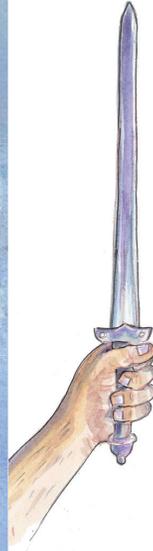


**Presentation of the teaching
„Armor of Elohim“**

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Armor of Elohim



Armor of Elohim

Most believers are familiar with the armor of Yahuah found in the book of Ephesians. For some it is a common prayer, to put on the armor. We understand that it's significant in the days we live in to be equipped and prepared. It empowers us to face the difficult seasons, provides a sense of refuge in the midst of the day to day battles, and gives us insight into the spiritual aspect of our walk. So often the first images that come to mind are most likely that of a Roman soldier, or even a Medieval knight ... but this is our Western mindset that often becomes the lens through which we view the Scriptures. By doing so we lose the rich culture and history that would have been the background of every verse penned! This was written from a Hebraic perspective long before the Medieval knight and definitely not in favor of the Romans! Could this passage have depths we haven't plumbed? Perhaps a deeper understanding and meaning completely missed outside of this connection?

Ephesians 6:11-12 Put on the whole armor of Elohim, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the enemy. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

For Israel, a warrior and a priest went hand in hand! In 1 Chronicles, we read the list of the Levites who functioned in the role of the warriors – mighty men of valor. So instead of taking the normal stance of considering this armor in Ephesians solely a warrior, or solely just a priest (as some have in the past), is it a dual role – a warrior priest?



In Exodus 28:2, the Priestly garments are described as being „for glory and for beauty“... far cry from the needs for battle! Yet could it be that the term glory means more than meets the eye? The Glory of Yahuah – **Kavod**, sheds light onto what this means! The term Glory / **Kavod** is seen in Psalms 3:3 paralleled with the shield of Yahuah, and in Job 29:20 with His bow. *Psalm 24:8 Who is this King of Glory / Kavod? Yahuah, strong and mighty, Yahuah mighty in battle.* The **Kavod** of Yahuah, His Glory, is battle armaments! It is describing heavy weapons and defenses of battle! So when Israel has revealed to them His Glory - it's His mighty ability in battle and that He is more than capable of defending them and warring for them!

And then we find these same characteristics and armor are then declared for the Priests of Israel to be clothed in! Most will stop here and think what does this have to do with me?



1 Peter 2:9 But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people, that ye should show forth the praises of Him who hath called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.

As a believer in Messiah, you are called a ROYAL PRIESTHOOD! Do you realize this was not a new concept? So often when we think of Priests, immediately the Levitical Priesthood instituted under Aaron comes to mind. And once again this causes a disconnect I'm not a Levite, therefore how can I wear these garments and why is it important to understand this role? Yet from the Hebrew language it becomes quite clear that the first priest on the earth was Adam! The role of the priest was one who would stand and represent Yahuah upon the earth!

Another well known figure most are familiar with is Noah, who functioned in this role as well, having been passed down through the generations from Adam, and then to his son Shem (Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob). The first time we see the term „Priest“ in our Scriptures is also long before the Levites came. It is first seen in ...

Genesis 14:18 And Melchizedek King of Salem brought forth bread and wine: and he was the Priest of the most High Elohim.

Melchizedek in Hebrew means Righteous King – one who functioned as King & Priest – a shadow picture of our Messiah, who though not of the physical lineage of Aaron, is a priest after the order of Melchizedek (*Psalm 110:4, Hebrews 7*). It's no accident that the Melchizedek spoken of here in Genesis passes on the mantle* and anointing to Abraham, the Father of the Faith!

