



01 Ep#505 Protecting Your Family and Descendants During Times of Delusion

0:00:00.8 Speaker 1: Sonja created the Love the Word Bible Study method just for you, based on Mary's personal practice and formulated for your personality and temperament. Get your Love the Word meditations every Monday morning by signing up at biblestudyevangelista.com. Now, here's Sonja. If you like having Bible study in your pocket and you have an iPhone or iPad, why not leave a review? Search Bible Study Evangelista in iTunes and tell everyone how you're loving and lifting all you've been given. Here's Sonja.

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0:00:47.2 Sonja Corbitt: Welcome. I'm Sonja Corbitt, your Catholic Evangelista, here on Sacred Healing 12:30, the podcast. And we are beginning today our newest series, The Armor of God for Healing. So likely, you've probably heard of the Armor of God. It is found under Saint Paul in Ephesians 6. And we're taking a little different spin on it. We're going to look at it in terms of healing. And I am, I'm always amazed by the fact that when I choose a topic, I don't think I've really chosen it somehow. And I'm going to share with you exactly how I know that today. But this is just, this is going to be an amazing series, I hope for you both in terms of spiritual warfare, but also in terms of healing and in terms of learning Scripture more deeply. So, I'd like to begin under the direction of Our Lady, I believe, which I'll share in a moment. I'd like to begin with a story, and I actually shared this story in my book, Fearless, in the very beginning of the book. I had a dream once in which I was standing in the door jamb of a doorway in my home.

0:02:16.5 SC: And in my home, there's not actually a door on that door jamb. It's just a transition. It's an opening. But in the dream, the door was closed, and I was standing on one side of it. And I had my knees and my arms and my hands against the door jamb, and I was holding with all of my might. I was trying to keep the door closed behind me because there was something behind me pushing against the door, trying to get the door open, and there was smoke coming out from the bottom around the door jamb. There was fire and heat and light coming out. And I just, I had this terrifying sense that there was something on the other side of that door that was going to absolutely devour me, and not just me. I don't know. I don't know why it was just me, but there was just this sense of something trying to get through the door, and I was having to keep the door shut. And I was trying with all my might to do that. And I wasn't... I was afraid. I wouldn't say necessarily I was terrified, but I was afraid because I knew that my strength was not going to hold out very long and that whatever was back there that felt super evil was going to push the door open and me with it, and I was going to be destroyed.

0:03:46.8 SC: And I'm pushing, pushing, pushing with all my might, trying to keep this door shut. I'm pushing against the door jamb and I finally realize I'm not going to be able to do this. I'm just

going to have to let go. I'm going to have to let go and just trust God. And immediately, you know how dreams are, they're all weird. Immediately, a rosary appeared in my hand and I said, "Jesus, I trust in You." I let go. The door flew open and all of that energy and fire and smoke and evil poured over and around me and through me even. And I had a hold of that rosary and I was just standing there and it was like standing in the center of a hurricane. Or maybe not a hurricane, but like a major explosion blast. And there was this sound of roaring and wind and fury and fire. And I was standing there holding this rosary, and I was not burned, I was not harmed. I just stood. I just was standing there and let the whole thing just go over and through me. And I woke up.

0:05:04.7 SC: And I just remember that amazed me. To this day, I can still feel and remember every detail of that dream. And it sometimes comes back to me as a comfort. And I told you that story, in fact, or in part, because I think it captures how a lot of us have felt over the last four years. And it seems to be gathering steam. It seems that whatever's happening in the world, there, it's two things happening at once. And this is always the case. The evil gets more evil as the church gets more pure. And in fact, we might see ourselves as tangential to the world. We might see that the church is tangential to the world, but it's actually, I believe it's the opposite. The world is tangential to the church. And it's not just that where the church goes, the world goes. It's not just that. It's more like everything that happens in the world is meant to both purify and teach and mold the church. So we aren't a happy accident while the world and the secular stuff goes on and we're sort of standing on the outside looking in, it's actually the opposite. It's the church that is the center of all things, the elect, God's people, And everything else is happening because of the church, if that makes sense, if I'm...

