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- [Current Broadcast](#)
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- [Podcasts](#)
- [Featured Series](#)
- [All Series](#)
- [This Week's Sermon](#)
- [All Sermons](#)

Sermons in this series  
(click to see details):

- Part: 16 [The Results of Resisting the Devil](#)
- Part: 15 [Don't Give Place to the Devil](#)
- Part: 14 [Don't Ignore the Devil](#)
- Part: 13 [Our Unseen but DANGEROUS Enemy--Satan](#)
- Part: 13 [Satan Wants YOU to Doubt God's Word](#)
- Part: 12 [Resisting Satan's attacks](#)
- Part: 10 [What Is Satan Up To Right Now](#)
- Part: 9 [Where Did Satan Come From?](#)
- Part: 8 [Humility, Worship and our Adversary the Devil](#)
- Part: 7 [Humility, Worship and our Adversary the Devil](#)
- Part: 6 [Wearing His Word](#)
- Part: 5 [Wearing His Salvation](#)
- Part: 4 [Wearing His Faith](#)
- Part: 3 [Wearing His Peace](#)
- Part: 2 [Wearing His Righteousness](#)
- Part: 1 [Wearing His Truth](#)

## Wearing His Peace



**Part 3** (990103AM)

[Return to previous Page](#) | [Print](#)

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Many years ago it was a spiritual highlight of my life to spend some time in the 500 year old home of Martin Luther....on the wall of his study was the faint stain of an inkwell that smashed and spilled ink. God was mightily using Luther was so aware of Satan and his opposition he angrily threw the inkwell at him. A verse of "A Mighty Fortress" captures the moment "the prince of darkness....".

The verse that reminds us of the spiritual dump we live in and walk in each day. Before we ever go out onto the twisted deadly pieces of evil out there to get us we need to remember the conflict we are in and strap on our SHOES OF PEACE. Listen to Luther and the peace God brings:

- **A mighty fortress is our God,**  
A bulwark never failing;  
Our helper He amid the flood  
Of mortal ills prevailing;  
For still our ancient foe  
Doth seek to work us woe;  
His craft and pow'r are great,  
And armed with cruel hate,  
On earth is not His equal
- **Did we in our own strength confide,**  
Our striving would be losing;  
Were not the right Man on our side,  
The Man of God's own choosing;  
Dost ask who that may be?  
Christ Jesus, it is He;  
Lord Sabboth, His name,  
From age to age the same,  
And He must win the battle.
- **And tho' this world, with devils filled,**  
Should threaten to undo us,  
We will not fear, for God hath willed  
His truth to triumph thro' us;  
The prince of Darkness grim,  
We tremble not for him;  
His rage we can endure,  
For lo, his doom is sure,  
One little word shall fell him.
- **That word above all earthly pow'rs,**  
No thanks to them, abideth;  
The Spirit and the gifts are ours Thro'  
Him who with us sideth:  
Let goods and kindred go,  
This mortal life also;  
The body they may kill:  
God's truth abideth still,  
His kingdom is forever.

So Luther realized what we also experience so much. Satan, his demons, and the world around us all seek to activate our fallen flesh so that we are robbed of God's peace in our lives. We need to WEAR His Peace because of the enemy we face! Remember - Our enemy Satan opposes everything God does. For example:

1. JESUS is TRUTH ([John 1:17](#)) [John 1:17](#) For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

SATAN is lies ([John 8:44](#); [2 Cor. 4:3,4](#)) [2 Corinthians 4:3-4](#) But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing,4 whose minds the god of this age has

blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.

2. JESUS GIVES LIFE ([John 5:24](#)) [John 5:24](#) "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life.

SATAN gives death ([John 8:44](#); [Heb. 2:14](#)) [Hebrews 2:14](#) Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil,

3. JESUS PRODUCES SPIRITUAL FRUIT ([Gal 5:22,23](#)) [Galatians 5:22-23](#) But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,<sup>23</sup> gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.

