

THE KING'S KEN – 19 NOVEMBER 2009

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK.....

Our discourse on courage would not be complete without an examination of the passage from Ephesians 6 on the armour of God. From the ASV, it reads:

- Eph 6:10 Finally, be strong in the Lord, and in the strength of his might.
- Eph 6:11 Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.
- Eph 6:12 For our wrestling is not against flesh and blood, but against the principalities, against the powers, against the world-rulers of this darkness, against the spiritual *hosts* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*.
- Eph 6:13 Wherefore take up the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and, having done all, to stand.
- Eph 6:14 Stand therefore, having girded your loins with truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness,
- Eph 6:15 and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace;
- Eph 6:16 withal taking up the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the evil *one*.
- Eph 6:17** And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:
- Eph 6:18 with all prayer and supplication praying at all seasons in the Spirit, and watching thereunto in all perseverance and supplication for all the saints,
- Eph 6:19 and on my behalf, that utterance may be given unto me in opening my mouth, to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel,
- Eph 6:20 for which I am an ambassador in chains; that in it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

Paul exhorts us to put on the armour of God so that we can stand our ground against the evil forces in the heavenly realms. He uses the analogy of a Roman suit of armour to illustrate what we need for this spiritual combat.

The belt of truth. The soldier's belt was made of iron or steel, often highly ornamented and adapted to hold money, the sword, a pipe and writing instruments. It connected to all the other pieces of armour, and braced up the body. In the same way, truth can give consistency and firmness to our conduct.

The breastplate of righteousness. The Roman breastplate was made of brass panels that overlapped like the scales of a fish. It extended from the neck to the thighs and was weighty and sturdy. (Goliath's breastplate apparently weighed just the same as I do!). The breastplate protected the vital parts of the body, especially the heart. As the heart represents the deepest passions and life-purposes, one should draw in righteousness as a breastplate.

The sandals of peace. The ancient soldier's sandals covered the feet and were fitted with spikes to give him a firm foothold. The ankles were protected by extensions of brass called greaves. Paul uses the word 'preparation' to indicate a readiness to go out and present (live) the Gospel.

The shield of faith. The Roman shield was indispensable in battle, a massive protective barrier measuring 1.2 metres in height and 75 cm in width. It had a skeleton of brass with a body made out of several layers of stout hide. The soldier would polish the outer surface to cause enemy arrows to glance off or rebound. These arrows were lead-tipped and often flaming as they rained down. The soldier felt secure as long as he had his shield, just as we feel secure if we hang on to faith.

The helmet of salvation. The helmet was a cap made of thick leather, or brass, and was usually crowned with a plume as an ornament. It had special armoured flaps over the ears which allowed the soldier to hear orders yet remain protected. Our salvation is the safeguard to our mind, the capital of our intellect. And our mind receives through hearing and so we are protected when we filter what we hear through our standing as redeemed children of God.

The sword of the spirit. A short, two-edged blade that resembled a dagger, the sword was the prominent weapon and was accompanied by a bow, spear and battle-axe. This is how we are to overcome the evil forces of darkness, with the two-edged sword of the Word:

- (1) We should study the Bible, that we may understand what the truth is.
- (2) We should have texts of Scripture at command, as the Saviour did, to meet the various forms of temptation.
- (3) We should not depend on our own reason, or rely on our own wisdom.

(acknowledgement to Albert Barnes Commentary)

MR. KEN LANGLEY

PRINCIPAL

Important dates for the 4th term

Gr. R Graduation Photos	-	30 November 2009
Gr. 4 to Gr. 7 Exams End	-	2 December 2009
Grade R Graduation	-	4 December 2009
Grade 7 Outing	-	2 December 2009
Foundation Phase Evening of Excellence	-	7 December 2009

Intermediate; Gr. 7 Evening of Excellence - 8 December 2009
School Closes (Children) - 9 December 2009
High School Evening of Excellence for 2009 presented in 2010

MATRIC 2009 RESULTS

Matric results to be released and collected on Wednesday 30 December 2009 between 08:00 and 09:00.

THE SCHOOL WEAR SHOP

Operating hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 08:00 – 12:00

If parents need assistance or to make alternative arrangements, please contact Liza on 072 108 3670.

FOR FRIENDS FRIDAY

Collection for **Friday 20 November 2009** will be **POWERED MILK/LONG LIFE MILK.**

27 November - Cleaning Products

In addition to the above, any warm clothes for children from 3 months to 9 years old will be greatly appreciated.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR UNWAVERING SUPPORT!

MIA MOMENT

Courage and risk taking

Let us turn to a central passage in scripture for courage and risk taking. In [Joshua 1](#), God encourages Joshua before the conquest of the Promised Land and He repeatedly gives him this word of comfort and encouragement to be strong and courageous.

[Joshua 1](#): 5-9, "No one will be able to stand up against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you. Be strong and courageous, because you will lead these people to inherit the land I swore to their forefathers to give them. Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go. Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful.

Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.”

There are three things that God gave Joshua in this text.

Firstly, God reminds Joshua how He had been faithful in keeping His promises with His people from the very beginning. God says: I’ve pledged to give this land to my people and I’m going to fulfill that promise. Yet your success will not rest on a military strategy or even on a well-trained army but your success will rest on the faithfulness of My promises.

The second thing that God does is He commands Joshua to meditate on His word. You cannot really take risks of obedience if your mind is not being renewed in this world. If you are not embracing an eternal perspective in this temporal world your mind will be conformed to the world system and you will not be able to go against the current culture. To obey God means that you go against the current of the culture. It is often counter cultural, counter intuitive, for us to follow these things that He commands us to do for our good. Unless we are renewing our minds with this transcendent biblical perspective, you’re not going to do it and you’ll buckle under the pressure and give way to the ambient call of the world. You will not be a different person. You will be a person who is conformed, not transformed. Conformed not to Christ but to the image of this passing world and that will not really give you the kind of courage, the greatness, the dignity, to which you’ve been called. You’re called to more than what this world invites you to pursue. He says, I want you to be a person of wisdom and encouragement and that you gain your insight and wisdom and stability from the word.

Thirdly, God promises to be personally present with Joshua. In that promise He says; I, Myself, will go with you. I’m not just going to send you out there but I will be with you in the midst.

We have the same three sources of courage in our lives today. God made some clear indications of His fidelity to His people. He has given you a history in your life when you review what He has done. God really is faithful to keep His promises when we look back.

Secondly, God has invited us to also be men of the word so we have an eternal perspective in this temporal world.

Thirdly He invites us to realise that He is with us. He’s always present with us. We do not go it alone. Those sources of encouragement are summarised again in [Joshua 1](#): 9: “Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.”

(Adapted from a piece by Kenneth Boa)

INTERMEDIATE PHASE

The Intermediate Phase does not write cycle tests this term. This will be a term of getting ready for the exams and a spellathon.

	16-21 Nov Week 6	23-28 Nov Week 7	30/11-5/12 Week 8	7-11 Dec Week 9
Grade 4	Exams start		Exams End	
Grade 5				
Grade 6				
Grade 7				

COMPETITION

MISSING:

PLEASE HELP!!! Aunty Marlene's dog, Rocky, has run away AGAIN! If you can find this naughty dog, then enter the competition. There is a R10 reward for the first correct entry drawn.

ENTRY FORM

Name: _____ Grade: _____

Rocky is hiding out in: _____

DEBT PROBLEMS

Consider debt counselling in terms of the National Credit Act and enjoy protection from your creditors.

Contact us at 011 794 7555 (Office Hours)

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