0:06:48.4 SC: I hope I'm making sense. But because of that, we feel like we are in this storm, and it just seems to be sort of gathering energy, and it can be terrifying. And so I believe that that's part of why, I mean, I planned this series like a year ago. I knew that this was going to be the next series once we got through The Little Way. And I started about halfway through that series, I thought, "Alright, well, what should I do next?" And that Armor of God, it sort of just came to mind, and I thought, "Oh, yeah, I can't believe I've never done a series on the Armor of God. That's a pretty common Christian idea and passage that is taught on quite a bit." And I realized, "Duh, we really need this armor right now." And then today's readings. Today's readings. Now, I am doing this show in Florida. I am here to visit my sister for her birthday and my niece, who just had a baby. And so, if you hear some noise, that's likely what it is, a little background happy noise there. But in so doing, I kind of wasn't procrastinating, but I wasn't able to get the show done on the usual schedule.

0:08:07.8 SC: And that's twofold. Part of it is because, as I mentioned in the last show, I have had a hard time reorienting my podcast schedule because I had to move my consult days from Tuesday and Thursday to Monday and Tuesday in order to accommodate a couple of people who came to me for consults at the same time and couldn't meet on Tuesdays or Thursdays, I think. Anyway, I changed the whole consult schedule around, and that leaves Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday for the podcast recording and production, and all that stuff. But that's also the time in which, if I have to travel, then that's when I'm traveling. So everything has just gotten a little bit askew. So I haven't recorded the show until today. And it's Saturday. I mean, you're gonna get this in two days. So I'm recording it on Saturday, and today is the reading that says, "At the sound of that cry, the frame of the door shook and the house was filled with smoke." So I had been wondering, should I maybe share that story or maybe not, because I actually shared it in a leadership meeting last Wednesday evening.

0:09:27.4 SC: Yeah, two days ago, three days ago. And I was wondering, should I share that again? And then here it is in the reading. So I knew for sure that this is definitely where the Holy Spirit and where Our Lady is pointing us right now. So that's why I told you the story, in part, because I want to, first of all, give you some tools from the Scriptures in how to navigate the storm. I want you to understand what the storm is, and I want you to understand that nothing can happen to you. While we are allowing this storm to rage all around us, we are protected completely. And in fact, we don't have to fight at all. We're not called to fight. We're called to stand. And I find that interesting. I was reflecting on that this morning before I started to record. I was reflecting on that reality, and it reminded me of the pillar of cloud and fire in the wilderness as they wandered from Egypt toward the Promised Land. They had light. They had guidance. They had light through the plagues of Egypt before they left. In the miracle of the plague of darkness, the people of God had light, and they had protection and they had safety.

0:10:55.5 SC: And this time in history, I believe, is similar in that way. And this is how this armor of God will show you how God protects us in times like these. It doesn't mean that we're not going to be persecuted. It doesn't mean that we're not going to have trouble. It means that we are ultimately protected. So I thought that was so cool that we got that out of today's reading. A direct point of the Holy Spirit's finger to that story, "The frame of the door shook and the house was filled with smoke." So we'll look at the the armor of God out of Ephesians coming up next.

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0:13:09.1 SC: I'm going to read to you the entire passage here, and then we'll break it down piece by piece as normal. So Ephesians 6:10, Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole Armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. Notice he just says, stand. He doesn't say fight. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the principalities, powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore, take up the whole armor of God that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand, therefore, having guarded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shored your feet with preparation of the gospel of peace, above all, taking the shield of faith with which

you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. And take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the spirit, which is the Word of God, praying always with all prayer and supplication in the spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints.

