**Be on the alert**

**Introduction:**

-DO YOU KNOW WHAT A MEERKAT IS?  
This animal lives in big families and they have some guards or sentinels to keep on the watch so they can warn if a threat is coming with enough time to be saved under earth.

-SO WHY ARE WE SPEAKING ABOUT THIS?  
Because God’s creation teaches us about common sense, as the same that the Bible does but in a different way, so we are able to see this common sense through the nature of His creation.

* As an example we have, is the presentation that the Lord brings of Himself to Job and his friends in Job 38.

**Discussion**

1. Do not do fell asleep!
2. Parable of the ten virgins (Mathew 25:1-13).
3. The disciples fell on sleep (Mathew 26:37-41),

“So let us not sleep as others do: but let us be alert and sober” (1 Thessalonians 5:6)

1. As the meerkat does, we have to BE ON THE ALERT of the danger close to us (Bad things to happen):

* The danger from the devil (1Peter 5:8).

1. And when we are alone and not keeping our spiritual watch, there is danger to (The history of David and Bathsheba in 2Samuel 11).
2. Have to BE ON THE ALERT and KEEP WACHING when Jesus comes back (Good things to happen) in the coming of the Lord (Mathew 24:42-44)**.**
3. So we have to be ready and strong in the strength of His might Ephesians 6:10-18.

Here Paul describes a Christian as a roman warrior, a close combat warrior with his all equipment.

**The Armor of God**

We need to be ready, being strong in God with all the necessary equipment to be able to stand firm spiritually speaking and to be able to fight (Ephesians 6:10-13).

**Elements of the armor of God:**

1. The “belt” of the truth(Ephesians 6:14 first part).

* Girding our loins with the Word of God in combat make us lighter so we will be able to combat against the enemy, ready for everything.

1. The Breastplate of righteousness (Ephesians 6:14 second part).

* It keeps you vital organs save and in the correct place they have to be, so it is a defense of the most important parts of our live, being wise, right, fair… living in God’s justice will make our most important things in live being saved.

1. The “sandals” of the Gospel of peace (Ephesians 6:15).

* We are messengers called to tell everyone the good news, His Kingdom has arrived through Jesus! Giving to the people loosed in the darkness light, so they will be able to see and change.

1. The shield of faith (Ephesians 6:16).

* The most important defensive tool, the most big it is, the better we can defend ourselves, and it might be offensive too if you know to use it.

1. The helmet of salvation (Ephesians 6:17 first part).

* Another defensive tool in war, where the eyes are, looking to his promises, THE SALVATION OF OUR SOULS!!!

1. The sword of the Spirit (Ephesians 6:17 second part).

* The most important combat tool of this war, the one with we are able to fight.

**Conclusions**

Through these elements we can see that three of them are about the Bible (the “belt”, the “sandals” and the sword), so it is so important that we keep reading and exercising in the Word of God, and the other three elements (The breastplate, the shield and the helmet) means qualities that we have to develop after taking the knowledge.

Ephesians 6:18 “With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints”.

“Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with an attitude of thanksgiving”. Colossians 4:2

(Luke 12:36 and 37) Being diligent servants of God.