

Prepared for the War: Conclusion
"Clothed in Armor"
A Short Story by Alicia R. Shipe

Ephesians 6:10-18 - Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. 11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. 12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. 13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

14 Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, 15 and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; 16 above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. 17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; 18 praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints—

"Oh, my King, the war is raging yet I have no armor. Help me dear King. My brothers and sisters are weakened from these battles. What can I do?"

"Dear child, do not worry. You have done what some have not. You have come to Me. We will ride out together to recover those that have fallen."

"But I am not prepared mighty King."

"You are prepared for I am with you."

"I have no armor Lord."

"You do for I am with you."

"How will I stand against the enemy when he attacks?"

"You will stand because of the armor that covers you."

"My Lord, I have no armor!"

"Is your hearing so dull that you do not hear what I say? I AM your armor. I am with you! I AM Truth that surrounds you. I AM Righteousness that fills and covers your heart. I AM the Way that your feet move upon. I AM Peace that guides you along the path of preparation to reach those that have fallen from the battles and those lost in the wilderness. I AM the author and finisher of your faith. Your trust in Me is your shield against those darts of fire from the enemy. You have My mind because I am with you, in you, and around you. My mind is your helmet which you received when you came to Me. I AM The Word which is your sword. This sword is the Sword of the Spirit which cuts everything not of God. This Sword is so sharp that it is able to divide the soul of a man from the spirit of a man. This armor grows in strength the more you grow in Me. You must always believe that I am with you. Understand, dear child, that I AM your defender; your protector. You cannot fight these battles without Me. I AM your covering. I fight your battles because I live in you. This war is not won by man's intelligence. This war is not won by man's strategies. This war has already been won by My sacrifice and resurrection. For the victory to be seen you must come and remain in Me. For I have overcome the world."

"Thank You my King! Thank You for preparing me. I am ready. I know You are with me by the Holy Spirit. I now ask that You will continue to teach me how to use this armor. Continue to help me to grow in You."

"Done. Now it is time to move."

Revelation 19:11-16 - Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. 12 His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself. 13 He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. 14 And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. 15 Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. 16 And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written:

KING OF KINGS AND
LORD OF LORDS.