0:14:24.7 SC: So that's the sort of overview of this armor of God. And I'd like to point out first that we're told to stand three times. So clearly, that is a reference to a Trinitarian stand. We are standing in a Trinitarian way. He says, "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord." And what that means is actually be made strong. So we're not supposed to be strong; we're supposed to allow God to make us strong in the power of His might. That word power is *dunamis*; it's the dynamite word. So there's power in His might. And so, we're supposed to be made strong in the Lord and in that power, His power, not our own. "Put on the whole armor of God that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil." Again, we're not fighting; we're simply standing. We're standing in the midst of the storm. We might call it a hurricane, a spiritual hurricane, an evil hurricane that is scary. And yet, we're told to simply stand. And it says, "The wiles of the devil." Now, I'm going to just park here for a second and take a little detour into 2 Thessalonians 2:9.

0:15:45.2 SC: This is a prophetic passage by St. Paul, who's talking about the Antichrist and the mystery of lawlessness in the last days. Now, I did an entire series on end times from a Catholic point of view. Most of you know, if you don't know, I am a convert from the Southern Baptist tradition, and we had all kinds of very interesting interpretations of prophecies and Revelation and Daniel and scriptural prophecies. Matthew 24, where Jesus speaks about it. We're going to kind of look at that a little bit here in a moment. And I'm not going into the whole Antichrist thing. I'm just telling you that if you are interested in end times prophecy from a Catholic point of view, meaning read and understood and studied with the heart and mind of the whole Church, from the Apostles' time to now, with approved apparitions, only the approved, and approved prophecies only approved. And then, of course, the deposit of faith, including the Scriptures. All of that is tradition or the deposit of faith. If you're interested in that, I will link it in the show notes. But I want to highlight this part of the passage, "The coming of the lawless one is according to the work of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved."

0:17:19.2 SC: And for this reason, God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie, that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness. So that strong delusion is kind of where I'm going here. Verse 11, "And for this reason, God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie, that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness." That strong delusion is sometimes called the great deception. It's a working of error; it's from the Greek meaning to stray from a healthy faith and godliness, the truth, to stray from the truth. This is going to be super important because the very first part of the armor of God is the belt of truth. So truth is super important when in any evil time, which I guess we could say that every time has some evil, but particularly in the last days. And one of the characteristics of how we can know that we're living in the last days is a strong delusion, a great deception. And I think that probably all of us could see that we're living in a time such as that, a strong delusion.

0:18:41.7 SC: Now, what's the protection against the strong delusion? The great lie, the great deception? It's the truth. Now, Jesus says in Matthew 24, He's talking about end times here. It's under the heading "The Great Tribulation." We might call that the great chastisement. In verse 23,

He says, "If anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Christ,' or 'There,' do not believe it. For false Christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect. See, I have told you beforehand." So, delusions, lies, deceit, propaganda.

0:19:23.9 SC: Anything that deludes or deceives or lies in a major way in such a way that great swaths of humanity are deceived; that is a mark of the end times, particularly Antichrist. We saw in 2 Thessalonians. But notice that it is the cleaving to the lie or the willingness to be deceived or not even, well, it's not a willingness to be deceived as much as it is an unwillingness to cleave to the truth, to know the truth even, and to love the truth. It says, "Because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved." Receiving the love of the truth is what illumines the mind and illumines the heart and guards us, God's people, the elect, in that truth. It is love of the truth.

0:20:26.4 SC: Remember that James says, in speaking about faith, that it's not a matter of doctrine. I've said this over and over again, but it's always, repetition is the mother of learning. It's always worth repeating that faith is not a matter of having the right doctrine. James says, "Even the demons believe, and they tremble." They know. They know what is true. What's the difference? The difference is they don't love the truth. They don't love it. And here we see that this great delusion in the end times is going to come over the world in a way that there will be a strong delusion that will condemn those who do not love the truth because they have pleasure in unrighteousness or in the wrong things, wrong meaning destructive. And so, what is our defense against that delusion or any delusion in our lives? The very first thing we see in this armor of God is the belt of truth. There are seven weapons given to us in this passage: The belt of truth, the breastplate of righteousness, the gospel of peace, the shield of faith, the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the spirit.

