

## Worship Service

March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2018

9:30 am	Welcome & Opening Prayers
10:00 am	Sunday school <b>Lesson 25: Messianic Prophecies from The Psalms</b>
10:40 am	Congregational Hymns
10:55 am	Praises & Worship
11:00 am	Today's Message <b>A Call to War</b>
11:45 am	Offering - Ushers <i>Offering Hymn</i>
12:00 pm	Closing Prayers & Benediction

## March Birthdays

Brother Theophilus	March 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Brother Abraham	March 6 <sup>th</sup>
Sister Mary	March 6 <sup>th</sup>
Brother Adusei	March 7 <sup>th</sup>
Brother Marchant	March 8 <sup>th</sup>
Sister Vicentia	March 11 <sup>th</sup>
Brother Chris	March 12 <sup>th</sup>
Brother Benji	March 15 <sup>th</sup>
Sister Rebecca	March 21 <sup>st</sup>
Pastor Barnabas	March 21 <sup>st</sup>

## Message: A Call to War

### Main Passage: Ephesians 6:10-18

The Epistles (letters) will mostly teach about doctrines, and practical Christian living. Paul's letter to the Ephesians is no different. The Apostle starts off with greetings (salutation), some key doctrines for the Christian (e.g. salvation is by Grace through Faith), and practical Christian living. In verse 6 he touches on how children and parents, slaves and masters have to relate, he then comes to an important aspect of our walk with the Lord i.e. the Christian life is a battle.

May I remind you that our religion has always been warfare and will forever be until Christ redeems His Saints. The enemy wages war against us in an *attempt to keep us from God and ultimately Heaven*. Paul reminds us that we fight for The Captain and as such we have rules and regulations to follow; we are to put on the whole armor of God. We put on the armor (obey our Captain) so that we can stand against the schemes of the devil.

We have been called to war yet we cannot win on our own for the enemy is strong and powerful (Paul describes this enemy in verse 12.) Therefore we are to TAKE (responsibility) up the armor that has been *prepared by God Himself* so we can withstand the evil that comes against us. What armor do we have? Verse 14-18 Paul describes our armor in detail: Paul is in a Roman prison at this time, he is most likely seeing the outfit of the Roman soldiers, God in His providence inspires the Apostle to use their armor as imagery for us.

- We have the belt of truth! This holds everything together
- The breastplate of righteousness – which protects our essential/vital organs
- Shoes (made of brass) given by the gospel of peace – which helps us to march on despite the traps set for us
- Shield of faith (written as an imperative) – with this we frustrate the efforts of the enemy
- Helmet of Salvation – gives us an assured victory (a blessed hope)
- Sword of the Spirit which is the Word of God – so we can overcome all temptations
- Prayer at all times, all kinds and everywhere – The seal of our victory.

We are assured of this battle as members of God's army. That's why we cannot turn our backs on God and the things of God. We stand together – we win together!