

Series "Riches In Christ"
"With All Prayer"
Ephesians 6:18-20

Paul presented 6 pieces of armor:

1. **The Belt of Truth** - integrity, not whether we have truth.
Does truth have us?
2. **The Breastplate of Righteousness** - We are to live lives of purity that we would not give the enemy room for accusations.
3. **Shoes of Peace** - We are to have peace in the battles and to offer the gospel to those who are lost.
4. **Shield of Faith** - Jesus is a person that we are to have fellowship with daily. We are to have a living faith.
5. **Helmet of Salvation** - Saved from the penalty of sin. I'm saved from the power of sin and will be saved from the presence of sin.
6. **Sword of The Spirit** - Not just the word of God, but the word of God for every specific situation is the living word. It cuts right to the heart.

Paul having finished with the description of the physical pieces of armor,
Ephesians 6:17-18 (Paul places the Word and Prayer together.)

It takes Prayer to put the armor on.

It is prayer that makes them work.

It is prayer that causes the whole army to be victorious.

It is through prayer that God reveals His will to us and accomplish His will in us.
Philippians 2:12-13

God works in us so we can work out His will.

Thought of The Passage: "Through Prayer, The Believer Puts The Armor On
And Through Prayer Comes Both Power And Victory"

Paul Gives An 8 Point Description of Prayer For Power and Victory:

1. Verse 18 All Prayer:

Ephesians 6:18 All is used **4 times: all** prayer, **all** time, **all** perseverance, **all** saints. This verse is comprehensive in the topic of prayer.

prayer - pray earnestly, prayer addressed to God, a place set apart or suited for the offering of prayer; a synagogue.

Prayer Starts With God. God must present the promise in His Word. He must say He will do this or that in order for us to know His will.

2 Peter 1:3-4

This is speaking about the widest possible classification. We are not to limit prayer to asking for some **personal need**, but it could be a prayer of **thanks**, prayer of **blessing**, prayer of **guidance**, prayer to **empower**.

1. Privately, publicly.
2. Loud, silently.
3. Planned, spontaneously.
4. Standing, sitting, kneeling, laying down.
5. Home, in a church, outdoors.

Prayer has been referred to a acrostics word called **ACTS**

A - Adoration, Matthew 6:9 "Pray, then, in this way: 'Our Father who is in heaven, Hallowed be Your name.

C - Confession, I

T - Thanksgiving,

S - Supplication,

2. Verse 18 Prayer Petition:

Ephesians 6:18 petition – 16 times: *"supplication, request need, want, a seeking, asking, entreating, entreaty to God"*

This is being specific as to a particular request.

1 Timothy 2:1

Philippians 4:6-9

3. Verse 18 Pray At All Times:

What does it mean to **pray at all times**?

1 Thessalonians 5:17 pray without ceasing;

For the Jews this could mean 3 times a day

It is speaking about an attitude of prayer. That you are always ready to offer prayer to your heavenly father, no matter how small or how large the request may be.

4. Verse 18 Pray In The Spirit:

Pray in the Spirit - What does this mean?

1 Corinthians 14:15

Here in Ephesians, he is speaking to the believers and is saying that all need to pray in the Spirit. Not all spoke in tongues, as Paul stated in Corinthians.

Romans 8:27-28

So, praying in the Spirit is letting the Holy Spirit direct our prayers. The Holy Spirit may tell us to repent! The Holy Spirit may put someone on our heart to visit, someone that we need to pray for.

5. Verse 18 Alert In Prayer:

Alert - *"watchful, being awake, literally "sleepless to have the eyes open"*

Mark 13:33 "Take heed, keep on the alert;

Mark 14:38 "Keep watching and praying

Luke 12:37 "Blessed are those slaves whom the master shall find on the alert

1 Corinthians 16:13 Be on the alert,

Colossians 4:2 Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it

Nehemiah is recorded to have prayed **10 times**. (He prayed and yet he placed watchman on the walls)

6. Verse 18 Perseverance In Prayer:

Perseverance - *"to stick to it, don't quit"*

Jesus taught extensively on sticking to prayer.

Matthew 7:7-8

Luke 11:5-8

Luke 18:1-5

God wants to answer our prayers, but our time is not His time, so God tells us to be persistent so he can answer our request.

7. Verse 18 Petition For All Saints:

Praying for other Christians will get our eyes off self.

We are not to be reservoirs of self-pity, but channels of blessings!

Praying for others will remind us that we are not the only one fighting the battle, we need each other. (Need reinforcements called in for the battle!)

Matthew 6:9

Samuel the prophet said to Israel - 1 Samuel 12:23

8. Verses 19-20 Pray For Christian Leaders:

Ephesians 6:19 and pray on my behalf,

Paul, the great apostle of the Lord asks for prayer. **Hebrews 13:7**

that utterance may be given to me in the opening of my mouth,

He was praying for the right words to speak to the small crowd that he would have access to.

utterance - "Clarity"

that he could speak in plainness, understandable speech.

to make known with boldness - *"courage, frankness"*

non-compromising. Presentation of the message!

the mystery of the gospel, (Ephesians 3:3-6) That God loves all, that He desires to put together Jews and Gentiles into one body called the Church.

That men can have peace with God and have peace with each other through Jesus Christ.

Ephesians 6:20 for which I am an ambassador.

Representative of another country

for which I am an ambassador in chains –

Signifies among other things, the golden adornments worn around the neck and wrists by rich ladies or high-ranking men. On festive occasions, ambassadors wear such chains in order to reveal the riches, power and dignity of the government they represent, Paul represented Christ's kingdom.

that in proclaiming it I may speak boldly,

Confidence, and frankness in his speech.

as I ought to speak.

Those that are born again represent Jesus Christ and his kingdom.

Application: Prayer Involves 3 Places:

- 1. The Hidden Place** - We need to have a hidden place to get alone with God.
- 2. The Heavenly Place** - This is the place of the battle.
- 3. The Holy Place** - Where we are led and governed by the Holy Spirit!