

The Resurrected King

A Righteous Heart

Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. ... Stand firm then... with the **breastplate of righteousness** in place... (Ephesians 6:11, 14)

Made Righteous By Christ

So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. (2 Corinthians 5:16-21)

Putting On The Armor - Two Core Truths

- 1) Jesus' Righteousness Is The _____ Of Our _____
_____.

Although a person may think he or she is simply making a decision to follow Christ, in the spiritual realm a supernatural transformation and change have occurred. ... The person's identity is no longer corrupt, but is now pure and holy. The Christian is identified by his or her connection to Christ, the age to come, and the kingdom of God. At the center of this person's being now lies a desire for God and a passion to please him in every respect. (Clinton Arnold, *3 Crucial Questions About Spiritual Warfare*)

An important point to note about the breastplate of righteousness is what it is designed to protect – the heart. ... Once the heart stops, everything else stops. ... As the heart is the physical pump controlling the flow of blood throughout our body, so the heart, our essence and our core, is the spiritual pump that God uses to infuse life into us. (Tony Evans, *Victory In Spiritual Warfare*)

2) Jesus' Righteousness Is A _____ Through _____.

In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the wilderness of Judea and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."
(Matthew 3:1-2)

From that time on Jesus began to preach, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."
(Matthew 4:17)

And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. (Matthew 6:12)

We underestimate the power of coming clean with God. Too often our prayers focus on how God can bless us, take care of us, protect us, and deliver us, but God has given us the key to victory through one critical move - confession.
(Tony Evans, *Victory In Spiritual Warfare*)

Character is revealed most of all in what we feel and do without thinking. But to a lesser extent it is revealed in what we repent of after thinking and what we then do as a result of repenting.
(Dallas Willard, *Renovation Of The Heart*)