

**Opening:**

This afternoon,  
as we gather,  
we see the images  
and traditions  
of Halloween  
all around us.  
It's a time  
when many people  
enjoy costumes, candy,  
and playful scares.

But as Christians,  
we know our true battles  
aren't fought with  
tricks or treats;  
they are fought  
with the real Armor of God.

While the world  
may celebrate  
the fun of Halloween,  
we are reminded  
that our strength  
comes from God,  
who equips us  
to stand firm  
against the real darkness  
We face.

Ephesians 6:11-18 tells us  
about the spiritual armor  
that God provides.  
As we see the costumes

and masks of Halloween,  
we should think about  
the spiritual armor  
we need to wear every day.

Our battles are not against  
flesh and blood;  
they are against  
the spiritual forces of evil  
in the heavenly realms.

This includes recognizing  
and standing against  
demonic strongholds—  
areas where evil  
tries to gain a foothold  
in our lives.

Today, we will explore  
each piece of this armor  
and understand how it protects  
and empowers us  
to stand firm in our faith.

### **Ephesians 6:11-18**

**<sup>11</sup> Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.**

**<sup>12</sup> For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.**

**<sup>13</sup> Wherefore take unto you the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.**

**<sup>14</sup> Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;**

<sup>15</sup> **And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;**

<sup>16</sup> **Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.**

<sup>17</sup> **And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:**

<sup>18</sup> **Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;**

**Sermon Title: "Armed for Battle Against Evil"**

## **I. The Historical Roots of Halloween**

Halloween,  
as we know it today,  
has roots in  
an ancient Celtic festival  
called Samhain ('Saa-win'),  
celebrated over 2,000 years ago  
by the Celts in what is now  
Ireland and the UK.

November 1st marked  
the beginning of their new year,  
symbolizing the end  
of the harvest  
and the onset of winter—  
a time often associated  
with death and darkness.

Samhain (Saa-win) was believed  
to be a night  
when the barrier  
between the physical  
and spirit worlds  
was at its thinnest,  
allowing spirits,

both friendly and malevolent,  
to cross over.

To ward off evil,  
people lit bonfires  
and wore costumes  
to disguise themselves,  
practices that have evolved into  
what we now recognize  
as Halloween.

As Christianity spread  
in the 8th century,  
the Church sought to transform  
these pagan traditions.  
Pope Gregory III  
designated November 1st  
as All Saints' Day,  
and the evening before  
became known as  
All Hallows' Eve,  
What later became Halloween.

This blending  
of old and new traditions  
reminds us  
of the ongoing  
spiritual battles we face,  
emphasizing the need  
for God's Armor.

While Halloween today  
might seem like  
harmless fun,  
it's important to recognize  
that many of its customs  
are rooted in a worldview

that celebrated and feared  
the spirits of the dead.

As believers, we don't believe  
in appeasing spirits  
or blending in with them.  
We are called to stand apart,  
knowing that through Christ,  
we have victory  
over death and darkness.

As Ephesians 5:8-9 reminds us,  
'For you were once darkness,  
but now you are light  
in the Lord.

Live as children of light,  
for the fruit of the light  
consists in all goodness,  
righteousness, and truth.'

Let us reflect on this,  
especially when the world around us  
seems to celebrate  
what we are called  
to overcome through Christ.

## **II. The Armor of God (Ephesians 6:11-18) (15 minutes)**

Now let's break down  
the armor piece by piece  
and understand how we  
can wear it today."

The metaphor  
of the Armor of God  
represents the spiritual defenses  
we have against

life's challenges  
and temptations.  
Each piece of armor  
symbolizes a different aspect  
of our faith  
that helps us stand firm  
against spiritual attacks.

As Halloween approaches,  
we must remember  
that while many celebrate,  
We face real spiritual battles.  
Distractions can pull us  
away from our faith,  
hidden behind  
the excitement of costumes.

This is why it's crucial  
to put on  
our spiritual armor,  
each day.

It helps us  
resist temptation,  
strengthens our resolve,  
and keeps us grounded  
in our beliefs.

By wearing this armor,  
we can stand strong  
against anything  
that comes our way,  
no matter the season.

### **The Belt of Truth (Ephesians 6:14):**

The belt of truth

represents honesty and integrity,  
holding everything together  
in our lives.

Just as costumes can hide  
who we truly are,  
the world often disguises  
lies as truth,  
making it hard  
to see what's real.

