

- How should the believer apply the following verses to their personal life?
- Proverbs 23.23
- Psalm 51.6
- Proverbs 12.17
- Psalm 119.28
- Matthew 5.14-15
- Colossians 2.1
- Ephesians 1.18
- Acts 4.12
- Revelation 19.11

Here is a simple prayer you could pray to help you strap on the belt of truth.

Lord,

Today is my opportunity to strap on the belt of TRUTH.
 I pray for you to increase my understanding of TRUTH.
 Please fill my family with TRUTH in every part of their life.
 I pray for _____ * to always be surrounded
 & filled with honesty and strengthened by TRUTH.
 I pray for our church to be a beacon of TRUTH shining in
 this dark world bringing the message of Jesus' love and
 forgiveness.
 I pray for our nation and our leaders to return to The
TRUTH that sets men free and establishes freedom to
 worship the living and true God.
 I pray the message of the TRUTH of God's love through
 his son Jesus could be heard throughout the world.
 I pray this in the name of Jesus, who is the way and the
TRUTH and the life everlasting. Amen ¹

*put the name of Wife, Husband, Child, Friend, Relative

1. ADAPTED FROM SUNDAY PRAYER BY RICK STEDMAN "PRAYING THE ARMOR OF
 GOD" 2015 HARVEST HOUSE PUBLISHERS, PAGE 28



THE IMPORTANCE OF THE BELT

When it comes to a belt they are more important than we often realize. The initial purpose is ordinary and often overlooked. In ancient times the belt could be as ordinary or it could be extortionary. They were worn by common people and kings. The belts of prophets were different in how they looked and were made of but served the same purpose as everyone else's. What do we learn about belts from the following verses?

- Read Psalm 109.19 What do we learn about the wearing of a belt here?
- Read 2 Kings 1.8 & Matthew 3.4 How was Elijah's and John's belts different from others? How were they like everyone else's belts?
- Read Acts 12.8 Why did Peter have his belt and shoes off?

- ❑ Read 1 Kings 18:46 The loins of a person is actually their waist or middle section below the ribs and above the hips. When a person is said to gird up it was meant they pulled up their long robe, tucked it in their belt and pulled the belt tight. Why would this be beneficial for Elijah as he ran away from Ahab?

- ❑ Read Exodus 12:11 Why were they to have their ‘loins girded’ even before word arrived to leave Egypt?

- ❑ How can a belt be seen as part of the Armor or defense of a person?

- ❑ Ephesians 6:14 Why would Paul mention putting on the belt before anything else?

THE MATTER OF TRUTH



The April 3rd, 2017 cover of Time Magazine ask the Question, “Is Truth Dead?” As if a world could exist without truth. Politifact organization uses their “Truth-O-Meter” as a way to rate how much truth they think is being given out. The teachings of Jesus and the Bible are even evaluated as whether they are true or not by some scholars.

It was Pilate who asked Jesus the question “What is truth?” in John 18:38. Why would truth be so important to the believer that it was the first thing they put on?

- ❑ Read 1 Thessalonians 5:23 What are the three areas each believer needs to protect from deception and sin?

- ❑ How is each of these described in sinful man by Paul in his writing to the church at Rome?
- ❑ Read Romans 1:24-25 _____

- ❑ Read Romans 1:26-27 _____

- ❑ Read Romans 1:28-32 _____

- ❑ How is life without truth actually life without God?

- ❑ What are the ultimate results of such a life? (see Matthew 25:46; 2 Peter 2:9; Hebrews 10:29; John 16:8)

THE BELT OF TRUTH

So here it is. “Stand firm therefore, *HAVING GIRDED YOUR LOINS WITH TRUTH,*”

- ❑ Why was this the first instruction given to the believer in putting on the Armor of God?

- ❑ Can you give some examples of how this happens?
- ❑ Vs. 19-20 How close are they to knowing the truth?
- ❑ Vs. 20 According to Paul, How does God view their lives of rejection and rebellion?
- ❑ Give some excuses people use to justify not listening to god.
- ❑ Vs. 21 Why is darkness such a vital part of the world of sin and sinful people?
- ❑ Vs. 22 Why does the wisdom or teachings of men so very often not include God or any of His truth?
- ❑ Vs.23 How does this verse show the teachings of Darwin and modern science are not new to God?
- ❑ BONUS Question: How does verse 23 compare to creation as told in Genesis chapter One?

According to a 2002 study conducted by the University of Massachusetts, 60% of adults can't have a ten minute conversation without lying at least once. But even that number makes it sound better than it really is; those people in the study who did lie actually told an average of 3 lies during their brief chat.

MAY 7, 2012 (GOOGLE SEARCH SEPTEMBER 19,2017)

- ❑ Read John 8.44-45 What do we learn about the enemy and his approach to truth?
- ❑ How does this influence our society and how people approach truth?
- ❑ Would this make people more or less open to truth? Explain your answer.
- ❑ How does this affect how people respond to Jesus? Why?
- ❑ Read John 4.24 What do we learn about God and the requirements to approach Him?

- ❑ Read John 14.6
- ❑ How does this statement differentiate Jesus from the Devil?

- ❑ Read Ephesians 4.24-27
- ❑ Vs. 25 what quality should separate believers from everyone else?

- ❑ Vs. 27 What is the ultimate result of a different behavior pattern for believers.

- ❑ Read John 17.16-19 Here Jesus is praying for all believers and his goal for their lives. The word sanctify means to be holy or to be without sin and acceptable to God.
- ❑ Vs. 16 What leads to a sanctified or Holy life?

- ❑ How does a believer learn about what truth really is?

- ❑ Vs. 17 What is God's goal for the truth believers have?

- ❑ Vs. 18 How is this personal holiness of Jesus important to the spiritual health of a believer?

- ❑ Read Psalm 31.5, John 16.13, John 14.6 What one quality of God is absolutely for the success of the believer?

LIFE WITHOUT TRUTH

If God is truth then a life without truth or with a lack of truth is also a life without God or at least the fullness of God. Paul wrote about this in Romans the first chapter. Here he shows the progression taken as humanity and each individual pushes away from God. What is so remarkable about this sections is it contrast the facts or truth of God to the beliefs or lies of man. It is about more than just opinions or varying points of view, it is ultimately about God and humanity. On April 8, 1966 Time Magazine wanted to know if God was dead? So if this year, almost 51 years to the week Time is again questioning God's existence by questioning the existence or death of Truth it should not be a surprise to anyone.



- ❑ Read Romans 1.18-32
- ❑ Vs. 18 What happens to truth when it is in the hands of the ungodly?