SERMON OUTLINE – SEPTEMBER 2, 2018

"Who is Ready to Fight?"

(Ephesians 6:16-17)

INTRODUCTION: That famous announcer at boxing matches & Luther's 'Fight Song'"

I. THE DEVIL USES FIERY DARTS (v.16)

A. Used in open warfare before hand-to-hand combat (Psalm 91:5)

B. Note the movie -- Braveheart

C. These are temptations to wound & soften you

II. GOD PROVIDES US WITH A SHIELD (v.16)

- A. This is the shield of faith
- B. He gives us shield-bearers for help & protection
- C. Permit me to introduce you to some of my shield-bearers

III. GOD HAS GIVEN US A CUSTOM-FITTED HELMET (v.17)

- A. This is the *helmet of salvation* (Isaiah 59:17; Ephesians 2:8-9)
- B. The devil cannot take this from us (2 Peter 5:8)
- C. A song:

The Lions May Eat My Body, But They Cannot Swallow My Soul



IV. THE SWORD GOD PROVIDES IS VERY SHARP (v.17)

- A. This is a "short sword" for hand-to-hand combat
- B. This sword is God's powerful Word
- C. Hand-to-hand combat & sermons, Bible classes, private devotions
- D. The victory depends not on us, but on our Lord (v.10) [Luther's fight song, Mighty Fortress, verse 2]
- E. The Roman soldier had his weapons & armour <u>supplied to him by</u> <u>his commander</u> & so do we! (vv. 10-11)
- CONCLUSION: *We are ready to fight!* [One more look at Luther's fight song, verse 4]