Israel when delivered out of Egypt heard the same words and promise as a whole, all 12 tribes! This was their calling as a people and nation. Yet, as is so often the case, our own rebellion hinders us from walking in what the Father intends for us. After the sin of the Golden Calf, we find that instead of the firstborn of every house walking in this role, only the tribe of the Levites step up to the plate! From this point until our Messiah Yahusha arrived, this role and therefore these garments were guarded by the Levitical priests, preserving and standing in the gap waiting on the one who would come to redeem. Yahusha came as the Righteous King and Warrior Priest (Melchizedek) to restore these „garments“ and this role to the whole house! He was recognized and acknowledged as wearing this mantle* by the true descendent of Aaron and therefore rightful High Priest of Israel... none other than John the Baptist! Did you realize that the High Priests in Yahshua's day, Annas and Caiaphas had bought their position from Rome and were not the true priests of Israel? There has always been a war over this position from the Garden forward by the enemy! Yet, because of Messiah, you and I are now allowed access and called a royal priesthood.

If we are to function as a Kingdom of Priests / royal priesthood then it will require us to function as warriors in His Kingdom as well! But how can we wage a successful battle, if we're not clothed and armed with the proper garments? If we want to be successful in our warfare, it will require us to also be serving as a Priest unto Yahuah, willing to minister unto Him, and walk holy before Him!

Psalms 144:1 Blessed be Yahuah my strength, which teacheth my hands to war, and my fingers to fight.

*Note: probably meant is the spiritual status / function, a concrete mantle would not be biblical....

Ephesians 6:10-20

Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Yahuah, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of Elohim, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of Yahuah, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.



Stand therefore, having your loins girt / **azar** about with truth/ **emet**,



and having on the breastplate of righteousness / **zedakah kashiryon**,



And your feet shod / **hupodeo** with the preparation of the gospel of Peace/ **Shalom**;



Above all, taking the shield of faith / **magen emunah**, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.



And take the helmet of salvation / **kova yashua**,



and the sword of the Spirit / **cherev ha Ruach**, which is the word / **dabar** of Elohim:

Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints; And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel, For which I am an ambassador in bonds: that therein I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

ת מ א

Tav

Mem

Alef

emet

truth



ר ז א

Resch

Sajin

Alef

azar

girt

Having your loins girt about with truth

Loins girt about with truth

Ephesians 6:14 Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth...

The first item given recognition in Ephesians regarding the armor, is that we must have our loins girded with truth! The Hebrew word for truth is „emet“ and from a Hebraic perspective truth / **emet** is grounded in the moments of decision we encounter in our life! Truth has the ability to form your character - it's a way of life, that our everyday decisions should be based off of!



And this truth that directs our decisions and girds our loins is the Truth of the WORD of Yahuah! **Emet** is spelled with the first letter, middle letter, and last letter of the Hebrew Alphabet ... hmm, could it be that truth must define the start of any decision we make, the middle course, and the final step? The very first piece of armor is to gird our loins, every decision and action, must be based off the truth of His Word!



The word for gird in Hebrew is „azar“ and is closely connected to the word for strength! When we choose to walk in truth, it is His very truth that is the source of our strength! And it girds up our loins in preparation to do battle! In fact, in the Ancient Hebrew culture, to gird up one's loins signaled a man getting ready to do battle or to work hard.

If you want to wage efficient warfare, this is the first challenge, get prepared with the proper foundation of truth ... a lie won't stand! Before ending with this first concept, it's important to note it's the area of the loins - the area that represented procreative powers! The ability to release seed and as well to incubate and carry that seed in order to produce fruit.



A powerful weapon of our warfare, is the ability to release the Word of Yahuah and see it produce fruit in our lives – this is how we build the Kingdom of Yahuah and wage warfare! If we attempt to do anything based off of a lie, we have already marked ourselves as a defeated foe. The very first element of our armor is to learn to surround ourselves with the truth of His Word and base every decision off of that!



נ ו נ ש ר י ו נ צ ד ק ה
Nun Waw Jod Resch Schin He Kof Dalet Zadi

tsedakah shuryan

Breastplate (of) Righteousness

Breastplate of Righteousness

Ephesians 6:14 Stand therefore having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness.