SATAN PRODUCES FLESHLY FRUIT ([Gal 5:19-21](#))

[Galatians 5:19-21](#) Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness,<sup>20</sup> idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies,<sup>21</sup> envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

4. JESUS MATURES ([James 1:2-4](#)) [James 1:2-4](#) My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials,<sup>3</sup> knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience.<sup>4</sup> But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.

SATAN devours ([1 Pet. 5:8](#)) [1 Peter 5:8](#) Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.

5. JESUS liberates ([John 8:31](#)) [John 8:31](#) Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed.

SATAN enSLAVES ([2 Tim. 2:26](#)) [2 Timothy 2:26](#) and that they may come to their senses and escape the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to do his will.

6. JESUS DEFENDS US ([1 John 2:1](#)) [1 John 2:1](#) My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.

SATAN ACCUSES US ([Rev. 12:10](#)) [Revelation 12:10](#) Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, "Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down.

Please turn to the Old Testament book of Isaiah chapter 48 for our Scripture reading. Stand as I read just 2 verses:

- [Isaiah 48:18](#) O that thou hadst hearkened to my commandments! then had thy peace been as a river, and thy righteousness as the waves of the sea: (KJV)
- [Isaiah 48:22](#) There is no peace, saith the LORD, unto the wicked. (KJV)

Peace is a choice

Now to Ephesians 6. Armor for Paul was more than pictures from daily life of the nearly omnipresent Roman Legionnaires. Very literally, the "whole armor of God" he describes is a picture of Jesus Christ. In verses 14-17 is a list of the combat equipment that the Holy Spirit issues to every believer at the moment of salvation. By faith and obedient experience we find Christ is:

1. We wear his Truth that is the belt of truthfulness.
2. We wear his Righteousness that is the breastplate we wear.
3. We wear his Peace as the shoes of the gospel of peace.
4. We wear his Faith as our shield of faith.
5. We wear his Salvation as our helmet.
6. We wear his Word as the sword of the Spirit when we are letting His Word dwell in us.

So in the truest way, when we trusted Christ, we received Him as our armor. Paul told the Romans "put on the Lord Jesus Christ" ([Rom. 13:14](#)). By faith, put on the armor and trust God for the victory. Once and for all, we have put on the armor at the moment of salvation. But there must be a daily renewal.

What are the shoes of peace?

The war against god is over: Before we came to Christ we were at war with God. No matter what we may consciously have thought about God, our hearts were against Him. It was "while we were enemies" of God that "we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son" ([Rom. 5:10](#)).

When we received Christ as Savior and He imputed His righteousness to us, our

battle with God ended, and our peace with God began. Because he has made peace with God he can enjoy the peace of God ([Phil. 4:7](#); [Col. 3:15](#)). And because he has been given God's peace he is called to share God's peace. He is to have his very feet shod with "the gospel of peace" ([Eph. 6:15](#)).

The work of God begins: PEACE is the internal serenity that only God can give. "Peace is love in repose, with no borrowing of tomorrows troubles today." 2 Troubles are not absent. Rather, God is present! "When the Holy Spirit is not grieved the dove of peace is able to alight on the heart." Has peace become more and more a way of life for you this year?

#### Are you wearing Jesus as your peace?

- Jesus was promised as the Prince of Peace ([Isa. 9:6](#)),
- Like our Master, we His disciples are also to be peacemakers ([Matthew 5:9](#) Blessed are the peacemakers, For they shall be called sons of God.) and proclaimers of peace.
- When He sent out the seventy He commissioned them: "Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace be to this house.' And if a man of peace is there, your peace will rest upon him; but if not, it will return to you" ([Luke 10:5-6](#)).
- Jesus promised His disciples, "Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you" ([John 14:27](#)).
- Peace flowed during the ministry of Jesus. There was a sweet cloud of peace that continually blessed those who believed in Him. Among His last words to His disciples were, "These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace" ([John 16:33](#)).
- The ministry of the apostles and other preachers of the early church was characterized by "preaching peace through Jesus Christ" ([Acts 10:36](#)).
- God's kingdom itself is characterized by "righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit" ([Rom. 14:17](#)).
- The God of peace ([1 Cor. 14:33](#); [Heb. 13:20](#)) calls His people to peace ([1 Corinthians 7:15](#) But if the unbeliever departs, let him depart; a brother or a sister is not under bondage in such cases. But God has called us to peace.).
- The ministry of the Holy Spirit is characterized by the giving of "love, joy, peace," and the other spiritual fruit mentioned in [Galatians 5:22-23](#).
- God's Word teaches us:
  - The Father is the source of peace,
  - The Son is the manifestation of that peace,
  - The Holy Spirit is the agent of that peace. One of the most beautiful fruits the Holy Spirit gives to those in whom He resides is the fruit of peace ([Gal. 5:22](#)).

