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## SHIFT

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Define the following terms in your own words and describe the independent roles they occupy:

Spiritual Warfare

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Error

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Deception

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Truth

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Righteousness

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Breastplate

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**Spiritual Warfare** recognizes the heart as the adversary's target, seeking to disorient, deter, and disconnect it from the lifeline of Truth. According to **Ephesians 6:14**, the breastplate of Righteousness preserves the heart from becoming disconnected when truth is perceived as distorted.

To be clear, **Error** remains the culprit that constructs conflict, aiming to counteract Truth that shapes the believer's committed life of obedience that honors God.

**Truth** is the revelation of eternal realities that, when adhered to, accomplish the good, acceptable, and perfect Will of God. Where **Error** seeks to distort Truth through the doorway of the heart, God provides the **Breastplate of Righteousness** to preserve Spiritual Integrity, reinforced with Accountability that preserves an upright life of Obedience that pleases God.

To appreciate Paul's urgency in placing the Breastplate of Righteousness immediately after the Belt of Truth, we must understand the relationship between **Error and Deception**, and how they function together against believers. We must also understand the relationship between Truth and Righteousness and how they work together to preserve believers amid spiritual warfare. We must define the terms **Error, Deception, Truth, Breastplate, and Righteousness**.

**Error** is the intentional deviation from Truth on a mission to defy its Authority, to distort sound doctrine, to diminish the value and derail one's Faith in God. It is a systematic strategy designed to replace Divine Authority with Self-Confidence. **1 John 4:6** says, *"We are from God; he who knows God listens to us; he who is not from God does not listen to us. By this, we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error."*

**Deception** serves as the ambassador of Error, promoting its agenda through partial truths that distort and mislead those who have not fully committed to the Truth. In 2 Corinthians 11:3, Paul writes, *“But I am afraid that, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, your minds will be led astray from the simplicity and purity of devotion to Christ.”*

**Truth** is the Revelation of the Will of God that directs the course to fulfilling His Purpose. Truth discloses Error, Disarms Deception, and Delivers believers from the vices of Ignorance. and deliverer from the vices of ignorance, deception, and Error. In John 8:31-32, it reads, *“So Jesus was saying to those Jews who had believed Him, 'If you continue in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine; 32 and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.’”*

**Righteousness** is the new nature that defines one’s identity in Christ, resulting in God’s complete acceptance of them. It is not earned or achieved but attained by Faith in Jesus Christ. 2 Corinthians 5:21 tells us, *“He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.”*

**The Breastplate** is the preserver of the believer’s inner life, which relies on the Righteousness of God to stand and secure them, especially in spiritual warfare. Isaiah 59:17 tells us that God wears Righteousness as a Breastplate, *“He put on righteousness like a breastplate, and a helmet of salvation on His head; And He put on garments of vengeance for clothing and wrapped Himself with zeal as a mantle.”*

What is the strategy that Error and Deception employ to succeed through Spiritual Warfare?

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What is the strategy that Truth and Righteousness employ to ensure Error and Deception cannot succeed against believers in Spiritual Warfare?

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What role does the Breastplate of Righteousness occupy in the life of believers when it comes to Spiritual Warfare?

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