

Armor of God—Gospel of Peace

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BIG SANDY, Texas—One of the most encouraging sections of Scripture is found in the book of Ephesians. In that letter, the apostle Paul described a spiritual battle (Ephesians 6:10-13) and the spiritual weapons (verses 14-17) available for the children of God to use.

In this article, we will discuss the third weapon—called the gospel of peace (verse 15).

Good news and glad tidings

The Greek word *euangelion* is a noun that is quoted in the Bible as “gospel.” But the Greek word is regularly defined also as “good news.”

Therefore, the verb variation (*euangelizo*) is also defined as to preach good news.

Luke 1:19—“And the angel answered and said to him, ‘I am Gabriel, who stands in the presence of God, and was sent to speak to you and bring you these glad tidings.’ ”

Luke 2:10—“Then the angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people.’ ”

Luke 8:1—“Now it came to pass, afterward, that He went through every city and village, preaching and bringing the glad tidings of the kingdom of God.”

Do you share good news?

Another noun variation (*euangelistes*) is defined as evangelist or preacher of good news. It is used only three times in the Bible—Acts 21:8, Ephesians 4:11 and 2 Timothy 4:5.

Some people sincerely believe that evangelist is a rank in a religious hierarchy. But it means someone who has the gift of preaching good news.

Time to warn

Before we discuss the importance of talking about peace, we should probably mention that there are times for strong discussions and warnings.

Matthew 10:34—“Do not think that I came to bring peace on earth. I did not come to bring peace but a sword.”

1 Thessalonians 5:14—“Now we exhort you, brethren, warn those who are unruly, comfort the fainthearted, uphold the weak, be patient with all.”

Having read those verses, please remember that there are many verses that discuss the importance of preaching peace.

Sown in peace

The Greek word (*eirene*) is a noun that means peace, harmony and tranquility. The verb variation (*eireneuo*) means to live in peace.

Luke 1:68, 79—“Blessed is the Lord God of Israel, for He has visited and redeemed His people . . . to give light to those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.”

John 14:27—“Peace I leave with you. My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.”

John 16:33—“These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.”

Romans 12:18—“If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men.”

Romans 14:19—“Therefore let us pursue the things which make for peace and the things by which one may edify another.”

Philippians 4:7—“And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.”

James 3:18—“Now the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.”