The God of peace sent the Prince of Peace who sends the Spirit of peace to give the fruit of peace. No wonder the Trinity is called Yahweh Shalom, "The Lord is Peace" ([Judg. 6:24](#)).

Some of the earth's most violent weather occurs on the seas. But the deeper one goes the more serene and tranquil the water becomes. Oceanographers report that the deepest parts of the sea are absolutely still. When those areas are dredged they produce remnants of plant and animal life that have remained undisturbed for thousands of years.

That is a picture of the Christian's peace. The world around him, including his own circumstances, may be in great turmoil and strife, but in his deepest being he has peace that passes understanding. Those who are in the best of circumstances but without God can never find peace, but those in the worst of circumstances but with God need never lack peace. [1]

How do we get this Peace?

#### JUSTIFICATION

- A Sinner stands before God as accused and is declared righteous by His imputed righteousness.

#### REDEMPTION

- A Sinner stands before God as a slave and is granted freedom by His ransom.

#### FORGIVENESS

- A Sinner stands before God as a debtor and is forgotten by His payment.

#### RECONCILIATION

- A Sinner stands before God as an enemy and is made a friend by His peace.

#### ADOPTION

- A Sinner stands before God as a stranger and is called a Son by His choice.

Peace is Adoption into God's family. But where this change of relationship with God—out of hostility into friendship, out of wrath into the fullness of love, out of condemnation into justification—is not set forth, the gospel of peace is not truly set forth either.

The peace of God is first and foremost peace *with* God; it is the state of affairs in which God, instead of being *against* us, is *for* us. When Jesus came to his disciples in the upper room at evening on his resurrection day, he said, "Peace be with you"; and when he had said that, "he showed unto them his hands and side" ([Jn 20:19-20](#)). Why did he do that? Not just to establish his identity, but to remind them of the propitiatory death on the cross whereby he had made peace with his Father for them. Having suffered in their place, as their substitute, to make peace for them, he now came in his risen power to bring that peace to them.

"Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" ([Jn 1:29](#)). It is here,

in the recognition that, whereas we are by nature at odds with God, and God with us, Jesus has made "peace through his blood, shed on the cross" (Col 1:20), that true knowledge of the peace of God begins. [2]

#### Old Testament promised peace:

- [Psalm 119:165](#) Great peace have they which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them. (KJV)
- [Isaiah 9:6-7](#) For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace *there shall be* no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this. (KJV)
- [Isaiah 26:3](#) Thou wilt keep *him* in perfect peace, *whose mind is stayed on thee*: because he trusteth in thee. (KJV)
- [Isaiah 26:12](#) LORD, thou wilt ordain peace for us: for thou also hast wrought all our works in us. (KJV)
- [Isaiah 30:15](#) For thus saith the Lord GOD, the Holy One of Israel; In returning and rest shall ye be saved: in quietness and in confidence shall be your strength: and ye would not. (KJV)
- [Isaiah 32:17](#) And the work of righteousness shall be peace: and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance for ever. (KJV)
- [Isaiah 45:7](#) I form the light, and create darkness: I make peace, and create evil: I the LORD do all these *things*. (KJV)
- [Isaiah 48:18](#) O that thou hadst hearkened to my commandments! then had thy peace been as a river, and thy righteousness as the waves of the sea: (KJV)
- [Isaiah 48:22](#) There is no peace, saith the LORD, unto the wicked. (KJV)
- [Isaiah 53:5](#) But he was wounded for our transgressions, *he was bruised* for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. (KJV)
- [Isaiah 57:21](#) There is no peace, saith my God, to the wicked. (KJV)
- [Isaiah 59:8](#) The way of peace they know not; and *there is* no judgment in their goings: they have made them crooked paths: whosoever goeth therein shall not know peace. (KJV)
- [Jeremiah 6:16](#) Thus saith the LORD, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where *is* the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, We will not walk *therein*. (KJV)
- [Jeremiah 29:11](#) For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end. (KJV)
- [Matthew 11:28-29](#) Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. (KJV) Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. (KJV)