0:21:51.5 SC: And I'd like for you to notice that all of them, six of them, are defensive weapons, and there is only one offensive weapon, which is why we're told to simply stand and not fight. Although we are given a weapon with which to fight, it's not the kind of fighting weapon that you would expect. And it's because Paul says we're not fighting against flesh and blood. So when we start to focus on people as the enemy, we're being deluded. This is part of why I teach you so much about the pop quizzes because we want to blame the person through whom the pop quiz comes, rather than probing the pop quiz with the Holy Spirit in finding the self-knowledge that He's trying to give us. And in focusing on the other person, we miss the whole point of the pop quiz. And so, we get another pop quiz in the same sort of similar vein. And the point is we're not wrestling against flesh and blood. It's the enemy who is the enemy. The person in front of you is not your enemy. The person in politics is not your enemy. The person in your family that disagrees with you is not the enemy.

0:23:10.2 SC: The person in our community on Sacred Healing in our community who disagrees with you is not the enemy. The enemy is the enemy. Fight the right battle and fight the right enemy. It's not people. Paul says, "It's principalities, powers, rulers of the darkness of this age, and spiritual hosts of wickedness in heavenly places." These are the fallen angels who work to deceive God's people.

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0:23:49.7 Speaker 3: You are listening to the Sacred Healing 12:30 podcast, because love heals.

0:24:01.5 SC: Losing it more often or lost yourself entirely? Binging on food, alcohol, or your

phone? Feeling exhausted, anxious, angry, scared? You've done all the novenas, all the consecrations, adoration, daily mass, Bible Study, therapy, and deliverance prayers. Why has none of it given you permanent relief? Does God not care? He does care, but you can't feel it because you need to be cherished. You need to be healed.

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0:25:23.5 SC: I'm going to read this passage from a different translation because comparing translations always gives us nuances that maybe we hadn't considered in just one. Finally, be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, authorities and powers of this dark world, and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore, put on the full armor of God so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground. And after you have done everything, to stand. Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the spirit, which is the Word of God. And pray in the spirit on all occasions, with all kinds of prayers and requests.

0:26:29.1 SC: With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all of the saints, because we're all in this together, right? So we're praying for one another and we're standing. We're standing against the wiles of the devil or the subtle tricks that he uses to defeat us in spiritual warfare. They're subtle. This is why the truth is so important. The enemy is super subtle in his deception. We know from the Garden of Eden that he will give us a partial truth and hide the lie inside it. And it takes a lot of discernment to be able to see what is the truth and what isn't. Now, I've said often on the community that the way I grew up, under a narcissist, I mean, they are deceptive to the nth degree, the gaslighting is shocking. That a person can stand and look at you in the face and tell you that what your eyes just saw and your ears just heard did not even happen, or to turn the whole thing around. I mean, growing up under that sort of deception and manipulation has given me an antenna for that, that feels like the size of one of those old satellite dishes.

0:27:55.8 SC: Remember back in the day, like in the '80s when they first made satellite dishes and they were enormous, right? I feel almost sometimes like I have one of those on my head, I have this antenna for that kind of thing. And it's because of the way I grew up. And honestly, I never, until recently, ever, not once in my entire life have ever been thankful for having grown up under that until recently. Because it's like I know before I even... I'm not even aware of why or how, it's just I have this feeling that something is off. And that's what makes me start investigating. I start looking, where's the truth here? And if you're asking God for the truth and you know truth from Scripture

and you're comparing the two, he will give you that light. He always does. Now, I'm not bragging or anything like that because honestly, I've never, until recently, ever been thankful for having grown up that way. But it really does make you super sensitive somehow. Like, I don't know, it's just this knowledge. You just know. And that's, I guess, part of discernment. Because people who have the gift of discernment say they just know things without knowing how they know them.

