

The Sword of the Spirit

Ephesians 6:17 And take the helmet of salvation, **and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:**

Subject- Gods word for every occasion. The sword of the Spirit which is the word of God.

Here we have the sixth and last piece of the armour. We should not think that the sword of the spirit is only for the Minister of the Gospel or the Preacher, or the full time Christian worker. **No, every soldier is given a sword.** To be called a Christian and not have a sword, is like saying you are a student yet have no books, or a driver and you have no car and not even a licence. these examples highlight how ridiculous that would be, **but even more ridiculous is to think** one can be a Christian **without knowledge of the Word of God** and without **some skill to use this weapon!**

The enemy is the father of lies, we are called to stand and fight, not to discuss terms of peace and attempt to gain something by policy. We have no order from our Captain to make a truce and get the best terms we can. We are not sent out to offer concessions! Our Captains, Our Lords Word is very clear. **TAKE UP THE SWORD. We have our sword which is the word of God in our hands.** A weapon that is both **defensive and offensive**, with the sword we both **defend ourselves**, and **wound the enemy.** *“Concerning the works of men, by the Words of Your lips, I am kept from the paths of the destroyer.” (Psalms 17:4, MKJV).* He had kept the highway of Scripture, and not chosen the bye-paths of malice. We should soon imitate the example of the worst of men if the grace of God did not use the Word of God as the great preservative from evil. Spurgeon **Matthew Poole comments** by the words of your lips to mean- by the help of thy blessed word, and the excellent rules, promises, and threatening’s thereof, which by deep and frequent meditation I have hid and fixed in mine heart, as the best antidote against sin and temptation.

I’m so thankful we have the Word of God, what a debt we have to the reformers that translated the scriptures into our language. We live in an age where bibles are available in almost any book shop. We can all have our own personal copy in a language we can read. The Sword of the Spirit – the promises of God the Wisdom of God. *“For wisdom is better than rubies; and all the things that may be desired are not to be compared to it.” (Proverbs 8:11, KJV).* God’s word – His wisdom shall preserve you and it shall keep you. To be desired more than Gold, much fine Gold, and sweeter even

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than honey. **God's word upon our lips is** More precious than rubies, more precious than even gold. His lifegiving word comforts, Corrects, guides, The more we know and value and treasure God's word the more it will profit us.

The Roman Sword, to which Paul is comparing the Word of God to is a short sword, a two sided blade that can cut up and down and has a sharp point. It was used for close combat. It is said of this Roman sword that it conquered the known World. The Christian Sword is even sharper and more powerful *Hebrews 4:12*. "*Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life.*" (*John 6:68, KJV*)

We will all face many battels in our lives. But to whom shall we go? Human reasoning? The Worlds Wisdom? No - Gods Word is always the answer. The best answer is abiding with Christ in a steady faithfulness to the truths of his gospel, is the best choice that we can make. Hope in the unchangeable promises of God. Like and Anchor. **C.H. Spurgeon** - Sailors throw their anchors downwards; we throw ours upwards. Their anchor goes within the veil of the waters into the depths of the sea; ours goes within the veil of glory, into the heights of heaven, where Jesus sits at the right hand of God: "within the veil;"

When we face Persecution. We don't really face physical persecution in our country. But we do face mockers and those that make fun of us that speak cruelly of us. **How do we use the word to strengthen us in this kind of attack?** We look to scripture and meditate upon scripture and encourage ourselves with scriptures that teach us to **fear God more and fear man less.**

Matthew 10:28 And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

"But and if ye suffer for righteousness' sake, happy are ye: and be not afraid of their terror, neither be troubled;" (1 Peter 3:14, KJV). "The LORD is on my side; I will not fear: what can man do unto me?" (Psalms 118:6, KJV)

It is intended to help us in our fight with evil. God's children take the word and Hide it in their hearts. *Thy word I've hidden in my heart that I may not sin against you.* Divine strength to wage war against sin and wrong in our lives. **The greatest weapon against the flesh.** The greatest weapon against temptation. Any Victory we win today both at home or personally or abroad is a result of wielding the Sword of the

