

Ephesians

More than a Makeover

Are You Ready For The Battle?

Ephesians 6:12-15

Grace Fellowship Church / Pastor Brad Bigney / October 5, 2025

I. What Are These Shoes All About?

V. 15 is a verse about us being convinced of the Gospel for ourselves - that this great Gospel has been applied to our own lives!

You can know that you have peace with God, that you're a child of God, that you have no shame, no condemnation, and no record of your sin that will ever be brought against you, because all of your sins - past, present, and future - have been forgiven so that they no longer define you, haunt you, or condemn you before a holy God!

Knowing this will change how you fight spiritual battles and face temptation because your feet won't keep slipping from under you! When you don't have assurance of where you stand before God, Satan can easily take you down!

Romans 5:1-2 "Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. ²Through Him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we **stand**..."

1 Corinthians 15:1-2 "Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel which I preached to you, which you received, in which you **stand**, ² and by which you are being saved..."

II. How Do These Shoes Become A Part Of Your Wardrobe?

They become yours when you have peace with God because you put your trust in Christ!

The Gospel Explained:

- All of us are sinners by nature and by choice. God saw the problem from the very beginning and promised to do something about it, but He knew we would struggle to believe we needed the solution He was offering.
- So, He gave us the Ten Commandments so that we would see how sinful we are and know that we need a Savior.
- Then God sent His Son into this world to do for us what we could never do for ourselves. Jesus lived the only perfect life – keeping God's law perfectly.
- Then He died on the cross in payment for our sins and not His own. He became a substitute for us and took the punishment that should have been ours.
- So that when He rose from the dead He proved to all the world that He is the Son of God who can take away the sins of the world. If He can rise again, then He can forgive our sin!

2 Corinthians 5:21 "For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him."

That's the great exchange. He takes our sin. We get His righteousness! It's free to anyone who will put their faith in Jesus as their Lord and Savior.

III. What Do These Shoes Do For You?

Ephesians 6:15 “And, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace.”

He tells us what they will do for you – they make you ready.

The Greek word for “readiness” in **v. 15** is a word that meant “nimble” and could be used for a dancer or an athlete because it refers to someone who is light-footed and sure-footed. It’s the opposite of sluggish because you are ready for action and quick on your spiritual feet.

A. You’ll Be Able To Stand

Stirring up doubt about your salvation is still one of Satan’s favorite strategies because when you don’t know that you’re in the family of God, you can’t fight like a child of God.

You’ll collapse quickly in the face of trouble and temptation because your level of assurance will affect your level of endurance! If you don’t know that you have peace with God, then you can’t stand and you can’t respond quickly to what’s coming at you! You’re thrown off balance.

B. You’ll Be Ready To Respond

The right footwork starts with the right footwear. So, you better get the Gospel boots of peace laced onto your feet and keep them on!

Gospel boots of peace are the only things that will get you ready for this war. Don’t leave home without them. Don’t try to do life with something else on your feet. Nothing else will help you stand and nothing else will keep you nimble and able to respond quickly.

IV. How Do You Keep These Shoes On?

A. Focus On Your Savior Instead Of Your Sin

Hebrews 12:1-2 “...and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ²fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith...”

“For every look at yourself, take ten looks at Christ.”

– Robert Murray M’Cheyne

Nowhere does the Bible commend or push you towards greater introspection. But your sin nature is a centripetal force that pulls you down and in, while the Bible, the Gospel, and the Spirit of God are a centrifugal force that pull you up, out, and away.

To get this centrifugal force going in your life, read the Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John). Read the book of Colossians. Read the book of Hebrews that uses the word “**better**” **13x**. You have a better sacrifice, a better mediator, a better high priest, a better hope, and a better inheritance!

Read it over and over until your sin is dwarfed and overshadowed by how great and glorious your Savior is!

What you read, think, listen to, and delight in is what you'll be preoccupied with.

“There are some Christians who are guilty of continually putting their souls on a plate and dissecting them...so that they stay depressed because they stay so preoccupied with themselves instead of occupied with Christ. There is only one way to get rid of self, and that is that you should become so absorbed in someone or something else that you have no time to think about yourself. Thank God, the Spirit of God makes that possible...But why are [so many Christians] morbidly preoccupied with themselves? The answer is that they are not sufficiently occupied with Him. It is our failure to know Him and His ways as we should know them – that is the real trouble. If we only spent more of our time looking at Him we should soon forget ourselves.”

- D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones, *Spiritual Depression: Its Causes and Its Cure*

B. Focus On What He's Done Instead Of What You're Trying To Do

If you believe that being a Christian is trying to be a good person or trying to keep the Ten Commandments, you will never ever have assurance that you are right with God.

It has to come from the Gospel and what Jesus has done for you that you could never do for yourself!

“Now assurance goes far to set a child of God free...It enables him to feel that the great business of life is a settled business, the great debt a paid debt, the great disease a healed disease, and the great work a finished work; and all other business, diseases, debts, and works are then by comparison small. In this way assurance makes him patient in tribulation, calm under bereavements, unmoved in sorrow, not afraid of evil tidings, in every condition content; for it gives him a fixedness of heart...It makes him always feel that he has something solid beneath his feet...”

- J. C. Ryle, *Holiness*

There are days you won't feel saved and you won't feel close to God because feelings are fickle and dangerously misleading. That's why the Bible never points us to our feelings for assurance of salvation.

It points us to the person and finished work of Christ!

Philippians 3:3, 8-9 “...put no confidence in the flesh...[and] ⁸ I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For His sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith.”