0:29:10.1 SC: And that's really the only area I can say that in, except in the wisdom realm, with which I do consult with people. I'm able to kind of pull pieces together and see the bigger picture. That's a way of discernment. But that's not what I'm really talking about here. Here, I'm talking about the discernment of what is true and dividing the truth from the deception. Because the enemy is out to deceive, and he is so subtle. And if you don't know the truth, you cannot be set free. Jesus said, "If you abide in me and in my Word, you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." So Paul gives us seven weapons. Seven, remember, is the number of covenant and full self donation, which is why it's a covenant. It's a full self donation and covenant. It's the number of divine completeness as well. So we have the seven weapons, and they're drawn from Isaiah 59, which is also a messianic psalm. And I'd like to read it because it really gives you the full picture of what God is saying in the New Testament under Paul about this armor of God.

0:30:24.6 SC: Now, the heading here, as I said, this is about the Redeemer of Zion, is what my paragraph heading says here. But this is messianic. "Then the Lord saw it and it displeased Him that there was no justice. He saw that there was no man and wondered that there was no intercessor. Therefore, His own arm brought salvation for Him and His own righteousness, it sustained Him. For He put on righteousness as a breastplate, and a helmet of salvation on His head. He put on the garments of vengeance for clothing and was clad with zeal as a cloak. Accordingly, He will repay fury to His adversaries, recompense to His enemies. The coastlands He will fully repay so they shall fear the name of the Lord from the west and His glory from the rising of the sun. When the enemy comes in like a flood, the spirit of the Lord will lift up a standard or flag against him. The Redeemer will come to Zion and to those who turn from transgression in Jacob," says the Lord.

0:31:29.4 SC: "As for me," says the Lord, "this is my covenant with them. My spirit who is upon you and my words, which I have put in your mouth, shall not depart from your mouth, nor from the mouth of your descendants, nor from the mouth of your descendants' descendants," says the Lord, "from this time and forevermore." So you can see that this power is God's power, and it's His might. And He sees the deficits. He sees the deceit. He sees the injustice on the earth. And because of that, He comes Himself, He sends His redeemer. He comes in His own power, and He works justice Himself. How? By offering the truth. And those who won't love it and who won't abide by it and won't cling to it will be condemned. They will be judged. Now, this is what we have said about judgment for, gosh, the last year on my show, we've talked about judgment being not something that God imposes from the outside.

0:32:29.2 SC: But something that we ourselves have chosen in choosing not to know the truth, not to abide by the truth, and not to love the truth. Elsewhere, the prophets say that my people perish for lack of knowledge. What is that knowledge? It's the knowledge of the truth. And specifically, it's the knowledge of the Scriptures.

0:32:51.0 SC: But also, just the Scriptures is not enough, right? We have to have the whole truth. And that's where the Catholic Church has guarded for us that deposit of faith in both the Scriptures

and tradition. So we have the truth over the entire history of the church and her saints and the fathers and the writings. So it's not enough just to have the Scriptures. We have to have the full knowledge of God over the entire span of history. And the church gives us that. Now, I realize that that is a lot to try to know. But I will say this. We really have to know it for ourselves. We have to be in Scripture for ourselves every day so that we can measure what we're seeing and hearing in the world, what we're seeing and hearing in the church, against what we know to be true in Scripture particularly. But also we can be confident that the gates of hell will not prevail against the church, not the people of the church, and not even the hierarchy necessarily. But the truth, the truth will never fail. And so we have to be rooted and grounded in truth, Paul says, and this is part of how we do that.

0:34:09.1 SC: We're studying this armor of God so that we can know how to stand, so that we can resist this hurricane that is raging all around us. And you can see that this was prophesied in Isaiah, that God would send, He would send His Messiah to accomplish, to teach and to accomplish the truth. Because the Word of God is living and powerful. It's sharper than any two-edged sword. And elsewhere it says that God's word accomplishes the thing for which He sent it. So it has its own power. It's all well and good to have the apparitions and the prophecies, even when they're approved. It's all well and good to have that. But those things do not accomplish the thing for which God sent it. God's Word has that power. His Word accomplishes the thing for which he sent it. And so His Word, because it's living and powerful, it should trump everything else that we're listening to, because it has its own power. And it's that power that Ephesians, Paul in Ephesians speaks of in that first part of the passage. Finally, my brethren, be made strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.