With God's truth,  
we gain clarity  
and understanding,  
allowing us to recognize  
the misleading ideas  
around us.

When we put on  
the belt of truth,  
we stand firm  
against the enemy's  
deceptive messages.

This armor helps us  
remember our identity  
as children of God,  
giving us the confidence  
to live truthfully  
in a world  
that often values  
appearance over reality.

By embracing truth,  
we anchor ourselves  
in God's promises  
and ensure that  
we are not swayed

by misleading messages.

This foundation allows us  
to navigate life's challenges  
with strength and purpose.

We need to practice honesty  
in our daily lives.

This means being truthful  
in our relationships,  
at work, and in  
our personal walk with God.

When we commit  
to living out the truth,  
we reflect God's light  
in a dark world.

It's important to  
surround ourselves  
with others who value truth.  
Being in a community  
where we can support one another  
helps us stay anchored  
in God's truth.

We can encourage  
each other to be honest  
and hold each other accountable.

Let's pray for the ability  
to see truth clearly  
and for the courage  
to live it out,  
even when it's difficult.

Asking God for discernment  
helps us recognize  
what is real



and guides us  
in our decisions.

### **The Breastplate of Righteousness (Ephesians 6:14):**

The breastplate  
protects our hearts,  
representing living a good  
and moral life.  
Righteousness,  
given through Christ,  
protects us from  
the enemy's attacks.

Unlike Halloween costumes,  
Which often hide  
Our true selves,  
we are clothed  
in Christ's righteousness,  
allowing us to live  
openly and honestly.

This gift protects our hearts  
from guilt and shame,  
letting us embrace  
our true identity  
and shine His light  
in a dark world.

Just as Halloween  
is often filled  
with spooky imagery,  
we remember that our light  
stands against the darkness.

It also helps us  
recognize the right path

in difficult situations.

It also helps us  
make choices  
that honor God  
and serve others.

When we wear  
this breastplate,  
we show love and kindness,  
standing strong  
against the pressures  
of the world.

By living righteously,  
we become examples  
for others,  
drawing them to Christ  
through our actions.

With Christ's righteousness,  
we can face each day  
with courage,  
knowing we are valued  
and loved.

This means we  
can approach challenges  
with a sense of peace,  
trusting that God  
is with us.

We don't have  
to be perfect;  
we just need to be  
willing to follow His lead.  
As we rely on His strength,  
we find the confidence

to stand firm in our faith  
and share His love  
with those around us.

Let's remember  
that wearing this breastplate  
isn't just for ourselves;  
It's also for others.

When we live out our faith,  
we can help  
lift others up  
and show them the hope  
that comes from Christ.

Together, we can face  
any challenge, knowing  
we are protected  
and guided by His righteousness.

### **Feet Fitted with the Gospel of Peace (Ephesians 6:15):**

The shoes signify  
our readiness to spread  
The Good News.  
While children collect candy,  
we are called  
to bring lasting peace.

Instead of fearing darkness,  
we advance  
the Kingdom of God,  
showing others  
that there is nothing to fear  
when walking with Christ.

Our journey is about  
shining His light into darkness,  
demonstrating that hope  
prevails over fear.

These shoes also symbolize  
our willingness to serve others,  
reaching out to those in need.

These shoes remind us  
to stay active in our faith,  
ready to share  
God's love with  
everyone we meet.

As we walk in His ways,  
we create a path of joy  
and encouragement for others.

When we embody  
the peace of Christ,  
we can help others  
find their way to Him.

Together, we can impact  
our communities,  
showing that God's light  
can break through any darkness.

As Halloween approaches,  
let's remember  
that while the world  
may focus on fear and darkness,  
We have the Good News to share.

Just like kids  
dressing up and going

door to door,  
we can knock on hearts  
and invite others  
to know Jesus.

Let us step out boldly,  
spreading God's peace and hope  
to those around us,  
shining His light brightly  
in a time when many  
are seeking something more  
than just candy.

While they look for treats,  
let's offer the greatest gift of all:  
the love and hope found in Christ.

In a season  
that celebrates fear,  
we can show  
that faith is stronger,  
and that the real joy  
comes from the One  
who overcame the darkness.

### **The Shield of Faith (Ephesians 6:16):**

The shield represents faith,  
protecting us from  
doubts and worries.  
It helps extinguish  
the fiery darts  
of the wicked.

In a time when  
fear is celebrated,  
our faith reminds us

that we are not helpless.