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Spirit correctly. **When the Word of God is applied to the heart by the spirit** it leads the man away from sin, and to thanksgiving and praise. By the word of God **Doubts are dissolved. Fears are driven away.** Assurance of salvation is given and satan is driven away. By Gods word **error and disputes are settled.** God's word is the plumbline that settles all spiritual arguments. Gods word preserves discretion they give length of days and long life they add peace unto us they are health to our flesh and strength to our bones They are a tree of Life to those that find them. We keep them before our eyes then we shall walk in safety and our foot shall not stumble when we lie down we shall not be afraid. Acquaint yourself with Gods Promises. **When waring against sin take some time to look at scriptures that tell us what the Lord thinks of Sin,** how he hates it. This will increase our hatred for sin. Hear and see what the God of truth says of sin, and the names given to it. the vomit of dogs, the venom of serpents, the stench of rotten sepulchers, dunghills, deadly diseases and sores, gangrenes, leprosy, and plagues. Just the name causes us to flee from these things.

Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. Romans 12:9

When I think and meditate on these scriptures, I'm encouraged to run from sin. scriptures like Proverbs 6:16-19 These 6 things the Lord hates. – Isa 59:2 How sin separates.. How sin hides his face, closes his ears. I see the ugliness of sin, what a terrible monster it is, how it kills and how it separates. If Scripture calls it wrong and sin, Never think you will find honey in a pot that the Lord clearly has labelled poison. When these scriptures are before our eyes we will soon resolve to avoid sin and be careful to stay away from it.

We can not attain victory in our wisdom or own strength – there is one victory. *“Order my steps in thy word: and let not any iniquity have dominion over me.”* (Psalms 119:133, KJV). ‘We have no might against this great company that cometh against us, neither know we what to do, but our eyes are upon thee.’ 2 Chron. 20:12

In all the attacks and afflictions that come upon us, it is Gods word that helps us in the battles we face.

Now, the more you know the promises, the less you will be trampled upon by Satan and his distress that he brings. To him that has the promise real and living, burn in their heart, it makes it very difficult for any situation to wrestle the promise out of

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your hand. You have seen it in God's word. The Spirit of God has opened your eyes to understand it's for you. You know you are a Child of God and qualify. No devil will take it from you. *2 Peter 1:4 Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.* Take up the Sword of the Spirit .

We hide Gods word in our hearts with our lips we declare His precepts, we rejoice in His word as much as we would in riches, We meditate on His word and respect His word. His word is our delight. Daily handling the Sword of the spirit.

Those who love Gods word talk about Gods word - *"Then those who feared the LORD spoke with one another. The LORD paid attention and heard them, and a book of remembrance was written before him of those who feared the LORD and esteemed his name."* (Malachi 3:16, ESV)

These are the people who talk among themselves about spiritual things, and the work of the Lord, and soul winning, and the Lord's blessings upon them. Who talk about The wonderful word. *'The Lord' – listened to them – 'and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him, for them that feared the Lord, and that thought upon his name. Its another way of saying God's special attention is given to them.* a special level of divine affection and concentration focused on those who love him, and talk to each other about him. Taking up the sword of the Spirit the word of God encouraging one another, spuing one another on.

Why is the Word of God called the SWORD of the Spirit.

1. One reason is because the **Spirit of God is the author**, *All Scripture is God-breathed – All scripture is given by inspiration of God. – Divinely inspired- 2Timothy 3:16*
2. And also, Gods word and the spirit are very closely connected. The Holy Spirit works by the word of God. *"Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever."* (1 Peter 1:23, KJV). The Apostles and men through all ages used the Sword of the Spirit very effectively when they proclaimed the Word of God, the Gospel. Gods' life-giving word is called a Sword because it pricks, pierces or stabs the heart. This Sword of the Spirit is not only living, but quick or **quicken**ing, it makes those **lost and dead in sin alive again**. It gives the **hopeless Hope**. It Shows a **great light to those sitting in darkness** it always overcomes sin and the World and as a rule it guides and directs the lost to Christ.