0:35:26.6 SC: The power of His might. The power, His power is in His word. It's that same dynamis word. Hebrews 1 says the word of his power, not the power of His word, but the word of His power.

[music]

0:35:49.7 S3: You are listening to the Sacred Healing 12:30 podcast, because love heals.

0:36:00.1 S1: If you love having Bible study in your pocket, you can become a friend of the show. Click on the yellow friend of the show button on biblestudyevangelista.com and become a supporter of any amount and any frequency. Now, here's Sonja.

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0:36:31.4 SC: Now, when we're talking about healing and truth, part of where we really need this truth is in our judgments and in the lies that the enemy tells us, those identity lies in those mother wounds and father wounds, those identity lies that we have believed from our earliest formation. For instance, my identity lie is that worthlessness or that I am bad. There's something inherently bad about me; that is a lie. Because the Word of God is full, particularly in Psalm 139, is full of God's love and the goodness of all He creates. It's also in the book of Wisdom. God's creation is good. You are good inherently. Inherently, you are good. And so to believe that you're not is a lie. And then when we believe that we are bad, then we project those judgments on to other people, that they are also bad. We believe other people are bad, and the enemy then, is able to help us focus on them and their badness. Because we're projecting our own badness out into the world, the lies that we

believe about ourselves we project on other people. And in getting us to focus on them, we're not focusing on him.

0:37:51.6 SC: But he is the true enemy. He is the one whom Our Lady's heel crushes. She crushes the head of the snake through her son, who is the Word of Truth Himself, the embodiment of truth. But that privilege and right to crush the head of Satan is not just Our Lady's and not just our Savior's. It is also ours, according to Romans Chapter 16:20. Actually, I'm going to back up a little bit to Romans 16:19 and 20. He says, "For your obedience has become known to all. Therefore, I am glad on your behalf, but I want you to be wise in what is good and simple concerning evil. And the God of peace will crush Satan under your feet shortly." You and I are crushing Satan under our feet. This is a battle that is being won. We are soldiers in this battle for love and truth. And what is fascinating is that we're not even supposed to fight. It says, I can't remember where it is, but it says, "If you'll just stand, that God will defend you." He is our defender. He is our protector. So we're not fighting; we're simply standing.

0:39:20.9 SC: We stand and we resist. That's what Jesus did. That's what he modeled for us. So that no matter what happens, we are ultimately protected. And that's why the second reading, the gospel reading today out of Matthew 10, Jesus says, "Then do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the one who can destroy both soul and body in Gehenna or in hell." So there's no reason for us to be afraid, because God Himself is protecting and providing for us. Now, this imagery of the armor of God is taken from the Roman soldier. And that belt of truth, it says with the belt of truth buckled around your waist. The belt of truth was named after the leather, the leather belt with an apron that hung in front of the Roman soldier's groin and lower abdomen area. And so it was a leather, like strips of leather that hung vertically around the horizontal part of the belt. And there were brass plates attached to that apron to provide protection. And what's fascinating to me is it's the loin area. Now, in the Old Testament, this is a super important.

0:40:40.7 SC: It's an important area for all of us, right? But it was super important spiritually and biblically in a symbolic kind of way. So it's clearly the area of procreation, and it's one of the most vulnerable places on a person, but particularly for a man, it's his procreative power. And so this belt of truth guards your children and your descendants and your grandchildren. Remember, in Isaiah 59, it spoke about your descendants and the descendants' descendants. So this belt of truth is part of what protects not only us, but our families as well. We have to know the truth. The truth is so important in times that are full of evil and deceit, and subtleties in that evil and deceit. That area was actually the area from the hip all the way down to almost the knee. And so sometimes it's called the hip area, the thigh area. And this was also because that area was so important, this is the area that was used to make covenants in the ancient times. They would place their hand under one another's thigh and swear in a covenant that "I will keep my side and you will keep your side." And if either of us does not, we will cut off not only our life, but also that of our children and grandchildren.

