

Standing Firm: Living the Victorious Life

Part 3 Standing Firm

INTRO

- The victorious Christian life:
 - Found in _____
 - A life of _____
 - Grounded in the _____
 - _____ and Perseverance

SHIELD OF FAITH

- The devil will use all sorts of deceptions and temptations to wound us, to cast us into _____ and _____
- Hold up the object of your faith: _____ and His _____
- We should hold a shield that has emblazoned on its front: _____

HELMET OF SALVATION

- When we take up the helmet of salvation, we receive what
 - God _____ done
 - God _____ doing
 - God _____ do
- The helmet assures us that whatever happens we will be saved and experience _____ in _____.

SWORD OF THE SPIRIT

- The _____ given to us through the Holy Spirit is the ultimate weapon against all of the evil ways.
- “Having the sword of the Spirit is not owning a Bible, but knowing the _____ in the Bible that applies to the specific point of temptation.” Pastor John MacArthur

WHAT ABOUT YOU?

- What actions will you take today and this week in taking up the Shield of Faith, the Helmet of Salvation and the Sword of the Spirit?



A CLOSER LOOK

Helmet

The iron helmet was forged from one piece of metal and lined with leather. Crests made of dyed horsehair indicated rank. Plates hung down along the cheeks and another plate protected the back of the neck and shoulders.

Breastplate

The iron or bronze scaled armor was built in four sections to cover each shoulder and side of the chest. The plates were sewn to a stiff leather vest, which was put on like a jacket before the front plates were tied with leather straps.

Sword

The sword was carried on the right side and hung from the belt or a leather strap over the shoulder.

Belt

The leather belt was tied around a wool tunic. Connected bronze plates hung from the belt to protect the soldier's groin area.

Shield

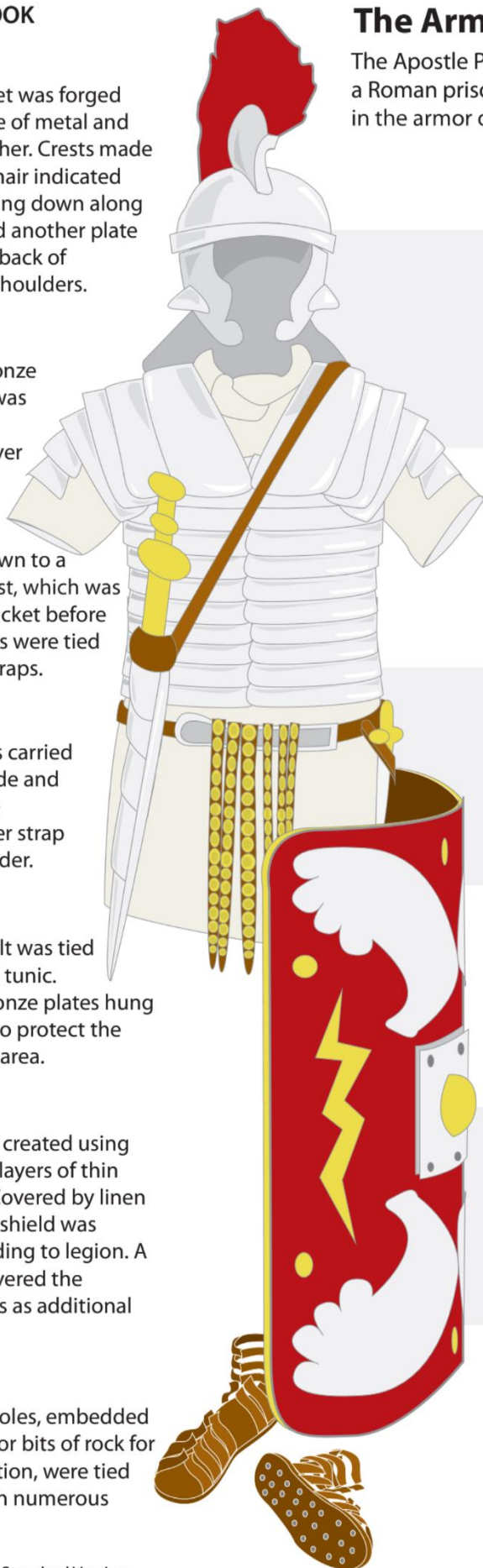
The curve was created using three bonded layers of thin wood strips. Covered by linen or leather, the shield was painted according to legion. A bronze rim covered the rounded edges as additional protection.

Sandals

Thick leather soles, embedded with hobnails or bits of rock for increased traction, were tied to the feet with numerous leather straps.

The Armor of God

The Apostle Paul, inspired by God, wrote a letter to the church of Ephesus from a Roman prison. As he wrote, Roman soldiers guarding the prison walked about in the armor of first century legionary.



ARMOR OF LEGIONARY

Galea (Helmet)

Protected head and neck from enemy attacks

Lorica Segmentata (Breastplate)

Guarded vital organs

Gladius (Sword)

Powerful offensive weapon in the hand of a skilled soldier

Waving it served as a word of warning to the enemy

Cingulum (Girdle or Belt)

Supports sword, dagger and bronze apron

Worn at all times, even without other armor pieces

Scutum (Shield)

Overlapping shields allowed soldiers to advance together

Shield was used to defend the entire body, including the back

Caligae (Sandals)

Fit for both marching and fighting

Became more comfortable with constant wear

ARMOR OF GOD

Helmet of Salvation

"...and take on the helmet of salvation..." Ephesians 6:17a

Breastplate of Righteousness

"...and having put on the breastplate of righteousness..." Ephesians 6:14b

Sword of the Spirit, Word of God

"...and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God..." Ephesians 6:17b

Belt of Truth

"Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth..." Ephesians 6:14a

Shield of Faith

"In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one..." Ephesians 6:16

Readiness/Preparation of the Gospel of Peace

"...and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace." Ephesians 6:15