With our shield raised,  
we push back against  
the lies of the enemy,  
trusting that God  
fights for us.

The shield  
represents our faith,  
standing strong  
against doubts and fears.  
It helps us block the attacks  
that try to bring us down.

In a world  
that often values fear,  
our faith assures us  
that we have  
strength and hope.

With our shield held high,  
we can resist  
the enemy's lies,  
trusting that God  
is always by our side,  
ready to defend us.

As Halloween brings  
images of ghosts  
and monsters,  
we remember that our faith  
helps us face anything  
that scares us.

We don't have to  
let fear rule our lives;

we can stand strong,  
knowing our God  
is with us.  
Let's be bold in our faith  
and show others  
that there is hope  
and love  
that drives away fear.

Just like we can conquer  
the scary stories of Halloween,  
we can conquer the doubts  
that try to hold us back,  
shining brightly as lights  
in a dark world.

### **The Helmet of Salvation (Ephesians 6:17):**

The helmet protects our minds,  
representing the assurance  
of our salvation.  
In a world focused on fear,  
we remain steady  
in God's promises.

This hope gives us  
strength to face darkness,  
knowing our future  
is secure in Him.

It reminds us  
that we are not alone  
in our struggles.

With this assurance,  
we can face each day  
with confidence,

knowing that God  
is with us,  
guiding and protecting us  
through every challenge.

As Halloween reminds us  
of the unseen,  
we hold on to the truth  
that our faith  
gives us clarity.

We can face  
any fear or worry  
because our salvation  
is secure.

Let's remember  
that while others  
may dress up as monsters,  
we can rise above  
with the assurance  
that we are  
children of God,  
protected and loved.

With this helmet on,  
we can share  
the hope of Christ  
with others, showing them  
that they too  
can have peace  
and security in a world  
that often feels scary.

**The Sword of the Spirit (Ephesians 6:17):**

The sword is our  
only offensive weapon,



representing the Word of God.  
In a season  
of costumes and fun,  
we remember we have  
a powerful weapon  
against darkness.

Unlike fake swords,  
God's Word is  
living and active,  
piercing through lies  
and bringing truth.

When we stand firm  
in His Word,  
we shine a light  
that drives away fear.

It equips us  
to face any challenge,  
reminding us  
that we can  
confront evil with truth  
and clarity.

By knowing and sharing Scripture,  
we declare God's promises  
and bring hope  
to those around us.

As Halloween encourages us  
to confront our fears  
in playful ways,  
let's use the sword of the Spirit  
to address the real fears  
in our lives  
and the lives of others.

We can show  
that the Word of God  
is sharper than any sword,  
ready to defend  
against darkness  
and lead others  
to the light of Christ.

In a season  
where many seek thrills,  
let's offer them  
the greatest thrill of all:  
a relationship with Jesus,  
who brings true hope and courage.

**Prayer (Ephesians 6:18):**

Paul tells us to pray  
in the Spirit  
on all occasions.  
Prayer keeps us focused  
and aligned with  
God's will.  
It pushes back  
against darkness,  
keeping us strong  
and connected to God.

Through prayer,  
we gain wisdom and strength,  
allowing us to respond  
with love and courage.

It opens our hearts  
to God's guidance,  
helping us to stand firm

in our faith  
and support one another  
in the battle.

In these moments of prayer,  
we can seek clarity  
for our challenges,  
find comfort in our struggles,  
and share our burdens  
with God.

When we pray together,  
we strengthen our community,  
reminding each other  
that we are not  
alone in this fight.

**2 Corinthians 10:4-5 says:**

**“For the weapons  
of our warfare  
are not carnal,  
but mighty through God  
to the pulling down  
of strongholds;  
Casting down imaginations,  
and every high thing  
that exalteth itself  
against the knowledge of God,  
and bringing into captivity  
every thought  
to the obedience of Christ.”**

Once again,  
This passage reminds us  
that our battle  
is not against  
flesh and blood,

but against spiritual forces  
that seek to control  
our thoughts and actions.

But here's the good news:  
God has equipped us  
with His armor  
to combat these strongholds.

The belt of truth  
helps us recognize  
and reject the lies  
that keeps us trapped.

The breastplate of righteousness  
guards our hearts  
against guilt and shame.

The shield of faith  
extinguishes the fiery darts  
of doubt and fear  
that the enemy throws our way.

When we put on  
this armor daily,  
we are empowered  
to tear down the strongholds  
that have held us captive.