0:42:11.1 SC: There was a... I saw something similar to this in a, it was a series, a TV series about Japan. And when they committed seppuku as a matter of honor, they would not only kill themselves, but also any children they had, because it was to erase the entire line of that person. I mean, I was like, "Whoa, that's a little bit drastic," but that's kind of the idea of covenant-making in the Old Testament. So you can see that this area, symbolically, when we're talking about the belt of truth, the truth guards not only me, but also my children and grandchildren. It's that powerful. And

so it is, in part, it's because we're teaching our children and grandchildren the truth, the truth of our faith. But particularly not just the doctrines, following God in faith for our protection and our provision. Because remember, the faith is not about stuff we believe. It's not the doctrines by themselves. It is actually stepping out and depending on God to protect us and to provide for us even in evil times, both with the truth and with protection provision, those kinds of things.

0:43:31.2 SC: But the truth is the main thing here, especially when. When we're talking about the belt. So when preparing for battle, the belt would have been the first piece of protective equipment put on by the soldier. It clung loosely to his waist, and it shielded the most vulnerable areas of his body, that the most vulnerable... Vulnerable, I can't say that word, vulnerable area related to his family, his children, his progeny. The belt was the first thing he put on, and it prepared him for action. They were used also to tie up their garments. You've heard it said that they should... You should gird your loins. And that's what they're talking about. They're talking about pulling up that long sort of skirt garment that they wore. And they would attach the belt, or attach the garment in the belt so that... Almost like a diaper, so that they could run without being constrained by the garment. So when it tells us to have your loins gird about with truth, it's a call to be prepared with the truth. So we need to be ready to defend ourselves against the powers of darkness, the lies, the deceit.

0:44:44.8 SC: And we do it specifically with the truth. We say to ourselves, "Okay, what is the truth here?" We find the truth, and then we stand in the truth no matter what is happening. If you know what the truth is, you stand in the truth and let the consequences fall where they may. And I don't need to go into examples of how we do that, because we just lived through four years of discerning lies that we were forced into in behavioral ways. And what the heck do we do when we see that it's a lie? And there's a lot of fear generated in that? Right? And that's the other tactic of the enemy is this fear. He wants to engender fear in us. Fear of a lack of protection and a lack of provision, both for ourselves and our families. And so he wants to make us capitulate to tyranny, to control, to lies, to all that stuff, his control, his tyranny under the lies. So that not only are we trapped, but so are our families. But we don't have to even... We don't look outside. We don't look at the things that are going on necessarily.

0:46:00.2 SC: We look at the truth. We keep our eyes on the truth. We keep our hearts on the truth. We find the truth. We know the truth, and we stand in the truth no matter what. This is what God is calling us to in our time. This is what Our Lady is calling us to. We are in her army. This is her time. This is the triumph of the Immaculate Heart. This is the time of the illumination. What is illumination? It's the light of truth. We're seeing miraculous movements of truth in God's people. There is an illumination, and it's happening faster than I certainly ever would have imagined. He is showing us the truth about ourselves at a rate that's shocking. I don't know how some of us are even living through it, to be honest. But it's a miracle. It's this tsunami, a very gentle tsunami of truth and light that is being worked in the world right now, at the same time, and in parallel, that things are evil. So they are in proportion to one another. And this is why we cannot be afraid. We cannot try to fight in our flesh.

0:47:07.0 SC: We have to allow God to fight for us and simply stand in this armor because God will fight for us. And He's bringing us the light of truth, mostly about ourselves, but also about the world as we learn about ourselves and we learn how to treat one another and we learn how to become more holy. We do that service for both ourselves, our children, and our grandchildren.

[music]

0:47:49.6 Speaker 4: Thank you for listening to this Sacred Healing 12:30 podcast. Find out more at biblestudyevangelista.com, because love heals.