#### Jesus Christ had Perfect Peace:

- [Mark 4:39](#) And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. (KJV)
- [Mark 5:34](#) And he said unto her, Daughter, thy faith hath made thee whole: go in peace, and be whole of thy plague. (KJV)
- [Mark 6:31](#) And he said unto them, Come ye yourselves apart into a desert place, and rest a while: for there were many coming and going, and they had no leisure so much as to eat. (KJV)
- [Mark 9:50](#) Salt *is* good: but if the salt have lost his saltness, wherewith will ye season it? Have salt in yourselves, and have peace one with another. (KJV)

#### Jesus Christ Came With Gospel of Peace:

- [Luke 1:79](#) To give light to them that sit in darkness and *in* the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace. (KJV)
- [Luke 2:14](#) Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men. (KJV) [...to men on whom His favor rests. (NIV)]

#### He Sent His Disciples Out With His Peace:

- [John 14:27](#) Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. (KJV)
- [John 16:33](#) These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world. (KJV)
- [John 20:19](#) Then the same day at evening, being the first *day* of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you. (KJV)
- [John 20:21](#) Then said Jesus to them again, Peace be unto you: as *my* Father hath sent me, even so send I you. (KJV)
- [John 20:26](#) And after eight days again his disciples were within, and Thomas with them: *then* came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, Peace be unto you. (KJV)

#### Apostle Paul Taught the Gospel Brings Peace:

- [Romans 1:7](#) To all that be in Rome, beloved of God, called *to be* saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ. (KJV)
- [Romans 2:10](#) But glory, honour, and peace, to every man that worketh good, to the Jew first, and also to the Gentile: (KJV)
- [Romans 3:17](#) And the way of peace have they not known: (KJV)
- [Romans 5:1](#) Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: (KJV)
- [Romans 8:6](#) For to be carnally minded *is* death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. (KJV)
- [Romans 10:15](#) And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things! (KJV)
- [Romans 14:17](#) For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost. (KJV)
- [Romans 14:19](#) Let us therefore follow after the things which make for peace, and things wherewith one may edify another. (KJV)

#### Christ's promised peace is visible:

Through Jesus this inexhaustible peace:

1. **wearing his peace brings encouragement** [Romans 15:13](#) Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. (NKJV)
2. **wearing his peace brings guards** [Philippians 4:7](#) and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. (NKJV)
3. **wearing his peace brings reconciles** [Colossians 1:20](#) and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross. (NKJV)
4. **wearing his peace brings his rule** [Colossians 3:15](#) And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful. (NKJV)
5. **wearing his peace brings Sanctification** [1 Thessalonians 5:23](#) Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus. (NKJV)
6. **wearing his peace brings Identification** [Hebrews 12:14](#) Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord: (NKJV)
7. **wearing his peace brings Adornment** [James 3:18](#) Now the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace. (NKJV)

Is Jesus your inexhaustible peace? Are you resting in Him right now? Have you thanked Jesus lately for the serenity He has given us in His Peace? Please quietly stand with me and right there, in your own words, thank Him for His peace.

**The Enablement of God's Grace** ([Heb. 12:14-29](#))

As we run the Christian race, what is our goal? The writer explained the goal in [Hebrews 12:14](#): *Peace* with all men, and *holiness* before the Lord. (Remember "the peaceable fruit of righteousness," [Heb. 12:11](#).) These two goals remind us of our Lord's high priestly ministry—King of *peace* and King of *righteousness* ([Heb. 7:1-2](#)). It requires diligence to run the race successfully lest we "fail of the grace of God" ([Heb. 12:15](#)). God's grace does not fail, but we can fail to take advantage of His grace. At the end of the chapter, there is another emphasis on grace ([Heb. 12:28](#)).

