

## Put on the Armor of God

### The Sword of the Spirit - The Word of God

#### Ephesians 6:13-18

*The deceit, the lie of the devil, consists of this: that he wishes to make man believe that he can live without God's Word. Dietrich Bonhoeffer*

**Review - We are covered by the Armor of God = our Salvation**

**We have Truth** - integrity before God holding all together

**We have Christ's Righteousness** - covering our heart and emotions

**We have Peace** - from the Good News of the Gospel

**We have Faith** - as a shield from the accusations of Satan

**We have Salvation** - assurance based on the Word of God

All are the coverings to defend us - but in addition we have one offensive weapon - the Sword of the Spirit which is the Word of God

### The Sword of the Spirit

#### Roman Soldier

Not a long heavy sword but a light two-foot weapon used in hand to hand combat. The "gladius" was sharpened on both edges and carried always with the soldier. In addition there were two very important issues to note 1.) The sword had to be sharpened every day or at least after every encounter and 2.) The soldier had to spend hours and hours to train with the sword and practice using it or he was endangerer of death.

#### Soldier of God

##### We have the sword of the Spirit

*We need it because the most desperate strategy of Satan is to cast doubt on the veracity and authority of the Word of God. Did God say? Does it really mean? Does it apply today? Why do we need it?*

##### Sword of the Spirit

Because He is the source

**2 Timothy 3:16-17, 2 Peter 1:20-21**

He instructs us in its use - puts the edge on it.

**John 16:13**

He is the Master of it.

**Matthew 5:17-18 "**

##### We have the Word of God

**Two words used in New Testament for "word"**

**Logos - 330 times**

**Rhema - 70 times**

Logos is the "Word of God" Jesus Christ, the subject from Genesis to Revelation.

*Rhema* is the revealed word of God, as an utterance from God to the heart of the receiver via the Holy Spirit, as in John 14:26 **But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.**

The difference is the difference between a stockpile of weapons and a sword in the highly skilled hand. One is the invaluable arsenal: the other is a specific well-timed deployment. **Rhema is the sword of the Spirit**

The perfect example of the use of the Word by Christ is Matthew 4 when He was tempted - He replied "it is written" He used the Logos for a specific purpose and it was then Rhema - the powerful sword of the spirit.

#### What is the use of the Word of God?

**It illuminates -**

**Psalms 119:105**

**It proclaims the truth**

**John 17:17**

**It guides our steps**

**Psalm 119:9 and 11**

**It confirms eternal life**

**John 20:31**

**It equips us to every good work** **2 Timothy 3:17**

#### How does the Logos become the Rhema in our lives?

1. It must be used in relationship with the Holy Spirit  
(Even Satan can quote scripture but without power)

*"The degree to which your life is filled with the Spirit of God and fits with the kingdom of God is the degree to which your swordplay will be effective."*

2. It is made alive by a power beyond our own.

**Hebrews 4:12** *For the word of God is alive and powerful. It is sharper than the sharpest two-edged sword, cutting between soul and spirit, between joint and marrow. It exposes our innermost thoughts and desires.*

3. It must be used in the authority of Christ Himself

**Luke 10:17-19** *The seventy-two returned with joy and said, "Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name." He replied, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you.*

**We have:**

**Authority** - it is our position in Christ - **We are children of the King**

**Weapon** - the sword of the Spirit - **We have the Word of God**

**What must we do?**

**Sharpen the Sword** - study the word, Read, study, memorize  
Alone, in Groups, in usage

**Practice its use** - teach it to each other, family, friends, others  
**Christ says to us**

**"I have given you authority"!!**