

THE BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS: PART I
EPHESIANS 6:10-20
MAY 10, 2009

Questions for Study & Reflection

1. What does the name "Satan" mean and why is that important? What does his name tell us about who he is and what he's trying to do in the lives of Christians?
2. Look up the following texts and reflect on the fact that, whereas God is love and is gracious and merciful, he's also very angry toward sin and sinners and does pour out wrath upon them (Ex. 34:6-7; John 3:36; Rom 2:6-8, 5:9; Eph 5:6; Col 3:6; 1 Thess 1:9-10, 5:8-10; 2 Thess 1:5-10; Rev 19:11-16).
3. Pastor Charlie said that, at some points, the doctrine of righteousness requires some hard work to understand. Are you willing to put the time in to understand this doctrine so that you can also know the joy of it?
4. Technically speaking, righteousness means "to conform to a moral or ethical standard and thus to be innocent, to be guiltless, to be in the right." But going a little deeper, righteousness in God is a reflection of the being of God and therefore the call to righteousness is a call to conform to his being out of love. Thus, Pastor Charlie said that for us righteousness is being in right relationship with God by doing all that he requires. Spend some time thinking about this definition and doing some research on your own to see whether you agree or not, because it's important that you grasp the concept of righteousness before we move onto to future teachings.
5. Pastor Charlie closed the sermon today by making a distinction between imputed righteousness and practical righteousness. Spend some time this week looking into these doctrines through resources like Wayne Grudem's *Systematic Theology*, www.monergism.com, and www.desiringgod.org.