

THE BELT OF TRUTH
EPHESIANS 6:10-20
MARCH 29, 2009

Questions for Study and Reflection

1. Take some time to reflect on the lessons we've learned so far and to know them well: (a) God Almighty is greater than all, including our enemies, and therefore if we're made strong in him we will have the victory. (b) Our enemies are fierce and they're out to destroy us every day. (c) The armor of God is in fact God himself and therefore to put it on is to draw near to him and be covered in his presence. (d) We were designed to fight this battle together as one body in Christ.
2. Why do you think Paul labeled each part of the armor as he did? Do you think, in Paul's mind, that the belt has to be labeled "truth" and the breastplate "righteousness" and so on? Consider 1 Thes 5:8 as you formulate your answer. One way or the other, what do you think Paul's main point is in describing the armor?
3. Pastor Charlie said that the reason Paul mentioned "truth" first is because, whereas our enemies are liars, our Supreme Commander is Truth, and therefore his people are a people of truth. This means that we strive to know the truth, stand for the truth, and tell the truth. Overall, is your life characterized by truth? How would the Lord have you stretch and grow toward truth?
4. Pastor Charlie said that two of the main reasons absolute truth has fallen into disrepute are postmodernism and global communications. Can you think of other reasons? What can you do in your daily life to stand for truth in the world? (For more on postmodernism see David Wells, *The Courage to be Protestant*).
5. What would you say to a friend who denied that there is such a thing as absolute truth? What would you say to that friend if he or she claimed that since so many people claim so many things about God, they all must be wrong or, on the other hand, partially right?
6. Read John 8:31-38 and 14:1-6 and think carefully about what Jesus meant when he said, "I am the truth." How does this impact your perception of what truth is? What implications does it have for your life? For putting on the whole armor of God every day?