Our Heavenly Father does not leave us defenseless. He provides us with everything necessary for life and godliness. **"The full armor of God"** equips us for the schemes of the devil. Many laugh at and mock the notion of demons and devils to their peril. Left only to our feeble resources we are ill-equipped for the fight. God's word urges us to **"put on the full armor of God."** It's not about taking up a piece of armor as the need arises. It's about being ready, day after day, with His resources. Today we stop to consider how the shield of faith fits us for that fight.

"In all circumstances take up the shield of faith with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one" [ESV]

"The flaming darts of the evil one" are a reality for all of us!

- Job's experience
- Consider Jesus
- Consider Paul

• What's your experience?

"In all circumstances take up the shield of faith"

Personal Application and Interaction

1. How do you understand "the full armor of God?" What have you been learning about individual elements as well as the larger picture of God's provision for our defense against the forces of darkness?

2. What is the significance of flaming darts as they refer to the attack of our spiritual enemy? How was a shield designed to extinguish deadly projectiles?

3. How does the human condition make us so vulnerable to the fiery darts of the enemy?

4. To what extent are you aware of the reality that the enemy has used "fiery darts" against you? How does the shield of faith work in your life?



The Shield of Faith

Pastor John July 31, 2016

