

Spiritual Warfare Lesson Two

The Belt of Truth

Ephesians 6:14a NASB

Stand firm therefore, HAVING GIRDED YOUR LOINS WITH TRUTH.

The traditional way this weapon is presented is that if you are truthful, you will be able to withstand the enemy. However, no one would stand if this were the case because the slightest slip and we would be defeated. Thank God, we stand firm in His truth, not ours.

WHAT IS TRUTH?

I Jesus is the Truth.

John 14:6

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."

II Truth came through Jesus Christ.

John 1:16-17

And of His fullness we have all received, and grace for grace. ¹⁷ For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ

A Truth and grace are united.

B "Truth" does not equal the "Law"

John 1:17

For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

C Jesus is full of grace and truth.

John 1:14

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

D The Roman armor belt held all things together, carried other weapons, and was connected to other parts of the armor so it wouldn't shift. Truth must be in place in our lives in order to stand in victory.

E We use the Roman armor to help us understand, but God's armor is superior to any human armor.

Ephesians 6:10-11

Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. ¹¹ Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

III We worship God in spirit and truth.

John 4:23

But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him.

IV We are sanctified (set apart) by truth. His word is truth.

John 17:17

Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.

- A God's word sets us apart from the world and unto God.
- B His word includes His promises to us. These promises cause us to overcome.

2 Peter 1:2-4

Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, ³ as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, ⁴ by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

- C **The gospel is the truth¹.** We need to have a thorough knowledge of what the good news is...what God accomplished through Jesus Christ's death and resurrection.

Ephesians 1:13

In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise.

Galatians 2:5

*To whom we did not yield submission even for an hour, that **the truth of the gospel** might continue with you.*

Galatians 2:14

*But when I saw that they were not straightforward about **the truth of the gospel**, I said to Peter before them all, "If you, being a Jew, live in the manner of Gentiles and not as the Jews, why do you compel Gentiles to live as Jews?"*

Colossians 1:3-6

*We give thanks to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you, ⁴ since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of your love for all the saints; ⁵ because of the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, of which you heard before in the **word of the truth of the gospel**, ⁶ which has come to you, as it has also in all the world, and is bringing forth fruit, as it is also among you since the day you heard and knew the grace of God in truth.*

¹ An explanation of what the gospel is has been included at the end of this lesson.
C.D. Hildebrand

- D** There are deceivers who will seek to change what truth is or try to keep Christian from obeying the truth.

Galatians 3:1

O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you that you should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed among you as crucified?

Galatians 5:7

You ran well. Who hindered you from obeying the truth?

V Knowing the truth sets us free.

John 8:31

Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. ⁸ And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

VI Just as knowing truth sets us free, so does believing a lie put us in bondage.

- A** Our enemy has no truth in him.

John 8:44

You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it.

- 1 Satan challenges the word of God's veracity.**
- 2 His only weapon against us is lying. He cannot defeat us unless we believe his lies above what God has said.**
- 3 Lies keep people in bondage to the devil.**

a 2 Timothy 2:24-26

*The Lord's bond-servant must not be quarrelsome, but be kind to all, able to teach, patient when wronged,²⁵with gentleness correcting those who are in opposition, if perhaps God may grant them repentance leading to **the knowledge of the truth**,²⁶and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, having been held captive by him to do his will.*

VII The battle takes place in our minds. We stand by:

- A** Believing in Jesus who is the truth.
- B** Believing in the truth of the gospel.
- C** Believing in the truth of His promises to us.

Following is Lesson One from Galatians. This lesson begins Level One in “Studies in Grace and Faith”.

Studies in Grace and Faith

Galatians Chapter One

- I. In the letter to the Galatians Paul defends the true Gospel from religious zealots and pronounces a curse upon anyone who perverts the Gospel.

Galatians 1:8-9

But even if we, or an angel from heaven, should preach to you a gospel contrary to what we have preached to you, he is to be accursed! As we have said before, so I say again now, if any man is preaching to you a gospel contrary to what you received, he is to be accursed!

