

Session #3 “The Shield & Helmet”

“The flaming darts of the evil one” (Eph. 6:16).

Satan launches two main attacks, aiming to replace ...

_____ with _____

_____ with _____

... thereby destabilizing the believer.

The Father makes promises to Christ that will be fulfilled after His death. In the temptations, Satan tries to make Christ question His Father’s goodness (Matt. 4:1–11).

“If you are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread.”

“Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God” (Deut. 8:3).

“If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down.”

“You shall not put the LORD your God to the test” (Deut. 6:16).

“All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.”

“You shall worship the LORD your God and serve him only” (Deut. 6:13).

Christ trusts His Father, and He will wait for the fulfillment of His promises.

1. The Shield: Overcoming Doubt with Faith

See Rom. 8:31–35.

Question 1: _____ (Rom. 8:31).

Lesson 1: _____

“God’s dominion is total. He wills as He chooses and carries out all that He wills, and none can stay His hand or thwart His plans.” – J. I. Packer

Objection: _____

Answer:

(1) Satan's power is _____.

"He has power not in himself but by permission from God." – William Gurnall. Satan is "the prince of the power of the air" (Eph. 2:2). He can command storms and destroy cities. But we must never forget that he's chained by God power. He's a mere creature, and thus he has no power apart from what God grants him.

(2) Satan's power is _____.

"He cannot do what he will, and he shall not do what he can." – William Gurnall. Satan's power is restricted to what God wants. We see this in the case of Job. Satan must seek God's permission to assail Job. It is God alone who declares, "Behold, all that he has is in your hand" (Job 1:12). Satan could go no further than God allowed him.

(3) Satan's power is _____.

"It is appointed by God for the service and benefit of the saints." – William Gurnall.. Satan's power is always subservient to God's perfect will for His people.

"He who has given heaven for your inheritance has given you the world with all its afflictions, yea, its prince with all his wrath and power." – William Gurnall

Question 2: _____ (Rom. 8:32).

Lesson 2: _____

First Fact: _____

Second Fact: _____

Conclusion: _____

"In giving His Son, He gave everything. The cross is the guarantee of the continuing, unfailing generosity of God." – John Stott

Objection: _____

Answer:

When Christ shed His blood, He paid the penalty for our sin, which was transferred to Him. As a result, God's righteousness was fully satisfied by Christ's sacrifice under divine judgment due to sinners. He is truly God and truly man. Because of the incomparable dignity of His person, His offering is of inestimable worth. At His resurrection, Christ was justified, acquitted, and cleared of all charges and accusations (1 Tim. 3:16). Christ's presence in heaven is the conclusive evidence that our sins are put away. Christ's presence in heaven is the decisive proof that we're at peace with God.

Question 3: _____ (Rom. 8:33–34).

Lesson 3: _____

Crucifixion: He's the one who died.

Resurrection: He's the one who was raised.

Intercession: He's the one who is interceding for us.

Christ has entered through the veil and presented His offering before God with prayers and supplications. His intercession makes His perfect sacrifice effectual.

Objection: _____

Answer:

See Zech 3. Three accusations ...

Question 4: _____ (Rom. 8:35).

Lesson 4: _____

There's nothing in us that compelled Christ to love us. And yet, He cast His eye upon us, and offered Himself up for us. Here is a wonder to behold. Christ stood in our place while our sins were applied to Him.

Objection: _____

Answer:

“God loves Christ as the first object of His love. After Christ, He loves those who are Christ's. He is loved for His own sake, we for His.” – Thomas Manton

God loves Christ as His Son, and He loves us as His children (1 John 3:1). He loves Christ as His image, and He loves us who are renewed in His image (Col. 3:10). As the Father loves Christ, even so He loves us (John 17:23). That means He loves us no less than He loves His Son. He doesn't love His Son any more than He loves us. We are as dear to God as Christ is. "As He is, so also are we in this world" (1 John 4:17).

"God does not love us because we are lovely. He loves us because Christ is lovely. He loves us in Christ." – R. C. Sproul

2. The Helmet: Overcoming Despair with Hope

Despair is the utter loss of hope. The only remedy for an utter loss of hope is to abound in hope – the life-changing certainty that someday we'll have all that God has promised.

(1) Hope is _____ by the conviction that God is able to do what He has promised (Rom. 4:18–21).

God gives Abraham a promise.

- Abraham believes *against hope* (v. 19).
- Abraham believes *in hope* (vv. 20–21).

We need to *reflect* on God rather than *react* to circumstances.

(2) Hope is _____ in the assurance that we have peace with God through Jesus Christ (Rom. 5:1–10).

We have peace with God. This isn't an emotion, but a condition.

- This peace is attained through (vv. 1, 2, 9, 10, 11).
- This peace is the foundation of hope (vv. 2, 5).

(3) Hope is _____ on the glory that will be revealed to us (Rom. 8:16–25).

Past Subjection (v. 20).

Future Liberation (v. 21).

Present Anticipation (v. 22).

- We groan inwardly (v. 23).
- We wait eagerly (v. 23).
- We hope patiently (vv. 24–25).

“Christian, believe this, and think on it: you will be eternally embraced in the arms of that love ... which brought the Son of God from heaven to earth, from earth to the cross, from the cross to the grave, from the grave to glory.”

– Richard Baxter

(4) Hope is _____ through the encouragement of the Scriptures (Rom. 15:4).

- Its commands provide encouragement: “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me” (Matt. 16:24).
- Its doctrines provide encouragement: “God works all things according to the counsel of His will” (Eph. 1:11).
- Its examples provide encouragement: “Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful” (Jas. 5:11–12).
- Its principles provide encouragement: “Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!” (Rom. 11:33).
- Its promises provide encouragement: “And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose” (Rom. 8:28).

(5) Hope _____ by the power of the Holy Spirit (Rom. 15:13).

As we take hold of the gospel, we’re filled with joy and peace, and the Holy Spirit causes us to abound in hope (Rom. 8). He makes God’s truth come alive to us.

“Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called” (1 Tim. 6:12).
