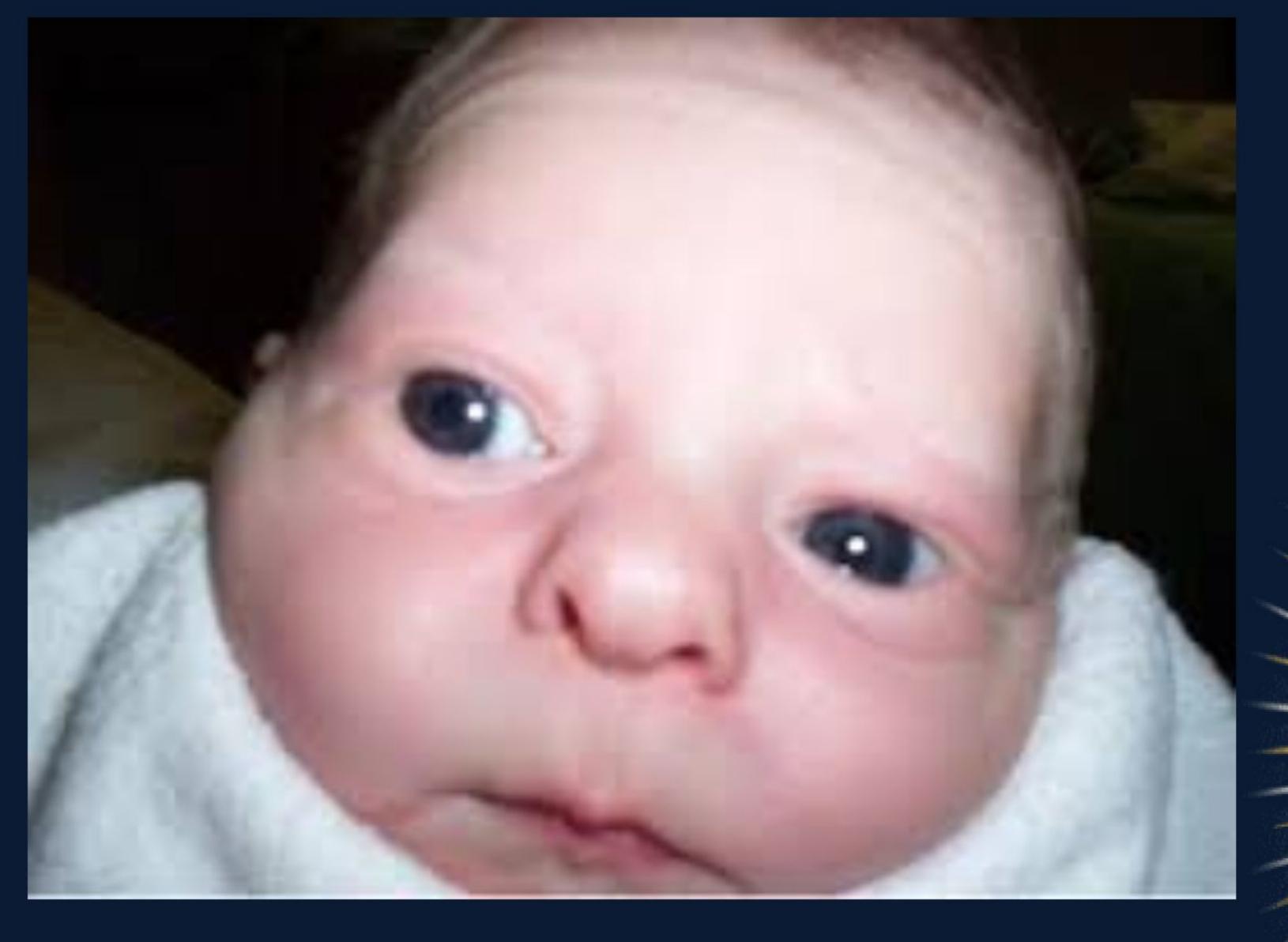


Ephesians 6:14 – 18

Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled round your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.



nothin cuter than a baby





Luke 2:8 - 14

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a *sign to you*: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

Isaiah 59:12 – 21 (NIBO)

Our offences are ever with us, and we acknowledge our iniquities: rebellion and treachery against the LORD, turning our backs on our God, fomenting oppression and revolt, uttering lies our hearts have conceived. So justice is driven back, and righteousness stands at a distance; truth has stumbled in the streets, honesty cannot enter. Truth is nowhere to be found, and whoever shuns evil becomes a prey. The LORD looked and was displeased that there was no justice. He saw that there was no-one, he was appalled that there was no-one to intervene; so his own arm worked salvation for him, and his own righteousness sustained him. He put on righteousness as his breastplate, and the helmet of salvation on his head; he put on the garments of vengeance and wrapped himself in zeal as in a cloak.

Isaiah 59:12 – 21 (NIBO)

According to what they have done, so will he repay wrath to his enemies and retribution to his foes; he will repay the islands their due. From the west, men will fear the name of the LORD, and from the rising of the sun, they will revere his glory. For he will come like a pent-up flood that the breath of the LORD drives along. "The Redeemer will come to Zion, to those in Jacob who repent of their sins," declares the LORD. "As for me, this is my covenant with them," says the LORD. "My Spirit, who is on you, and my words that I have put in your mouth will not depart from your mouth, or from the mouths of your children, or from the mouths of their descendants from this time on and for ever," says the LORD.

Critical Points of Review

1. Our struggle is not against "flesh and blood" but against "spiritual forces of darkness"

2. We need the armor of God to be strong and "take our stand" against the Devil's schemes.



God's complete armor is the only effective assurance in our spiritual conflict



2 important points of preparation

Panoply - a complete set of arms



All of the arms are forms of assurance against an accuser.



Complete armor:

- 1. Girdings of the truth
- 2. Breastplate of righteousness
- 3. Footgear of the readiness of the Gospel of peace
- 4. Shield of faith
- 5. Helmet of salvation
- 6. Sword of the Spirit



1. Knowing the truth prepares you for action and agility.



2. Knowing your standing in Christ settles your confidence like a breastplate



3. Ready Gospel of peace gives you stability and mobility



4. Faith is what faces fire





Charles Hodge – "it is a common experience of the people of God, that at times horrible thoughts, unholy, blasphemous, malignant; crowd upon the mind which cannot be accounted for by any ordinary law of mental action and which cannot be dislodged. They stick like burning arrows, and fill the soul with agony. They can be quenched only by faith, by calling on Christ for help."

"I am your shield, your very great reward.' Gen 15:1

5. Helmet of salvation represents the Hope to fight.

A soldier needs to believe he will attain victory, glory, or both.



6. The weapon of the Spirit is the word of God spoken.

Romans 10:8, 17,18, 2 Cor 12:4, 13:1, Eph 5:26, 6:17



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