



SPOKANE COUNTY
CHAPLAINCY
SERVICES



SPOKANE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

CHAPLAINS TO SERVE YOU

Mark Smith

Lead Chaplain

Robert Kinnune

Cliff Custer

Jake Burkholder

Fasitupe MeaFua

Ken McNaughton

Rochelle Renninger

Teresa Smith

Gino Palomino

Office phone:

509-477-6625

P. O. Box 18752

Spokane, WA 99208

www.spokanecountychaplaincy.com

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PUT ON YOUR ARMOR

We all know the importance of an LEO's Body Armor and protective gear. Something I would like to look at today is a little bit different—yet still of great importance.

Ephesians 6:13-18 says this: "13 Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. 14 Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, 15 and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. 16 In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. 17 Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. 18 And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests."

The earthly examples given of the Armor of God are easily transferable to an LEO's armor.

The "Duty Belt" of Truth: The truth protects us. Practically applied, you might say the Duty Belt holds our spiritual tools so that we're not vulnerable.

The "Body armor/Kevlar vest" of Righteousness: A wound to the chest can be

fatal. Our heart is also susceptible to the wickedness of this world, but our protection is the Vest/Body Armor of Righteousness, and that righteousness comes from Jesus Christ.

The "work boots" of Readiness that comes from the Gospel: Terrain can be unpredictable, you have to ready for anything, which requires sturdy, protective footwear. The "Boots of Peace" are our protection, reminding us that it is by grace that souls are saved. We can sidestep Satan's obstacles when we remember that God loved us all so much, He sacrificed His son as told in John 3:16.

The "Badge" of Faith: Like an LEO's Badge gives them faith in their Brotherhood, this Badge of Faith dispels all doubt. We can be confident in the knowledge that God provides, God protects, and God is faithful. This badge or shield holds because of the One our faith is in, Jesus Christ.

"Partner" of Salvation: The confident expectation that an LEO has in their partner allows one to focus on the task at hand. It allows your head to think straight and rely on your training. In the same way, Salvation protects our souls, and serves as the reminder that allows our

minds to think straight. We cannot survive a deadly attack without it.

"Duty Weapon" of the Spirit: Just as an LEO has his Duty Weapon to protect against the most evil of attacks, God has given us the weapon of the Spirit—God's Word—to protect against the most evil of Spiritual attacks. When Jesus Christ was tempted in the desert by Satan, he countered with the truth of Scripture, setting an example for us. Satan's tactics have not changed, he loves to attack in our weakest moments. Our "Duty Weapon", God's Word, is still our best defense.

Finally, Paul adds the Power of Prayer to the Full Armor 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" Every LEO knows they must keep the line of communication open to their Commander. In the same way, we must keep our line of communication open with God. When we suit up in the full Armor of God, and combine that with the power of Prayer—We are ready for whatever comes our way.

Mark Smith