

THE
ARMOR
OF LIGHT
STUDY GUIDE

MICHAEL CHRISTIAN



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Pronouns in Scripture that refer to the Father, Son, or Holy Spirit are capitalized to honor Him.

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P. O. Box 531

Paradise, CA 95967

Visit <https://michaelchristian.us>

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My Story

Like most people, I accepted Christ to be forgiven and go to heaven when I died. I expected never to have another bad day. But within a few months, I was forced to come to a new conclusion—something evil was trying to destroy my life and relationships, and I was unprepared to deal with it. I finally had set my heart to do good, and I found that evil was present with me.¹

My pastors called this resistance spiritual warfare and explained that it happened to everyone, but I wouldn't say I liked the idea. I hadn't signed up for war, just salvation. As an untrained recruit thrust into battle, I had no training, no weapons, and little success. Honestly, I became angry with God. Since He created everything, why had He allowed evil into the world?² Why was I being attacked for living for God for once?³ I wondered if I was a sacrificial pawn in a cruel cosmic chess match between God and the devil.⁴

For years after being saved, random thoughts bombarded me daily with reminders of my unsaved past, making me feel condemned and unworthy before God. Some days, I wondered if I had lost my salvation. Thankfully, others mentored and prayed me through these challenges.

In my desire to find answers, I longed for a Bible-based book like *The Armor of Light* to get up to speed more quickly, but I couldn't find it. But the more I learned from the Word of God, the better I dealt with the conflict until I got the upper hand over the adversary.

Now, I'm happy to say that I have written the book I wished for as a new believer, hoping that what I learned will help you, too.

As you read, some things are simple to grasp, while others take longer to sink in. But as you meditate in God's Word and pray for wisdom, the Holy Spirit will give you understanding and victory over the unseen realm surrounding you.

The Armor of Light contains many footnotes to Scripture. I encourage you to look them up in your Bible and underline them if they speak to you. There is no substitute for reading the Bible for yourself.

NOTE: Be sure to download the free Thank You Gift mentioned at the end of the book.

<https://michaelchristian.us/armor-of-light-resources/>

1 Romans 7:21

2 I didn't realize Adam and Eve were the ones who made that choice.

3 The enemy was trying to pressure me to quit living for God. It didn't work!

4 Jesus was the One who sacrificed Himself for all.

Introduction

Jesus gave Paul the following instructions on the Damascus road.

“I will deliver you from the Jewish people, as well as from the Gentiles, to whom I now send you, to open their eyes, to turn them from darkness to light, from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance⁵ among those who are sanctified by faith in Me.” —Acts 26:17-18)

Salvation is an eye-opening event in which we see ourselves as God sees us, repent, and ask Jesus to be our Savior. By accepting Jesus, we turn from worldly darkness to the light of Christ, from Satan to God. After that, our Christian life becomes a continual opening of our eyes to more truths from God’s Word and stepping out of darkness into the light.

The Bible opens our (often blind) eyes to the reality of the *spiritual* dimension around us, where every day, unseen and unheard, a spiritual war goes on between the forces of light and darkness, between God and the fallen angels who rebelled against His good and godly ways.

This war affects every area of your life, including your mind, will, emotions, self-image, dreams, marriage, children, parents, work, and relationships. We must acknowledge and face the reality of this conflict. Like it or not, it is what it is, and we can’t change it. There’s no place to run, hide, or remain neutral.

But we also must acknowledge and appreciate the great victory Jesus won for us over all that is unclean and disgusting. By accepting Jesus, we choose God’s side, the winning side, become a victor in Him, and enjoy the blessings of God’s protection, favor, and strength.

The Armor of Light will help you open your eyes to unseen spiritual realities and show you how to live victoriously over invisible evils that affect your everyday life. You are engaged in a spiritual struggle, but the most effective form of spiritual warfare is always focusing on Christ, not the dark side. You don’t have to be an expert on evil to overcome it, but you need to love and trust Jesus. We win as we keep our eyes on Jesus and follow Him.

⁵ All the benefits of a restored relationship to God, including the Holy Spirit and His gifts.

CHAPTER 1

The Ultimate Showdown

One event is the basis for everything we do in Christianity: Jesus Christ defeated the devil by His cross, death, and resurrection and reconciled us to God by His blood. After His death, Jesus descended into hell, took from the enemy the keys of death and Hades, and released from their cells the souls of the righteous dead (who looked forward to His coming).

He then led a triumphant victory procession from the underworld into the third heaven. Because of His shed blood, the gates of the kingdom of heaven opened wide for believers for the first time. By His cross, Jesus restored what humanity had lost: our *relationship* with God and our *authority* under God.

Review Questions

1. What is a champion, as understood in this chapter? Does a champion fight for himself or others? (p. 1)

2. By obedience unto death, Jesus earned the name above every name, and His name has authority over which three realms (see Philippians 2:10)? (pp. 2-3)

3. When God records your name in the Lamb's Book of Life, what official right is granted to you? (p. 3)

4. All authority in heaven and earth belongs to Jesus. (Matthew 28:18) Since He has "all authority," how much does that leave the devil? According to this verse, has God "authorized" or given the devil "permission" to do anything? (p. 4)

5. Does being raised up and seated with Christ in heavenly places give you more or less authority? Why? (pp. 4-5)

6. Jesus gave the church the keys of the kingdom of heaven, which includes the right to bind and loose. (Matthew 16:18-19) According to Jesus' instructions, who does the binding, Jesus or us? How do we bind the demons that come against us, and in whose name? (pp. 6-7)

7. How can we use the keys of the kingdom of heaven to purify our spiritual atmospheres? What is the advantage of doing this? (pp. 7-8)

8. Who is responsible for dealing with the devil, God or us? What does it mean to operate in partnership with God? (p. 9)

9. As a royal priesthood, what are we privileged to do? (p. 10)

Secret #1

Having defeated Satan decisively and eternally, Jesus gave you who believe the authority to command evil spirits to depart from you and your family in His matchless name!