The God of peace ([Rom. 15:33](#); [2 Cor. 13:11](#); [Phil. 4:9](#)) has emphasized that cherished but elusive reality by making peace one of the dominant ideas of His Word. Scripture contains four hundred direct references to peace, and many more indirect ones. The Bible opens with peace in the Garden of Eden and closes with peace in eternity. The spiritual history of mankind can be charted based on the theme of peace. Although the peace on earth in the garden was interrupted when man sinned, at the cross Jesus Christ made peace a reality again, and He becomes the peace of all who place their faith in Him. Peace can now reign in the hearts of those who are His. Someday He will come as Prince of Peace and establish a worldwide kingdom of peace, which will eventuate in ultimate peace, the eternal age of peace.

But one of the most obvious facts of history and of human experience is that peace does not characterize man's earthly existence. There is no peace now for two reasons: the opposition of Satan and the disobedience of man. The fall of the angels and the fall of man established a world without peace. Satan and man are engaged with the God of peace in a battle for sovereignty.

The scarcity of peace has prompted someone to suggest that "peace is that glorious moment in history when everyone stops to reload." In 1968 a major newspaper reported that there had been to that date 14,553 known wars since thirty-six years before Christ. Since 1945 there have been some seventy or so wars and nearly two hundred internationally significant outbreaks of violence. Since 1958 nearly one hundred nations have been involved in some form of armed conflict.

### **The Believer's Peace With God**

Therefore having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, (5:1)

The verb translated we have is in the present tense, indicating something that is already possessed. Many of a believer's blessings must await his resurrection and glorification, but peace with God is established the moment he places his trust in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Most unsaved people do not think of themselves as enemies of God. Because they have no conscious feelings of hatred for Him and do not actively oppose His work or contradict His Word, they consider themselves, at worst, to be "neutral" about God. But no such neutrality is possible. The mind of every unsaved person is at peace only with the things of the flesh, and therefore by definition is "hostile toward God" and cannot be otherwise ([Rom. 8:7](#)).

What was the Good News? Not that God had sent a soldier or a judge or a reformer, but that He had sent a Saviour to meet man's greatest need. It was a message of peace to a world that had known much war. The famous "Pax Romana" (Roman Peace) had been in effect since 27 b.c. but the absence of war doesn't guarantee the presence of peace.

The Stoic philosopher Epictetus said, "While the emperor may give peace from war on land and sea, he is unable to give peace from passion, grief, and envy. He cannot give peace of heart for which man yearns more than even for outward peace."

The Jewish word *shalom* (peace) means much more than a truce in the battles of life. It means well-being, health, prosperity, security, soundness, and completeness. It has to do more with character than circumstances. Life was difficult at that time just as it is today. Taxes were high, unemployment was high, morals were slipping lower, and the military state was in control. Roman law, Greek philosophy, and even Jewish religion could not meet the needs of men's hearts. Then, God sent His Son! <sup>[3]</sup>

**The Peace of Christ** ([Col. 3:15](#))

The word translated "rule" is an athletic term. It means "to preside at the games and distribute the prizes." Paul used a variation of this word in his Letter to the Colossians: "Let no one declare you unworthy of a prize" (literal translation, Col. 2: 18). In the Greek games, there were judges (we would call them *umpires*) who rejected the contestants who were not qualified, and who disqualified those who broke the rules.

The peace of God is the "Umpire" in our believing hearts and our churches. When we obey the will of God, we have His peace within; but when we step out of His will (even unintentionally), we lose His peace.

We must beware, however, of a false peace in the heart. Jonah deliberately disobeyed God, yet he was able to go to sleep in the hold of a ship *in a storm!* "I had peace about it!" is not sufficient evidence that we are in the will of God. We must pray, surrender to His will, and seek His guidance in the Scriptures. The peace of heart *alone* is not always the peace of God.

