

Kevlar Christians

Ephesians 6:10-14b*

The second item of the armor of God is the *breastplate of righteousness*. This item of body armor protects the soldier's most vital organs. *Righteousness* in Paul's letters most often means *justification*, that is, God's gracious initiative in putting sinners right with himself through Christ. This is the Christian assurance of righteousness, that is, of a right relationship with God through Christ; it is body-armor to protect us against satanic accusations.

What kind of righteousness? (Rom.3:10)

The picture of righteousness for our lives (14)

The presence of righteousness in our lives (14b)

Satan's Power is Permitted

Let us be "terrified by our adversaries," it is well to remember that Satan's power is not inherent but permitted (Rom. 13:1).

It is not unlimited, but controlled (Job 1:12; 2:6).

It is not invincible, but broken (Luke 11:21-11).

It is not assured of success, but is surely doomed (Rev. 20:2-3).

Satan knows well that there is no ultimate victory for him. The pronounced sentence has only been postponed.

But he works to hinder and postpone Christ's final triumph.

We can rejoice in the certainty of John's assurance:

"Greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world"

(1 John 4:4).

Citation: J. Oswald Sanders, *Cultivation of Christian Character*, (Moody Press, Chicago; 1965), p. 86

* These notes are prayerfully provided to aid, not replace, your personal study of God's Word.