The second strategic piece in the armor of Elohim is the breastplate of righteousness. This same breastplate is also seen referenced in Isaiah 59:17 in regards to the Messiah choosing to put on this garment as well! Though we may understand from a Western military mindset its purpose, what does the Hebrew reveal? In the Hebrew the phrase is „**tsedakah shuryan**“. Both terms giving a powerful understanding of the armor we have been given to walk in! The term shuryan or breastplate, comes from the root sharah meaning to set loose or free! It has the same root letters as the name Israel or the name Sarah! Both of these names speak of authority, power, and royalty.



To put on this breastplate of righteousness enables you and I to be set free or loose to walk in this level of power and authority, representing it becomes part of our preparation for war because when we walk in a righteous lifestyle, then just like Messiah said concerning the enemy, „he has nothing in me“, we too are then able to say the same! There is no access point for the enemy to wreak havoc when we walk in righteousness! It is also quite interesting to note, that when we walk in righteousness with everyone else around us as well, there is less division and problems!

Yet when we choose to ignore the Torah's protocol for how to handle things, we then not only cause strife in the body, but also open ourselves up to attacks from the enemy!



Isaiah 59:17 Praise be to Yahuah, my Rock, who makes my hands skillful for battle, my fingers for war;

Psalms 25:4 Make me know your ways, O Yahuah; teach me your paths.



HUPODEÓ

Feet shod with the preparation of
the gospel of peace / **shalom**

Feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace

Ephesians 6:15 And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace.

When thinking of armor for war, we rarely think of peace as part of the equation! Yet here in Ephesians we find that this is exactly what is to be upon our feet! It is easy to understand what our feet represent – your lifestyle and walk...where you're headed. It is also the feet that represent authority, ownership, and even inheritance from a Hebraic mindset!

But what about peace? In Hebrew peace is the word Shalom! Yet the Hebrew concept of peace goes far beyond our Western ideas concerning it! Peace is not passive, or simply a condition, but the term Shalom can also infer the process to get to that place of peace – the place of wholeness, completeness, and unbrokenness! In other words, part of our armor is to live a lifestyle and have a walk that is one bent towards making wholeness, completeness, and unbrokenness in our daily lives!

HUPODEÓ

“Hupodeó” is Greek, it means to shod, to bind under one's feet, to be in bonds, to tie, to wind, to knit or be at one with. It also has to do with your walk, or how you walk out your life from day-to-day.



Isn't it interesting that if we are at peace, if we are whole and complete because we have allowed Yahuah to pour His peace into us, then it's an indicator the enemy has nothing to work with, and we are able to be victorious against his attacks! But in order to be at this point, the Hebraic idea of peace making infers you must take the time to gain intimate knowledge of your opponent, and then understand how to make peace, either by being victorious, or resolving the conflict.

Feet shod / **hupodeó** with peace ... learning to live a lifestyle that you're bold enough to address the issues that may come your way to attack your peace, but also wise enough to walk the paths that lead to wholeness, completeness, and unbrokenness! The Armor of Elohim is a powerful thing to understand! Not only does it teach us how to wage spiritual warfare, but it also teaches us how we should be walking and living as well, a lifestyle of righteousness!

Note: Here we must add the aspect of the Gospel, the proclamation of the message of peace, the message of the Kingdom of Elohim, sharing with others the cause of my Shalom, or giving an account of what my hope is.



אמונה

He Nun Waw Mem Alef

מגן

Nun Gimel Mem

Magen Emunah

Shield of faith

Shield of faith

Ephesians 6:16 Above all, taking the shield of faith, where with ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.

Shield of Faith – the **Magen of Emunah!** It's no accident that the term magen (shield) is first seen in Genesis 15:1 in the story of Abraham – the father of the faith!

Genesis 15:1 After these things the Word of Yahuah came unto Abram in a vision saying, Fear not Abram: I am thy shield (Magen), and thy exceeding great reward.