It's not just about  
defending ourselves;  
it's about actively engaging  
in the spiritual battle  
and claiming the victory  
that Christ has already  
won for us.

In a season filled  
with tricks and treats,  
let's remember  
that we have  
the ultimate weapon: God's Word  
and the armor He provides.

As we face  
the spooky stories  
and frightful images around us,  
we can confidently stand  
against the true darkness,  
tearing down strongholds  
with the power of God.

We don't have  
to fear the tricks  
of the enemy;  
instead, we can walk  
in the light of Christ,  
shining hope in a world  
that often feels  
overshadowed by fear.

### **Halloween vs. Spiritual Reality:**

Halloween may celebrate  
pretend battles  
between good and evil,  
but for us, the battle  
is very real.

The spiritual forces  
of darkness  
are daily realities  
we face as followers  
of Christ.

We don't take off our faith;  
we show the light  
of Christ every day.

Each day presents challenges  
that test our faith  
and resilience.  
We encounter temptations,  
doubts, and fears  
that try to pull us  
away from God.

Yet, armed with the truth  
of His Word,  
we stand firm,  
knowing that we are called  
to reflect His love  
and grace in every situation.

Our faith is not just  
for special occasions;  
it is our way of life,  
guiding our actions and words,  
so we can be  
beacons of hope  
in a world  
that often feels dark.

### **Should Christians Celebrate Halloween?**

Halloween has roots  
in both pagan  
and Christian traditions.  
For many, it's harmless fun,  
but for others,  
It celebrates darkness.

Each Christian  
must prayerfully decide  
how to approach it,  
focusing on celebrating  
life and hope  
instead of fear and darkness.

Instead of trivializing  
what God takes seriously,  
let's fill our lives  
with things that honor Him.  
We can celebrate positively  
without compromising our faith.

As we navigate this season,  
we can choose  
to engage in activities  
that reflect our values  
and share the love  
of Christ with others.

Whether through  
community events,  
gatherings with friends,  
or acts of kindness,  
we can create an atmosphere  
of joy and light.

Let's be intentional  
in promoting God's message  
of hope and redemption,  
showing the world  
that our faith shines  
brighter than any shadow.

In doing so, we can turn

a day often associated with fear  
into an opportunity  
to share the good news of Jesus.

### **Conclusion: Walking in the Light**

Should Christians  
celebrate Halloween?  
There's no simple answer,  
but I can say with a doubt,  
That we are not called  
to celebrate darkness.

Our lifestyle should choose  
light over darkness,  
truth over deception,  
Goodness over evil,  
love over hate,  
faith over fear,  
hope over despair,  
And joy over sorrow.

Today, as we talk  
about the Armor of God,  
let's remember it protects us  
from the very things  
Halloween sometimes celebrates.  
We are children of light,  
called to walk in that light every day.

Instead of being  
drawn into fear  
or the allure of costumes,  
let us embrace  
our identity in Christ  
and stand firm  
in our faith.



This means being mindful  
of how we engage  
with the world around us  
and making choices  
that reflect His love.

By focusing on  
the light we carry,  
we can impact  
those around us,  
offering hope and clarity  
in a time when many  
may feel lost or confused.

As I'm getting near the end of my message,  
I want to take a moment to reflect on Halloween  
and everything that surrounds it.

This season often brings out images  
of darkness, and fear, and things that go bump in the night.  
We see costumes that mask who we really are,  
and we encounter stories that blur the line between good and evil.

It's a time when many are drawn to ideas of ghosts and spirits,  
but as Christians, we know that this is more than just fun and games.

We are in a real spiritual battle, and the enemy seeks to deceive and distract us.  
But we have a choice. We can choose to engage with the darkness  
or to shine the light of Christ in our lives.

This season can serve as a reminder that while the world may celebrate fear,  
We have the Good News that brings hope and peace.

Let us not be swayed by the popular beliefs around us.  
Instead, let's stand firm in our faith, knowing that God has called us  
to bring His light into the darkness.  
Our calling is to show love, joy, and peace to those around us,

demonstrating that hope prevails over fear.

So today, as we prepare for an altar call, I encourage you to reflect on your own heart. Are there areas where darkness has crept in? Are there fears that you need to lay down before the Lord? Whether you're feeling burdened by fear or seeking a deeper relationship with Jesus, this is your opportunity to step into His light.

The altar is open for anyone who wants to pray. Don't let this moment pass you by. God is here, ready to meet you and cover you with His love, His strength, and His peace.