- II. So, what is the Gospel? (1 Cor. 15:1-8)

- A. It is the Gospel of Grace (God’s unmerited favor)

Acts 20:24

But I do not consider my life of any account as dear to myself, so that I may finish my course and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify solemnly of the gospel of the grace of God.

John 1:14, 16-17 *And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. 15 John bore witness of Him and cried out, saying, “This was He of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me is preferred before me, for He was before me.’”*

16 And[e] of His fullness we have all received, and grace for grace. 17 For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

- B. Some of the blessings the good news of God’s grace includes are:

1. Complete and continual forgiveness of sins

Galatians 1:3-4

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, ⁴who gave Himself for our sins so that He might rescue us from this present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father

1 John 1:7

But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

2. Becoming a new creature

3. Reconciliation with God the Father (peace with God)

4. Being made the righteousness of God in Him

2 Corinthians 5:17-21

Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come. ¹⁸Now all these things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation, ¹⁹namely, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and He has committed to us the word of reconciliation. ²⁰Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

5. Jesus Christ lives in us.

Galatians 1:15-16

But when God, who had set me apart even from my mother's womb and called me through His grace, was pleased ¹⁶to reveal His Son in me so that I might preach Him among the Gentiles.

Colossians 1:27-28

*To whom God willed to make known what is the riches of the glory of this **mystery among the Gentiles, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.** ²⁸We proclaim Him, admonishing every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, so that we may present every man complete in Christ.*

6. God deeply loves us.

John 3:16

For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.

C. The gospel of grace is the power of God to those who believe.

Romans 1:16-17

For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. ¹⁷For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "BUT THE RIGHTEOUS man SHALL LIVE BY FAITH."

Additional Scriptures

Perverting the Gospel

Matthew 7:15, Matthew 10:16, Acts 20:29

The Grace of God

John 1:14-17, Acts 4:33, Acts 11:23, Acts 13:43, Acts 14:3, Acts 15:11, Acts 18:27, Acts 20:24, Acts 20:32, Romans 1:7, 3:24, 4:16, Romans 5, Romans 6:14, 11:6, 1 Corinthians 1:4, 15:10, 2 Corinthians 6:1, 9:8, 9:14, Ephesians 2, Colossians 1:6, 2 Timothy 2:1, Titus 2:11-12, Titus 3:7, Heb. 2:9, 4:16, 1 Peter 5:12,

Forgiveness of Sins

Acts 5:31, Acts 13:37-39, Acts 26:18, Ephesians 1:7, Colossians 1:14, Jeremiah 31:31-34, Ephesians 1:7, Colossians 1:14, 1 John 1:7

New Creations/New Life

2 Corinthians 5:17, Galatians 6:15, Matthew 9:17, Matthew 26:28, Romans 6:4, Romans 7:6, Ephesians 4:24, Colossians 3:10, Hebrews 8:13, Hebrews 10:19-23

Reconciliation

Romans 5, 2 Corinthians 5, Colossians 1:20-21

The Gift of Righteousness

Romans 5:17, Romans 3, Romans 10:5-10, Romans 14:17, Galatians 2:21, Ephesians 4:24, Philippians 1:11

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit in You

Ephesians 3:16-18, John 14:17, Romans 8:11, 1 Corinthians 3:16, 2 Timothy 1:14, John 14:46, John 15, 1 John 2:6, 1 John 3:24, 1 John 4, John 14:23, Ephesians 4:6, Hebrews 13:5

God's Love for Us

John 3:16-18, 1 John 3:1, Ephesians 3, 1 Corinthians 13, John 16:27, Romans 5:5, Romans 5:8, Romans 8:31-39, 2 Corinthians 13:11-14, Galatians 2:20, Ephesians 2:4, Ephesians 3:19, Ephesians 5:2, Ephesians 6:23, 2 Thessalonians 2:16, 2 Thessalonians 3:5, Titus 3, 1 John 3:1, 1 John 4

The Power of the Gospel

Romans 1:16, 1 Thessalonians 1:5, 1 Corinthians 1:24, 1 Corinthians 4:19-20, 1 Corinthians 15:43, Ephesians 3:20, 2 Timothy 1:7-8, 2 Peter 1:3