**February 3, 2019 “The Helmet of Salvation”, Pt 2 Ephesians 6:10-17**

As most of you well know we have been studying the Book of Ephesians for quite some time. I will readily say that when we started in this book, I had no idea that we would spend the amount of time in this book that we have because quite honestly, I did not fathom the depth of instruction that is contained in this book. I wondered to myself this week, if I had known in advance, the incredible amount of instruction for the Christian life found in this book if I would have started us down this road and yet the more we study this book at this time, the more I find that this book is exactly what we need to know at this time.

Many people feel that the United States is teetering on the verge of collapse. When we see state legislatures stand and applaud and cheer for the death for the most innocent of children… how can we not fear the impending judgment of God? I could go on and on about the turmoil in Europe, the nation states of China and Russia rattling their sabers, the on-going trade war the US is having with China that will be discussed this week. The budget deficits which both state and national governments have acquired and the flaunting of those who break the law with no fear of punishment.

Is it any wonder why we are studying the armor of God at this time? Praise God that He has led us to this study… Amen?

Now before we get into our study for today, allow me to address one other item before we start today. It appears to me that there are two main camps in Christianity today. One camp says there is nothing you can do to inherit or earn salvation… which is correct, however they go on to say that since you can do nothing to add to or subtract from your salvation, all you have to do is fasten your seatbelt and go along for the ride. God has created everything therefore everything is permissible is their mindset. (Jude 4) God does it all… you are not really involved.

On the other hand, we have those who submit to a staunch set of rules and those rules are to be adhered to and if they are not… you cannot go to heaven. You can only read this version of the Bible, women cannot cut their hair, women cannot wear jeans, women must have their heads covered in the sanctuary, you cannot, cannot, cannot. We must work out our salvation with fear and trembling.

Today will be known as Super Bowl Sunday. Let me ask one question… “What good will it do to get dressed up for the game with all the protection needed and not play the game?”

Note the following passages

* Ephesians 6:10-17
	+ Who is supposed to put on this armor?
* II Peter 1:2-4
	+ Who is supplying the promises?
* II Peter 1:5-8
	+ Who is applying all diligence?
* Hebrews 12:1-3
	+ Who is running the race?
	+ Who is fixing theirs eyes?
	+ Who is it who could grow weary?

These same principles apply to the armor of God

* Who is to put on the armor?
* Who supplies the armor?
* For what reason is the armor given? (Ephesians 6:11-17)
	+ You and I are in a battle
	+ Question… where in this passage do you see the word “surrender?”
1. The Helmet of Salvation
	1. Salvation has three aspects
		1. Past
		2. Present
		3. Future
	2. Which one is Paul addressing here?
		1. Ephesians 2:8-9… Past
		2. Ephesians 4:1… present… walk worthy
		3. Ephesians 6: 17… future
2. Helmet is to protect the head
	1. From what?
		1. Ephesians 6:12
			1. Rulers
			2. Powers
			3. World forces of darkness
			4. Spiritual forces of wickedness
	2. Two main weapons in the enemy’s arsenal
		1. Discouragement
		2. Doubt
3. Discouragement
	1. Elijah
		1. I Kings 18:20-39
		2. I Kings 18:46… Elijah is pushing 80 years old
		3. I Kings 19:1-2
	2. Discouragement sets in
		1. I Kings 19:4… he wants to die
		2. I Kings 19:10… I alone am left
		3. I Kings 19:14… I alone am left… everybody wants to kill me
		4. I Kings 19:18… Lord… says I have 7,000
	3. David at Ziklag
		1. I Samuel 30:1-6
		2. I Samuel 1:7
			1. David strengthened himself in the Lord his God
	4. Jeremiah and Ezekiel
		1. You preach… they are not going to hear one word of what you say
	5. John the Baptist
		1. Matthew 11:1-6
	6. Mary Magdalene at the tomb
		1. John 20:1-2
		2. John 20:15
	7. Disciples
		1. John 20:19
	8. Two on the road to Emmaus
		1. Luke 24:17-21
4. I Timothy 4:1-8
	1. Revelation 21:1-7
	2. Revelation 22:1-7a

That is the helmet of salvation.

We are faced with troubles and trials on every side… but the finish line is coming up. “For our salvation is nearer now than when we first began.”