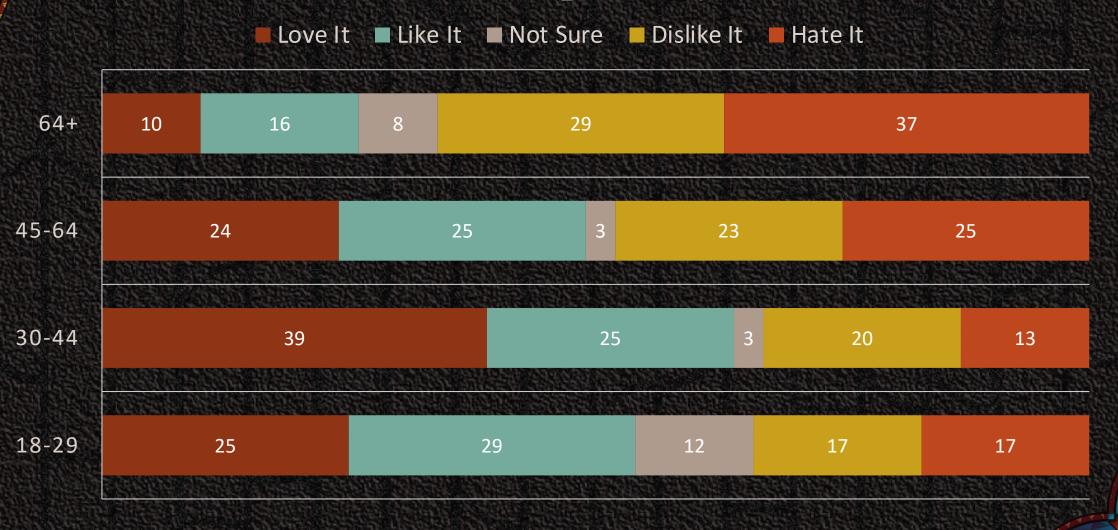


The Breastplate of Righteousness

Ephesians 6:14

Horror Film Genre Popularity in the U.S. (2022)



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Unavoidable in the Bible

- "Satan" occurs 53 times
- "The devil" occurs 34 times
- "Demon" or "demons" occur 78 times
- Satan is a main figure in the beginning or the Bible, the end of the Bible, and the life and ministry of Jesus.

2 Corinthians 11:13-14

¹³ For such men are false apostles, deceitful workmen, disguising themselves as apostles of Christ. ¹⁴ And no wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light.

Ephesians 6:10-14

¹⁰ Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. 11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. 12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.

Ephesians 6:10-14

¹³ 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 firm. ¹⁴ Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness...

Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. (Ephesians 6:11)

¹⁰ Anyone whom you forgive, I also forgive. Indeed, what I have forgiven, if I have forgiven anything, has been for your sake in the presence of Christ, ¹¹ so that we would not be outwitted by Satan; for we are not ignorant of his designs. (2 Corinthians 2:10-11)

We see how Satan operates in...

- 1. The narratives in which he is directly involved (The Garden of Eden, Job, Jesus' temptation, etc.).
- 2. His names (Satan, the devil, the destroyer, etc.).
- 3. The statements that describe his activities.

1. Deception

- Satan twists the truth in the Garden of Eden.
- Satan is specifically called "the deceiver" (Revelation 12:9) and "the father of lies" (John 8:44).
- ➤ Satan disguises himself as "an angel of light" (2 Corinthians 11:14).

- 1. Deception
- 2. Accusation

- Satan" literally means "adversary" but is occasionally translated as "accuser" (Psalm 109:6).
- Satan is called "the accuser of the brothers" in Revelation 12:10.
- The story of Job highlights Satan's strategy of accusation.

- 1. Deception
- 2. Accusation
- 3. Slander

- "Devil" also means "slanderer" or "accuser".
- Satan's activity is often associated with slander (1 Timothy 5:14, Revelation 2:9).

- Deception
- 2. Accusation
- 3. Slander
- 4. Temptation

- Satan is specifically called "the tempter" (Matthew 4:3, 1 Thessalonians 3:5).
- Satan incites and uses specific sins such as anger (Ephesians 4:26-27) and sexual immorality (1 Corinthians 7:5).

- Deception
- 2. Accusation
- 3. Slander
- 4. Temptation
- 5. Blindness/Confusion
- Satan "has blinded the minds of unbelievers" (2 Corinthians 4:4) and keeps them in darkness (Acts 26:18).
- Satan "snatches away" understanding of the word (Matthew 13:18-19).

- 1. Deception
- 2. Accusation
- 3. Slander
- 4. Temptation
- 5. Blindness/Confusion
- 6. Destruction

- Satan is called Abaddon or Apollyon which could mean "the destroyer" (Revelation 2:9).
- Satan can bring sickness and even death (Luke 13:16, The Book of Job).

- Deception
- 2. Accusation
- 3. Slander
- 4. Temptation
- 5. Blindness/Confusion
- 6. Destruction
- 7. Division

- Sins such as unforgiveness (2 Corinthians 2:10-11) and jealousy (James 3:16) are associated with the work of Satan.
- Satan's influence over Judas obviously brought betrayal and division.

