

Armor Up: The Helmet of Salvation

(Ephesians 6:17a & Various Texts)

The Helmet

- The helmet was made of bronze and had cheek pieces to protect the head

Salvation

- Salvation is the work of God to rescue us from sin, death, & ourselves
- We often think of it *solely* as the work of Jesus on the Cross
 - However, that is simply one aspect of salvation
- One way to think of the different aspects of salvation is to use the image of a baseball diamond
 - 1st Base: Justification
 - To be declared or made right before God (Rom. 5:8-9)
 - An Event: accomplished through Christ's work on the Cross
 - Past Tense: "You *have been* saved." (Eph. 2:4-5, 8-10)
 - 2nd Base: Sanctification
 - The process by which one is made holy; that is, set apart for God's purpose and pleasure (1 Thess. 5:23)
 - A Process: As the Holy Spirit works in the lives of disciples of Jesus
 - Present tense: "You *are being* saved" (1 Cor. 1:18; 2 Cor. 2:15)
 - 3rd Base: Vocation
 - God's calling upon our lives to live for Him by serving & loving Him and others. (1 Pet. 2:9)
 - A Mission: As we engage with the world around us, through the power of the Holy Spirit
 - Present tense: "You *are* called" (2 Thess. 1:11; Rom. 8:28)
 - Home Plate: Glorification
 - The destiny of those who follow Jesus (Rom 8:17)
 - A Destination: As God completes His work in us
 - Future tense: "You *will be* saved" (2 Thess. 2:14; 1 Pet. 5:1)

Salvation as a Helmet

- As God works His salvation in us, He transforms us to think more like Jesus (Rom 12:2; 1 Cor. 2:16)
- It is our job to take the salvation that Jesus offers and work it through our whole lives
 - As we are empowered by the Holy Spirit (Phil. 2:12-13)

So What?

- Have we and are we experiencing the fullness of salvation that Jesus offers us?
- Are we letting Him change how we think and respond to the world around us?

Meditation Verse: 1 Peter 2:2