

Title: "Fireproof"

Text: Ephesians 6:16: "In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one..."

Target: Faith becomes **activated** or **devastated** in this life's journey. What will you do, how will you respond when life gets tough on purpose because the enemy is trying to destroy you? Will you fight or will you fold?

1. The Significance of the Shield: "take up the shield"

- A. **Distinction:** Two Shields-one for hand to hand combat, one to be used by the company of soldiers.
- B. **Dimensions:** Hand Shield (Circular) vs. Body Shield (Square)
- C. **Defense:** "phalanx" Movable Wall or Protected Shelter

2. The Setback of the Shield: "flaming darts"

- A. **The Deadliness of the Dart:**
 - i. Damaged from a Distance
 - ii. Destroyed due to Deflection
- B. **The Destruction of the Dart:**
 - i. Dipped into Pitch
 - ii. Ignited to Spread

3. The Secret in the Shield: "extinguish"

- A. **The Link:** Unified Soldiers
- B. **The Leather:** Neutralized Arrows
- C. **The Lacquer:** Baptized the Shield

4. The Spiritualization of the Shield: "of the evil one"

- A. **The Shield is Faith:**
 - i. **Faith Defined:** "in *all* circumstances **take up the shield**"

Key Concept: Faith is the Combination of Confidence and Commitment towards Christ. (Hebrews 11:6)

- ii. **Flames Drenched:** "extinguish *all* the flaming darts"
 - 1. Unified: In Christ
 - 2. Neutralized: Authority
 - 3. Baptized: Holy Spirit
- B. **Faith is the Shield:** "with which *you* can"
 - i. **Claim God's Promises:** Recall God's Faithfulness and Devotion
 - ii. **Claim God's Provision:** Rest in Forgiveness and Deliverance
 - iii. **Claim God's Peace:** Reject Fear and Doubt

Take Away: You will either extinguish the bombs of the enemy because of faith or you will extinguish the blessings that God desire to give you because of doubt.