

A CHRISTIAN IS A

DISCIPLE

TEMPLE

BRIDE

BODY PART

ATHLETE

CITIZEN

SERVANT

SLAVE

SOLDIER

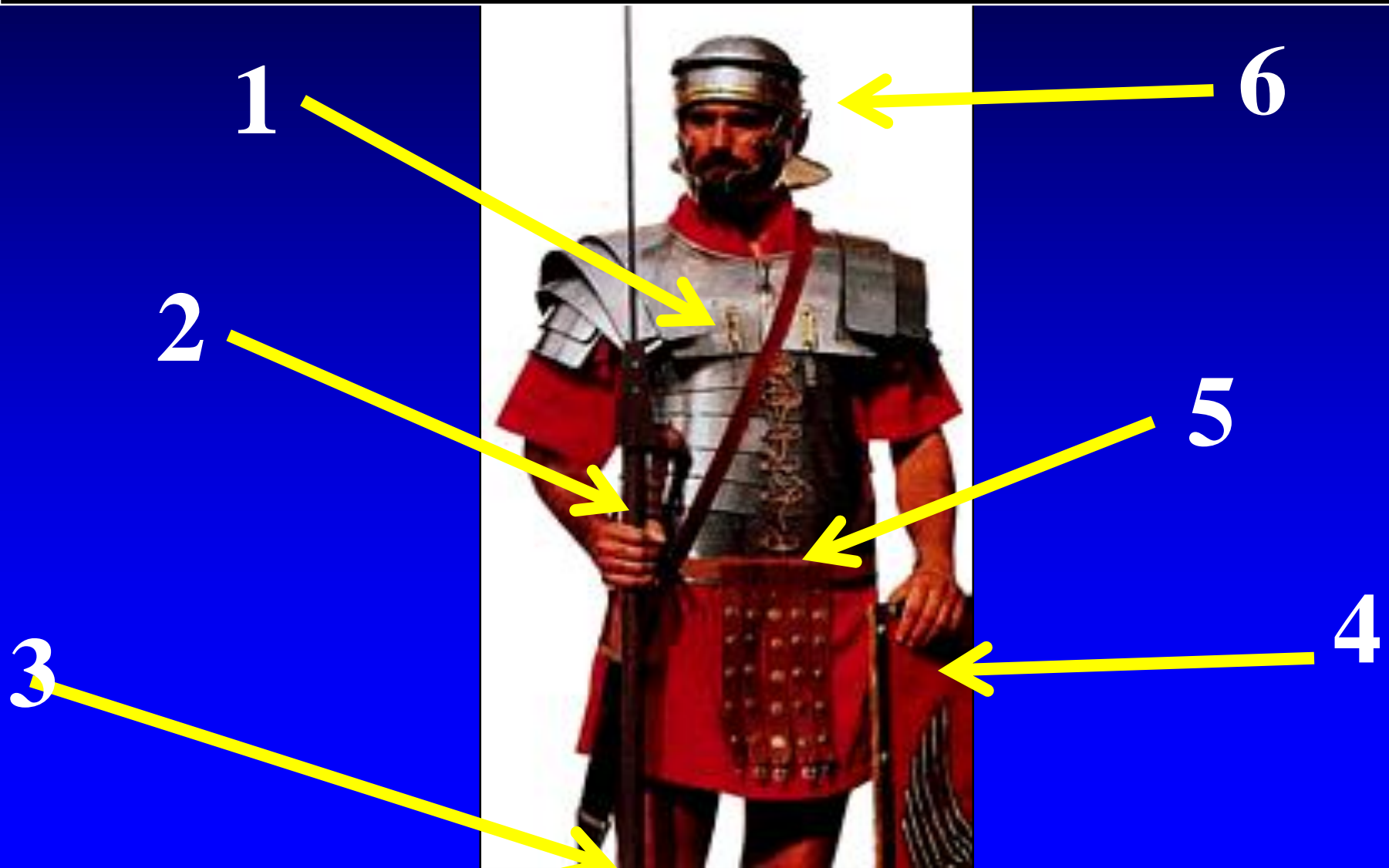


SOLDIER **Today's lesson**

EPH. 6:10-13



***WE MUST PUT ON THE
WHOLE ARMOR OF GOD***



SOLDIER

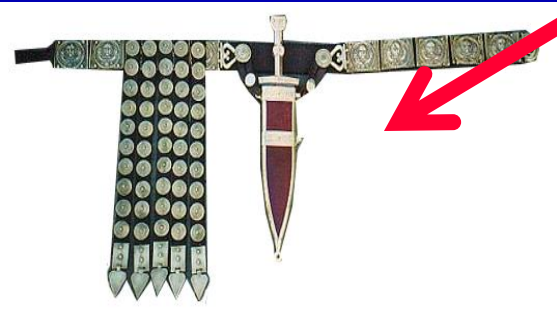
WE MUST GO TO THE
ROMAN SOLDIER
TO SEE WHAT PAUL
MEANT WHEN HE
COMMANDED US TO
PUT ON THE
“WHOLE ARMOR”
AND
STAND & **FIGHT**



Christian Armor

EPH. 6:11

“Put on the whole armor of God”



Eph 6:10-11

Finally,

be strong
in the Lord, and in the
strength of his might.

