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Putting on the Helmet of Salvation: Recognizing and Receiving God's Love *A Commentary by Jason Curry*



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The Apostle Paul was a Christian who cared about the daily and eternal wellbeing of other Christians. As a Christian who sought to nurture the faith of other Christians in the early church, Paul inherently understood that Christians were persecuted both physically and spiritually. In Roman 8:36, Paul admits that Christians were persecuted for Christ's sake "all the day long." Christians were persecuted physically inasmuch as many were killed. Christians also endured a type of spiritual persecution or suffering when they sought to follow Jesus' teachings to "love their enemies" and "to pray those who despitefully used and persecuted them (Matthew 5:44)." Paul loved the church, and in order to help Christians endure evil or "spiritual wickedness," which is a persecution of Christian values and beliefs, the Apostle Paul wrote to the churches at Ephesus: "...our struggle is not

against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armor of God...(Ephesians 6:11-12)." Also, in an effort to encourage Christians to protect their heads from the evil or spiritual wickedness that was sure to come their way, Paul encouraged them to "take the helmet of salvation...(Ephesians 6:17)." In short, Paul was saying that when Christians remember to put on and keep on the helmet of salvation, they are putting on a section of the spiritual armor of God that is able to protect them and preserve their spiritual well being. The idea and reality of salvation are essential to the Christian life and Romans 10:9 reminds us that "if we confess the Lord Jesus and believe in our hearts that God has raised him from the dead, we are saved."

God loves each and every one of us, and the bible reminds us that God wanted to be reconciled with us; therefore, he sent his son Jesus to suffer and die for us. Jesus atoned for our sins, and through him, we are redeemed and reconciled with God. John 3:16 remind also us "that so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son..." Putting on the helmet of salvation is a reminder of God's eternal love for us. God's love is neither fleeting nor transitory; it is with us now, henceforth and forever more. Friends, family members and coworkers may not always love us, and they may occasionally demonstrate hatred toward us. However, it is important to know that God loves us, and that God's love will never fail. As we deal with spiritual wickedness, not people, but the powers and principalities that possess them, let us remember to put on the helmet of salvation.