- Deception
- 2. Accusation
- 3. Slander
- 4. Temptation
- 5. Blindness/Confusion
- 6. Destruction
- 7. Division
- 8. Pride/Self-promotion

- Satan exalts himself and constantly strives for a high position.
- Selfish ambition (James 3:14-16) and conceit (1 Timothy 3:6) are associated with the work of Satan.
- ➤ He tempted Adam and Eve with power and position.

- Deception
- 2. Accusation
- 3. Slander
- 4. Temptation
- 5. Blindness/Confusion
- 6. Destruction
- 7. Division
- 8. Pride/Self-promotion

The Breastplate of Righteousness

Proverbs 4:23

Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life.

Ephesians 6:14

...and having put on the breastplate of righteousness...

Two Types of Righteousness

- 1. Imputed righteousness (given, objective)
- 2. Practical righteousness (lived, subjective)

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Two Types of Righteousness

- 1. Imputed righteousness (given, objective)
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- 2. Practical righteousness (lived, subjective)
 - 2 Timothy 2:22 So flee youthful passions and pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace, along with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart.

Both Are Necessary in the Battle

Practical righteousness demonstrates imputed righteousness.

1 John 3:7-8 ⁷ Little children, let no one deceive you. Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as he is righteous. ⁸ Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil.

Both Are Necessary in the Battle

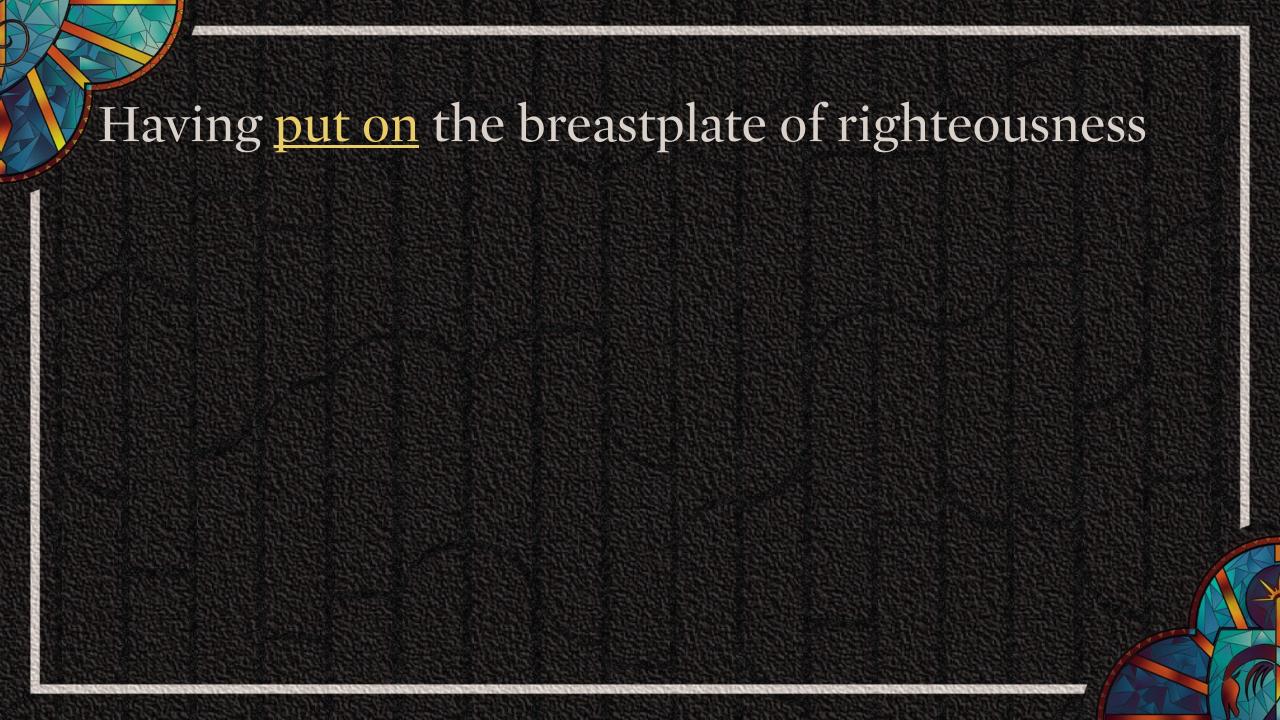
- Practical righteousness demonstrates imputed righteousness.
- 2. Imputed righteousness empowers practical righteousness.

Titus 2:11-12 ¹¹ For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, ¹² training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age...

Both Are Necessary in the Battle

- Practical righteousness demonstrates imputed righteousness.
- 2. Imputed righteousness empowers practical righteousness.
- 3. Practical righteousness prevents the devil from gaining influence.

Ephesians 4:26-27 ²⁶ Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, ²⁷ and give no opportunity to the devil.



Having put on the breastplate of righteousness

1. Renew yourself in the truth of your imputed righteousness daily.

2 Peter 1:9-10 ⁹ For whoever lacks these qualities is so nearsighted that he is blind, having forgotten that he was cleansed from his former sins. ¹⁰ Therefore, brothers, be all the more diligent to confirm your calling and election, for if you practice these qualities you will never fall.

Having <u>put on</u> the breastplate of righteousness

- Renew yourself in the truth of your imputed righteousness daily.
- 2. Resolve to put sin to death and live righteously.

Romans 8:13 For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.