Yahuah Himself declared that He was a shield (**Magen**) to those who would walk in the covenant as Abraham did! It is interesting that in Ephesians this shield that we are to put on is a shield of faith! Yahuah is a shield/ **Magen** to those who will have faith and understand this is the shield they carry! **Emunah** – Faith, comes from the root 'aman meaning to stand firm, to be established, to be certain, to trust, to support, or to be faithful!

Could this be revealing the relationship between Yahuah being our Magen/shield and how we are to respond? We must stand firm, be trustworthy and established! When we walk in faithfulness with our King, He then in turn promises to be our shield/Magen against the enemy! There is a trust and relationship that is born in the midst of the battle!

And it is this that protects us from the fiery darts of the enemy! Wow...if we will be firm in our trust and faith in Yahuah, standing strong and unwilling to be moved by doubt and unbelief, this then disables the enemies darts against us and causes Yahuah to surround us as our shield! But if we are untrustworthy, unstable, and easily swayed then it's no wonder that the darts find their target consistently!

We are the ones failing to take up the shield as we've been charged! If we'll do what we are asked, if we'll grow and become trustworthy individuals, then Yahuah has promised to be our shield! What a powerful promise! Yahuah Himself is our shield / **Magen!** The root of **Magen** is **Gan** – Garden ... when He is our shield, we walk in intimacy with Him just as if we were once again in the Garden!

Psalm 3:4 But You, Yahuah, are a shield around me, you are my glory / kavod and who lifts up my head.



He is not only our protection, but also our great encourager in the battle!



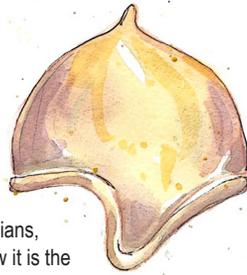
כֹּוֹבֵעַ יְשׁוּעָה

Ajin Waw Schin Jod Ajin Bet Waw Kaf

Kova Yashuah

Helm of salvation

Helmet of salvation

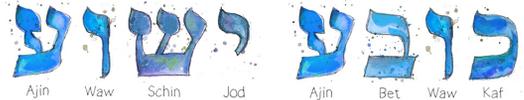


Ephesians 6:17 And take the helmet of salvation...

The helmet of salvation is the fifth piece of armor listed in Ephesians, and is based off of the garments listed in Isaiah 59:17, in Hebrew it is the „Kova Yashuah“! Yahusha, the Messiah, is to be the covering of our mind! It is an important step in putting on our armor! We have to renew our minds with the washing of His Word, and become focused on the salvation of our Yah! But what does this mean exactly?

Ofentimes we think of salvation as a one time experience, when we get „saved“. Yet from a Hebraic perspective, salvation is definitely more than a one time deal! The root word „yasha“ means to be wide, spacious, loose, or delivered! It is the opposite of tsarar - meaning to be tight, confined, narrow, and in distress (a root connected to the name Mitsrayim - Egypt)! Bondage of Egypt (flesh and sin) will keep you in distress, confined, and in a tight place. Yet the salvation of our Messiah gives space to grow and move, and breath! This is why it is so significant that our helmet, the covering of our mind is salvation!

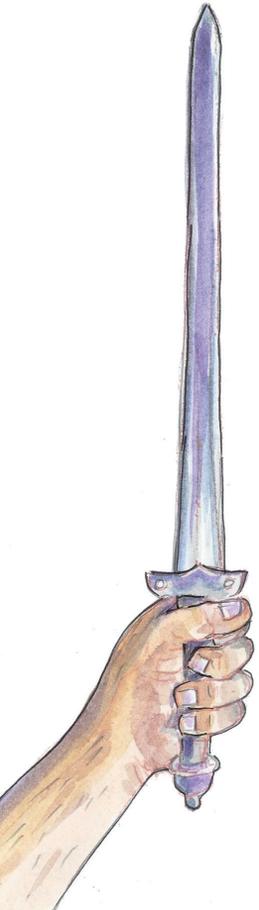
The tactics of the enemy are about putting your mind in bondage – keeping you from growing or going beyond the confines he attempts to keep you in. But when our mind is focused on salvation, it breaks the strongholds of the enemy in our life! Yasha/Salvation deals with deliverance from distress, and can also infer to be free, and to have the means (prosperity and welfare) to ensure that your needs are met and you are not placed in bondage! The Messiah came to give us salvation - to ensure that we are free, our needs are met, and we don't have to be in bondage! Yet this starts with our minds! It's no accident that our helmet is to be salvation! If we don't understand in our minds that we are free, if we don't choose to