Something else is involved: if we have peace in our hearts, we will be at peace with others in the church. We are called to one body, and our relationship in that body must be one of harmony and peace. If we are out of the will of God, we are certain to bring discord and disharmony to the church. Jonah thought he was at peace, when actually his sins created a storm!

#### ALL THE WAY MY SAVIOR LEADS ME

Author: Fanny J. Crosby

All the way my savior leads me;

What have I to ask beside?

Can I doubt His tender mercy,

Who thro' life has been my guide?

heav'nly peace divinest comfort,

Here by faith in Him to dwell!

For I know whate'er befall me,

Jesus doeth all things well;

For I know whate'er befall me,

Jesus doeth all things well;

All the way my Savior leads me;

Cheers each winding path I tread,

Gives me grace for ev'ry trial,

Feeds me with the living bread;

Tho' my weary steps may falter,

and my soul athirst may be,

Gushing from the Rock before me,

Lo! a spring of joy I see;

Gushing from the Rock before me,

Lo! a spring of joy I see;

**All the way, my Savior leads me;**

Oh, the fullness of His love!

Perfect rest to me is promised

In my Father's house above:

When my spirit, clothed immortal,

Wings its flight to realms of day,

This my song thro' endless ages:

Jesus led me all the way;

This my song thro' endless ages:

Jesus led me all the way

LORD, MAKE ME AN INSTRUMENT OF THY PEACE

by St. Francis of Assisi

"Lord, make me an instrument of Thy peace.

Where there is hatred, let me sow love;

Where there is injury, pardon;

Where there is doubt, faith;

Where there is despair, hope;

Where there is darkness, light;

Where there is sadness, joy.

O, Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek

To be consoled as to console;

To be understood as to understand;

To be loved as to love;

For it is in giving that we receive;

It is in pardoning that we are pardoned;

It is in dying that we are born again to eternal life."

**We must Use our Armor.:**

1. **Belt of Truth.** Warning: *Dishonesty brings defeat!*
2. **Breastplate of Righteousness.** Warning: *Impurity will bring defeat!*
3. **Shoes of Peace.** The sandal soles of the soldier were impregnated with heavy, spike-like hobnails which gave him a good footing. To the Christian soldier this piece of armor is a call to both "readiness" and "peace of mind." Warning: *Anxiety brings defeat!*
  - Now, you know, we live in a dump. I guess you have transfer stations here but when I grew up we used to take our trash to the dump. I guess that's not a popular description of it anymore, but it was really the dump. I mean it was smouldering, burning garbage, broken glass, nails everywhere and everytime you drive in there you were always worried that you would puncture your tires. And we would shovel off all that trash and rotted stuff and you just would look around – it would look terrible. Rusted tin cans - sharp edges - all types of pointed things and flies everywhere. That was the dump. That's what the world is like, spiritually speaking. Would you ever walk through a garbage dump barefooted in the dark? You wouldn't walk through it barefooted in the light. And that's what he's talking about right here with this third piece and we're going to have fun with that. How do you keep from puncturing your feet as we walk through the world? Its having our feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace.
1. **Put on Christ:** [Romans 13:11-14](#) And do this, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed.<sup>12</sup> The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light.<sup>13</sup> Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy.<sup>14</sup> But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts.
2. **Put off sin:** [2 Corinthians 7:1](#)—"Let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God."
3. **Kill old habits:** [Colossians 3:5](#) Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.
4. **Run from shady things:** [1 Thessalonians 5:22](#)—"Abstain from all appearance of evil."
5. **Long for holiness:** [1 Peter 1:16](#)—"Be ye holy; for I am holy."

[1]MacArthur, John F., *The MacArthur New Testament Commentary*, (Chicago: Moody Press) 1983.

[2]J. I. Packer, *Knowing God—20th Anniversary Edition*, (Downer's Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press) 1993.

[3]Wiersbe, Warren W., *The Bible Exposition Commentary*, (Wheaton, IL: Victor Books) 1997.

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