

## The Breastplate of Righteousness

Ephesians 6:14b

*The spiritual warfare that is waged against us by the Wicked  
One is lethal if we do not protect the core of our being with a  
breastplate.*

- I. The \_\_\_\_\_
  - A. To protect the \_\_\_\_\_
  - B. To protect the \_\_\_\_\_
  
- II. The breastplate of \_\_\_\_\_
  - A. \_\_\_\_\_ righteousness
  - B. \_\_\_\_\_ righteousness
  - C. \_\_\_\_\_ righteousness

Holiness is always present in those who are loyal guests of the great King, for “without holiness no man shall see the Lord.” Too many professors pacify themselves with the idea that they possess imputed righteousness, while they are indifferent to the sanctifying work of the Spirit. They refuse to put on the garment of obedience, they reject the white linen which is the righteousness of saints. They thus reveal their self-will, their enmity to God, and their nonsubmission to his Son. Such men may talk what they will about justification by faith, and salvation by grace, but they are rebels at heart, they have not on the wedding dress any more than the self-righteous, whom they so eagerly condemn . . . No one ever had the imputed righteousness of Christ without receiving at the same time a measure of the righteousness wrought in us by the Holy Spirit. Justification by faith is not contrary to the production of good works: God forbid. The faith by which we are justified is the faith which produces holiness, and no one is justified by faith which does not also sanctify him and deliver him from the love of sin.

*- Charles Spurgeon*

Though many foes beset you round, and feeble is your arm,  
Your life is hid with Christ in God, beyond the realm of harm.

Weak as you are you shall not fade, or fainting shall not die.  
Jesus the strength of every saint, will aid you from on high.

Though unperceived by mortal sense, faith sees him always near.  
A guide, a glory, a defense, then what have you to fear?

As surely as he overcame, and triumphed once for you.  
So surely you that love his name shall in him triumph too.

*- John Newton*