You will know the TRUTH, and the TRUTH will set you free." - Jesus, John 8:32 CEV
- Instead, we will speak the TRUTH in love. Ephesians 4:15a NLT

2. **THE THE BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS (Ephesians 6:14b)**

- The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it?
Jeremiah 17:9 ESV

3. **THE SHOES OF THE GOSPEL OF PEACE (Ephesians 6:15)**

On a scale of 1-10, how argumentative would you say you are?

The Prince of Peace refocuses His followers' attention on winning people not arguments.

- For He Himself is our PEACE. Ephesians 2:14 NIVa
- "I have told you these things, so that in Me you may have PEACE." - Jesus, John 16:33a NIV
- Jesus came "... to guide our feet into the path of PEACE." Luke 1:79b NIV

4. **THE SHIELD OF FAITH (Ephesians 6:16a)**

- In addition to all this, take of the shield of FAITH, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Ephesians 6:16a NIV

5. **THE HELMET OF SALVATION (Ephesians 6:17a)**

What battle are you fighting right now?

What relationship issues is your mind wrestling with?

- Salvation is found in no one else... Acts 4:12a NIV
- Everyone who calls on the Name of The Lord will be SAVED. Romans 10:13 NIV
- Our firm hope that we will be SAVED is our helmet. 1 Thessalonians 5:8b CEV
- Bear in mind that our Lord's patience means SALVATION, just as our dear brother Paul also wrote you with the wisdom that God gave him. 2 Peter 3:15 NIV

Putting your helmet of salvation on means...

- That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord." and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be SAVED. Romans 10:9 NIV

6. **THE SWORD OF THE SPIRIT (Ephesians 6:17b)**

If we are not confident in the inspiration of Scripture, that the sword really came from The Spirit, then we will not use it effectively at all.

7. **THE CHARGE: PRAY, PRAY, PRAY (Ephesians 6:18-20)**

"Prayer is not a preparation for the battle; it is the battle." Leonard Ravenhill

- "Whatever you ask for in PRAYER, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours. And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive him, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins." - Jesus, Mark 11:24-25 NIV (ref. Matthew 6:12)

"My secret is very simple: I pray." Mother Teresa, No Greater Love

- About midnight Paul and Silas were PRAYING and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was such a violent earthquake that the foundations of the prison were shaken. At once all the prison doors flew open, and EVERYONE'S CHAINS CAME LOOSE. Acts 16:25-26 NIV

Prayer opens doors to forgiveness, unleashes hope and releases your relationships from otherwise being locked up in debilitating issues.

Are there any underlying issues of unforgiveness that are holding you back behind bars?

- Paul articulates, "Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in PRAYER. Romans 12:12 NIV
- Never stop PRAYING." 1 Thessalonians 5:17 NLT

A winning relationship is a praying relationship committed to following Jesus.