

August 1, 2010  
"The Helmet of Salvation"  
*Ephesians 6:17a*

**"And take the helmet of salvation ..."** (Ephesians 6:17 NKJ)

*When we consider the topic of "salvation" we are considering a MANY SPLENDARED thing! In Scripture salvation is the broad term that describes / encompasses predestination, election, effectual calling, justification, propitiation, reconciliation, adoption, sanctification and among other things glorification!*

*We do not understand "salvation" without a Biblical mind set. We need to understand sin, God's justice, the afterlife, Heaven and Hell, Christ's work on our behalf and many other things to have a full understanding of our salvation. Such an understanding is something we should strive for –*

**Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble;<sup>11</sup> for so an entrance will be supplied to you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. (2 Peter 1:10-11 NKJ)**

*Let us consider the Helmet of Salvation-*

*1. It is a piece of armor our enemies, the devil and his angels clearly do not have ---*

- 1. Actually the devil and his angels do not have any of this armor!*
- 2. Yet, Scripture makes it especially, abundantly clear that the Devil lacks a helmet –*

**And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel." (Genesis 3:15 NKJ)**

*In Genesis 3:15 God is pronouncing the curse upon Satan. He is prophesying about spiritual battle "ENMITY" between the saint and Satan and ultimately He is predicting Satan's doom -*

**And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel." (Genesis 3:15 NIV)**

**I will also put enmities between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed. He shall bruise thine head, and thou shalt bruise his heel. (Genesis 3:15 GNV)**

*3. Now the bruising of the HEEL implies a certain (NON-FATAL) level of victory for the Devil / Satan –*

*A. We see this in Christ's very temporary death on the cross –*

**.<sup>3</sup> For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures,<sup>4</sup> and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures,<sup>5</sup> and that He was seen by Cephas, then by the twelve.<sup>6</sup> After that He was seen by over five hundred brethren at once, of whom the greater part remain to the present, but some have fallen asleep.<sup>7</sup> After that He was seen by James, then by all the apostles. (1 Corinthians 15:3-7 NKJ)**

*B. We see this in the Beast's very temporary victory over the saints, the 666 rule: ... (see Revelation 13)*

**It was granted to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them. And authority was given him over every tribe, tongue, and nation. (Revelation 13:7 NKJ)**

**<sup>18</sup> Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man: His number is 666. (Rev 13:18NKJ)**

*His time is limited –*

**And he was given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies, and he was given authority to continue for forty-two months. (Revelation 13:5 NKJ)**

*Finally the Devil and his minions are defeated, really they are defeated already –*

**<sup>10</sup> The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet are. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever. (Rev 20:10 NKJ)**

II. This "Helmet of Salvation" is available only through Jesus Christ, He is the only One Who makes such a quality protective Helmet –

"Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved." (Acts 4:12 NKJ)

- Jesus alone provides reconciliation with the Father – Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. (John 14:6 NKJ)

- It is the Father's righteous wrath we need most fear – "And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell. (Matthew 10:28 NKJ)

- Without Christ there is no salvation – "He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him." (John 3:36 NKJ)

- Jesus Christ was first to wear this sweet Helmet and use it in battle – Isaiah 59:15-21 (see bulletin cover)

III. It is the Helmet of the Hope of Salvation that moves us forward in spiritual battle

But let us who are of the day be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet the hope of salvation. (1 Thessalonians 5:8 NKJ)

1. When Scripture speaks of "HOPE" the Christian's "HOPE" it is speaking of something solid and substantial, something we look forward to –

Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,<sup>4</sup> to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, (1 Peter 1:3-4 NKJ)

2. This "HOPE" the Hope of Heaven, the Hope of righteousness, the

Hope of salvation keeps us going when others might give up – But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. (1 Thessalonians 4:13 NKJ)

3. What we have in front of us is a prize worth fighting for –

For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding *and* eternal weight of glory, (2 Corinthians 4:17 NKJ)

"And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force. (Matthew 11:12 NKJ)

IV. Note also in these verses the great necessity of keeping this Helmet of salvation securely on your head –

But let us who are of the day be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet the hope of salvation.<sup>9</sup> For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, (1 Thessalonians 5:8-9 NKJ)

1. In one sense God does this –

"My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me."<sup>28</sup> "And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand."<sup>29</sup> "My Father, who has given *them* to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch *them* out of My Father's hand. (John 10:27-29 NKJ)

2. In another sense we are called to KEEP OUR HEADS "*be sober*" and our own salvation ---

<sup>12</sup> Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling;

<sup>13</sup> for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for *His* good pleasure. (Phi 2:12-13 NKJ)

Any injury to the head, even if not fatal, drunkenness or any kind of STUPOR in battle is extremely dangerous!