

THE WEAPONS OF OUR WARFARE#3 THE SWORD OF THE SPIRIT: THE WORD OF GOD

We have examined two weapons that are in the Christian's arsenal found in Rev. 12 11; the blood of Jesus and the word of our testimony (living what we profess).

During the temptation of Christ he used three weapons against the devil: The Holy Spirit, fasting, and the written Word of God. We shall examine this weapon of the Word of God.

Matthew 4 ¹⁰ Jesus said to him, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.'"

¹¹ Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.
NIV

Eph. 6 17.... the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: KJV

Because the word of God is symbolized as the sword of the Spirit learn

I. The Word of God like a sword is an **ASSUALT WEAPON**.

Jesus did not allow the devil one inch on his turf. He met him head on and confronted him with the Word of God. He knew what to fight with.

A. Eph 6:12-17 list the **armor of God** that the believer is to "put on". However, the armor is for defensive purposes.

Why are we so surprised when we get our feelings hurt when we are a people told wear armor?

B. The only offensive weapon given to the believer in that passage is the Word of God.

C. Why this weapon is so effective.

Heb. 4 ¹²For the word of God is **living**, and **active**, and **sharper** than any two-edged sword, ...ASV

*It gives **life** .

*It is active in that it is always **energized and working**.

Isa. 55 ¹¹so shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it. ASV

*It is **sharper** (the original implies that the sword does not have to be used like “hacking” or “chopping but rather one swing will do the job.

III. Pastor Bari in West Africa: When he was saved and called to deliverance ministry was given one verse. He and his wife use it two times a day, morning and evening to pray for the sick and demon possessed who have come to them for help. They have built a church called “lunatic church” because the membership consist of those who were formerly demon possessed. What is the verse?

Matt. 18 ¹⁹Again I say unto you, that if two of you shall agree on earth as touching anything that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father who is in heaven. ASV

II. The Word of God like a sword is an **ACCURATE WEAPON**

Heb. 4 12... and **piercing** even to the **dividing** of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and **quick to discern the thoughts and intents of the heart**. ASV

- A. It **cuts**- “dividing of soul (senses) and spirit (God’s intention”
- B. It **pierces** - “goes to the inner man- the heart”
- C. It **separates**- “thoughts and intents”
- D. It **discerns** or **reveals** (like a mirror)
- E. It **does not miss its target!**

III. The Word of God like a sword in that is an **AUTHORITATIVE WEAPON**

The person who uses this sword is in control and will not be the loser.

- A. The Holy Spirit makes this sword effective.

It is called the sword of the Spirit. It is the anointing of the Word that makes it come alive. “The letter killeth but the Spirit maketh alive”. Jesus has entered the wilderness “led by the Spirit”.

B. Jesus knew the Word and was led of the Spirit he could not be defeated.

C. We can take authority because the Word and authority has been given to us by the Father inspired of the Holy Spirit.

James 4⁷ Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. KJV

We submit to God’s authority and he gives us his word and authority to resist the devil. The devil has but one alternative and that is to “flee”.

It is the power of that authoritative word that keeps us free.

John 8 32 You shall **know the truth** and the truth shall make you free.

John 14²⁶ But the Comforter, *which is* the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall **teach you all things**, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you. KJV

A person who knows the word is in authority over his enemy.

“Satan it is written!” The devil must leave at the revelation of truth.

1JO 2¹⁴ I have written unto you, fathers, because ye have known him *that is* from the beginning. I have written unto you, young men, because ye are strong, and the word of God abideth in you, and ye have overcome the wicked one. KJV