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In Acts 2 They heard the Word of God being preached, **the word spoken and boldly and proclaimed, it's worthwhile to note, speaking the word of God is using the sword well. Peter preached persuasively. Presenting strong arguments. Reasoning with the people.** Taking up the SWORD is active proclamation of the Gospel.

This is our only offensive weapon – we have confidence in it and look to no other method. We cannot expect that man's wisdom or a good show, of glitter and lights and a powerful sound system will win the Lost. **If you do not wield a true Jerusalem blade**, you are in serious danger — your weapon will break off at the hilt — and where will you be? Standing defenceless, with nothing but the handle of a broken sword in your hand, you will be the object of your adversary's ridicule!

It's the Gospel that must be preached. We must have confidence in the Gospel and the Holy Spirit to do the work. He works upon men by the Word preached, this weapon is "mighty through God." The Word is the sword of the Spirit because it is of His own making. CHS The Holy Spirit rides in the chariot of Scripture and not in the wagon of modern thought. Scripture is that Ark of the Covenant which contains the golden pot of manna and also bears above it the Divine Light of God's shining. **The Holy Spirit worked and made the Word sharp as Peter preached.** It is His word and He puts the sharp edge and point upon it. *But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judaea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words: Hearken to my discourse- listen to the truth I am now going to speak.*

Look and be reminded at how the Spirit made these words cut and penetrate, Peter had never in all his life spoken with such fulness, clarity, and power. And we also note that The Spirit of God was dealing with the hearers as well, illuminating and giving understanding.

We see that the Word of God the sword of the spirit, was **accompanied by divine power of the Spirit**, and *it was mighty, through God*, to do wonders: three thousand gladly heard and believed Gods word. *it was the rod of God's strength sent out of Zion.* Psa 110:2,

His word had a mighty effect, it was the means the Holy Spirit brought them to salvation, and the means they continued steadfastly in the Grace – Gods Word and the Spirit worked in them and they continued in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.

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We see Peter a skilful soldier using the sword of the spirit to gain ground for the Kingdom to win the Lost. By preaching the Gospel. By taking up the sword.

Believer desire to be skilful with the Sword of the Spirit . Pray and ask for His divine help. Pray Boldness to speak. Remember it is He who is your teacher. *"A Psalm of David. Blessed be the LORD my strength, which teacheth my hands to war, and my fingers to fight:" (Psalms 144:1, KJV)* The Sword of the Spirit and able to do far more than we ever thought. May the Holy Spirit help us, may he teach us daily to effectively wield it. May multitudes be conquered and come into Gods Kingdom. May many goliaths be slain. May We see doubts slain, unbelief undone. Fears dealt a blow.

God in His grace has armed us with the weapon of God, the Holy Spirit, and given that same sword which is so effeciivly used Himself! "Here," says the Holy Spirit, "take this! This is My own sword. I have done great marvels with it. Take it and nothing shall stand against you." Reflect and remember how powerful the sword is. **Then you will** take it with confidence, and use it in your holy war with full assurance.

Remember that Word of God which **could convert you**, can **convert anybody!** If it could **kill your despair**, it can remove another man's hopelessness. If it has **conquered your pride and self-will**, it can subdue the same in **our children and our neighbours our work colleagues**. We have seen what it's done for us, and with a full persuasion we know that no case is too difficult or hopeless for this sharp two edged sword.

Therefore, from this day forth, with a fresh zeal we take up the of the Spirit, which is the Word of God. We will subdue all our enemies within and without – and by Gods word on our lips and Gods Spirit putting the edge on the sword we will win many Lost, many sitting in utter darkness without any hope and any future. Genally people will not get saved by chance victory is not won by chance Battels are won when we take up the Sword.

Maybe there is a battle aging in you heat. No peace no purpose. No hope and futue. But today The God of all hope comes to you. Oh surrender to Him. Say tio Him I want to be yous. All is fully paid for. What must we do to be saved. Believe the Gospel, and epent of your sins realise you need Forgiveness. Ask Him to forgive you

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and you shall be made a child of God. By grace through Faith we come. Place your faith now in what Christ Jesus has done for you and you shall be saved.