

are you shoeless

"and I have led you forty years in the wilderness.
your clothes have not worn out on you, and your sandals
have not worn out on your feet." deut 29:5

God provides! sometimes naturally and sometimes in the
supernatural. if there really is a need and we cling
tight and claim His promises, He will work it out. He
will get it done in your ministry just like He will get
it done in you.

there was a popular movie awhile back starring kevin
costner entitle. "field of dreams." (i'm not pushing
or suggesting that movie, just referring.) there was a
character it it called "shoeless joe jackson."

i have a question i want to ask you. are you shoeless?
ephesians (towards the end of chapter six) teaches us
about the whole armor of God. our foot covering is
just one, but a necessary part of that armor.

have your girded your waist with truth
put on the breastplate of righteousness
have your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel
the shield of faith
the helmet of salvation
the sword of the Spirit

each element is a necessary part of our armor if we are
to be victorious in this spiritual battle. can you
visualize a roman soldier all trying to chase down the
enemy in bare feet. can't you imagine the rocks and
splinters and such that would slow him down? how about

without his shield or his sword?

our heavenly Father has provided us with all the gear we need for the battle. we just have to put it on. i could have picked out any of the gear but i thought it cute to relate it to a character in a movie.

there have surely been difficult times for christians since christianity was birthed. there have been difficult times for the righteous and the unrighteous alike. so well you might ask what is the difference? the difference is the grace we face them with.

i remember a story corrie ten boom told. she was on an airplane that encountered engine trouble and it looked like it was going to go down. fortunately it didn't, but as miss ten boom was reflecting on the matter, the enemy tried to convict her because she did not immediately stand up and preach salvation to everyone.

as she was feeling inadequate, a person close by remarked that had seen such peace on her countenance during the incident and they wanted to know why. here was her opportunity to witness to the grace and peace she carried within.

that's something deniers of God and believers in a false god can never have. i think of a stanza from a song. "blessed assurance, Jesus is mine. oh what a foretaste of glory divine." believers have that foretaste. "whom having not seen you love. though now you do not see Him, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory." 1 pet 1:8 i do not know of any other religion that can give one that kind

of peace.

we may not always have the obvious victory in this life. that's because our weapon is love and not carnal. you've heard of the phrase, "killing them with kindness?" we've added love to the mix; love and forgiveness. Jesus forgave His executioners from the cross as our example.

we can win some mighty battles in the spirit realm, but flesh and blood await God's judgment. until then, "let the peace of God rule in your hearts." col 3:15 and for heaven's sake - get dressed.

from the bill gaither hymn - because He lives, i can face tomorrow, because He lives, all fear is gone. "peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." john 14:27 maranatha - our Lord cometh!