



PEACE

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In conclusion, be strong in the Lord (draw your strength from Him and be empowered through your union with Him) and in the power of His (boundless) might. Put on the full armour of God (for His precepts are like the splendid armour of heavily-armed soldier), so that you may be able to (successfully) stand up against all the schemes and the strategies and the deceits of the devil. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood (contending only with physical opponents) but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this (present) darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly (supernatural) places. Therefore, put on the complete armour of God, so that you will be able to (successfully) resist and stand your ground in the evil day (of danger) and having done everything (that the crisis demands), to stand firm (in your place, fully prepared, immovable, victorious). So stand firm and hold your ground, having tightened the wide band of truth (personal integrity, moral courage) around your waist and having put on the breastplate of righteousness (having an upright heart) and having strapped on your feet the gospel of peace in the preparation (to face the enemy with firm footed stability and the readiness produced by the good news). (Ephesians 6:10-15 AMP)

When you fight the battle of the Lord, you are fighting from the point of victory. (2 Kings 6:8-16)

For shoes, put on the peace that comes from the Good News so that you will be fully prepared. (Eph. 6:15 NLT)

Roman Sandals / Shoes

During the time of the Apostle Paul, the shoes worn by the soldiers of the Roman Empire were called *caligae*. They were specifically designed to keep soldiers' feet strong and fit for trials of long forced marches and were very different from the sandals worn by the rest of the people.

The shoes were made from three layers of leather, which were pulled up and laced around the ankle. The *caligae* helped protect against blisters and foot diseases.

In addition, small spikes or iron hobnails were often driven into the soles of the shoes in order to give firm footing on uneven terrain.

The good news is supposed to be the firm footing of the believer; in other words a foundation so that we walk worthy of it and are a living example and testimony to it.

How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of the messenger who brings good news, the good news of peace and salvation, the news that the God of Israel reigns! (Isaiah 52:7)

Jesus instructed His disciples to be planted in the gospel, to bring the good news of His coming Kingdom, to share and spread the gospel everywhere.

Then he sent them out to tell everyone about the Kingdom of God and to heal the sick. (Luke 9:2 NLT)

So they began their circuit of the villages, preaching the Good News and healing the sick. (Luke 9:6 NLT)

The final command, called 'The Great Commission', instructs the same:

And then he told them, 'Go into all the world and preach the Good News to everyone.' (Mark 16:15 NLT)

The feet of the disciples bringing the good news are described as beautiful:

And how will anyone go and tell them without being sent? That is why the scriptures say, 'How beautiful are the feet of the messengers who bring good news!' (Romans 10:15)

What is peace?

'Put on the peace that comes from the good news...' (v15)

In today's society we think of peace as a time when there are no active wars being waged. However, the Bible shows us that peace is more than just the absence of conflict—peace comes from unity and closeness with God. Peace is stillness in your heart in the midst of a storm.

Now may the Lord of peace Himself grant you His peace at all times and in every way (that peace and spiritual wellbeing that comes to those who walk with him regardless of life's circumstances). The Lord be with you all. (2 Thessalonians 3:16 AMP)



'Thermostats initiate the temperature change that needs to take place. (*Peacemakers* – Roxy Iverson)

They come in and bring health and peace with them.

Characteristics of peacemakers:

- They are committed to telling the truth
- They speak the truth in love
- They walk in forgiveness
- They pray for people that are hurt or have been hurt by
- They pursue reconciliation at the risk of their own discomfort

A solid belief and grounding in the gospel of peace brings hope to a Christian's life. That hope should keep us unmoved and pointed toward our goal.

This includes you who were once far away from God. You were his enemies, separated from him by your evil thoughts and actions. Yet now he has reconciled you to himself through the death of Christ in his physical body. As a result, he has brought you into his own presence, and you are holy and blameless as you stand before him without a single fault. But you must continue to believe this truth and stand firmly in it. Don't drift away from the assurance you received when you heard the Good News. (Colossians 1:21-23 NLT)

When we put on the shoes of peace (which is the good news), it provides a firm foundation for us. That we know where our hope and our peace comes from. We know who we put our trust in. That in turn allows us to keep a sure footing in life's difficult moments and during spiritual warfare. We are able to stand firm in the battle.