Put on the
whole armor
of God, that ye may be able to
stand
against the wiles of the devil.



“Finally brethren” *Eph 6:10*

Paul uses an idiom that can be translated
‘from now on,’
or
‘for the duration

From now on, you do this

“Be strong in the Lord...”

Eph 6:11



2 Tim 2:1 My son, *be strong*.

This word means inherent *power, ability*

1 Cor 16:13 Act like men, *be strong*

Strength or power to control

Ps 31:10 Be *strong* & let your heart take
courage all you who trust in God

**“Take up the whole armor
that you may be able to resist..”**

Eph 6:11

Jas 4:7 Resist the devil and he will flee

1 Pet 5:9 Resist him, firm in your faith.



1 Cor 10:12-13

**Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take
heed lest he fall.**

**13 There hath no temptation taken you but such as man can bear:
but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that
ye are able; but will with the temptation make also the way of
escape, that ye may be able to endure it.**

Eph 6:11

**“Take up the whole armor
that you may be able to stand or resist..**

1 Peter 5:8-9

**Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil
walks about like a roaring lion,
seeking whom he may devour.**

Resist him, steadfast in the faith,



“Stand Firm”

Eph 6:11

“Stand firm” refers to the Roman soldier who *stands in his assigned place in combat, regardless of its duration or intensity.*

Arndt & Gingrich, pp. 592-593

The believer is to stand fast at the moment of attack.



“Stand Firm”

Eph 6:11

Roman soldiers were to remain in close ranks in hand-to-hand fighting, using the advantage of organized ranks to overcome larger numbers of disorganized enemies.

Staying in rank was a matter of life and death,

Breaking rank in combat was punishable by death, since it endangered their fellow soldiers.

Most soldiers were killed in retreating or fleeing from an organized enemy.



THERE WERE THREE LEVELS IN THE ROMAN ARMY

Just as there are three levels in the army of Christ.

1) The first is the Hastati.

These were the raw recruits. Their name comes from the Latin word for javelin-- hasta. They had been through just enough training and just enough drill instruction to know how to throw their javelins accurately. As the Roman army advanced toward the enemy, the Hastati would heave their javelins and then immediately retreat. **The Hastati are analogous to babes in Christ.**



THERE WERE THREE LEVELS IN THE ROMAN ARMY
Just as there are three levels in the army of Christ.

2) The second is the Principes.

These were the strong and vigorous young men who had just a little battle training and experience. They were eager and they were zealous and they were ready to engage the enemy but as Principes they lacked the wisdom, the fine tuning of lengthy experience. They could fight furiously for a while but then they too had to retreat. The Principes are analogous to adolescent believers.



THERE WERE THREE LEVELS IN THE ROMAN ARMY
Just as there are three levels in the army of Christ.

3) The third level is the Triarii.

These were the battle scarred veterans who had come through conflict after conflict, battle after battle and were still alive, still strong and still able to fight.

They had a tremendous amount of wisdom obtained by being on the battlefield. Each of the Triarii could take one square yard of ground and hold it against an army.



The Triarii never gave ground. They knew to do only one thing-- take one square yard of ground, clear it, advance; take one square yard of ground, clear it, advance. The Triarii never retreated! They are analogous to mature believers.

Historical Note: The Praetorian Guard was an elite corps of 5-6,000 Roman soldiers, composed of men hand picked by the Emperor from among the Triarii. They were first formed by the Emperor Augustus in 27 BC-- nine cohorts of 500 men each. Once housed inside the walls of Rome they became the Imperial Bodyguard.



The command to

“Stand firm”

**was the battle cry of Rome’s
veteran soldiers.**

Eph 6:13-14 Wherefore take up the whole
armor of God, that ye may be able to
withstand in the evil day, and, having
done all, to **stand**. **Stand** therefore



**THE NEXT THING
IN OUR BATTLE
FOR CHRIST**

***WE MUST
RECOGNIZE THE KIND
OF BATTLE
WE ARE IN***

Eph 6:12 For our wrestling is not against flesh and blood, **but** against the principalities, against the powers, against the world-rulers of this darkness, against the spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.

THE BATTLE IS GREAT

v.12 Our struggle is not against flesh and blood...



GOVERNMENT

NO ABSOLUTES

LAW MAKERS

ANIMAL RIGHTS

LAWYERS

GAY RIGHTS

COURTS

TELEVISION

SCHOOLS

MOVIES

*IN ORDER
TO SURVIVE
WE MUST
PUT ON
THE WHOLE
ARMOR OF GOD*