Isaiah 59:17 He put on righteousness like an armor and put the helmet of salvation/Yashuah on his head.

focus on Yahusha our Messiah, and know that regardless of what things may look like, regardless of what the enemy may try to tell you, you've been set free, then you will find yourself in a losing battle!

In the midst of all the fear and chaos swirling around in the world today, put on the helmet of salvation - know without a doubt, that your deliverer is Yahusha HaMashiyach, and He is much more than able! Guard your mind, renew your mind, and stand and see your salvation! Don't allow doubt and fear to be your covering, focus on Messiah and know that His salvation is much more than able to deliver you from any circumstance!



ח ר ו ח ח ר ב ח
Chet Waw Resch He Bet Resch Chet

Cherev HaRuach

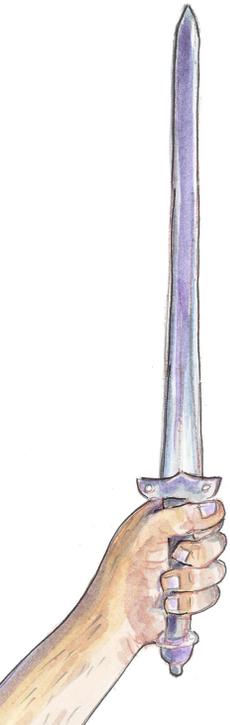
Sword of the spirit



Sword of the spirit

Ephesians 6:17 ...and the sword of the spirit, which is the Word of Yahuah.

Final element of armor...This is the final element in the armor of Yah listed in Ephesians! The **Cherev HaRuach!** Isn't it interesting that this is the last element listed? First, we find addressed the armor that is protective, that we must put on and learn to walk in before we are capable of handling this sword!



The **cherev** / sword is first seen in Genesis 3:24 guarding the Tree of Life! Could this be our first clue of what is the purpose of this sword? It is used by one who is guarding the way to the Tree of Life! Adam fails in this responsibility, but could this be what you and I are once again tasked with? The Tree of Life represents the Torah/Word of Yahuah, and the LIVING WORD, Messiah, who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life!

Zechariah 4:6 ...not by might, nor power, but by my Spirit saith Yahuah Tsava'ot.

When we choose to walk in Covenant, we are now one who has the potential to be one who wields the Sword of the Spirit, for the purpose of guarding the Way, keeping it, and honoring it!

But not just anyone is capable of handling this level of responsibility! It is for one who is a mature believer, capable of handling Kingdom affairs! Hence the reason this is the last item of the armor! We must first learn to walk in truth, righteousness, peace, faith, and renew our minds with His Salvation! But most want to skip these previous pieces, and go straight for the sword - representing power and strength, yet we must first put on the other pieces of armor which teach us to deal with our flesh, circumcise our hearts, and renew our minds! And it is by walking in this manner that we mature and grow and then can be entrusted with the sword of the Spirit! The most powerful spiritual weapon is the Sword of His Spirit!

Yet to handle this sword, to walk in this level, will require you and I to allow that same sword to circumcise our hearts! Not only does the armor here in Ephesians, teach us how to wage effective spiritual warfare, but it also teaches us of our own journey of growth and maturation!

May you be one entrusted with guarding the Way of Life!



* Note: Prayer is the 7th aspect / Ephesians 6:18-20. For in addition to putting on/donning the „tangible“ parts of the armor, prayer is the link to the divine command center that coordinates the deployment of all the „equipped“!



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