

ARMOR OF GOD

MESSAGE 7



The Sword of the Spirit - God's Word

“... [take] the sword of the Spirit -- which is the word of God.”
(Eph. 6:17b)

Our Sword - The Word of God . . .

- is a _____.

“For although we live in the flesh, we do not wage war according to the flesh, since the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but are powerful through God for the demolition of strongholds.”
(2 Cor. 10:3-4)

“For the word of God is living and active, and sharper than any two-edged sword,” (Heb. 4:12a, NASB)

“I have written to you, young men, because you are strong, and the word of God abides in you, and you have overcome the evil one.”
(1 John 2:14, NASB)

- is absolutely _____ for _____.

“He answered, ‘It is written: Man must not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.’” (Matt. 4:4)

“All Scripture is inspired by God and is profitable for teaching, for rebuking, for correcting, for training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.” (2 Tim. 3:16)

- must be used with the _____ and the _____ of the _____.

“...the sword of the Spirit....” (Eph. 6:17b)

“In the same way, no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. Now we have not received the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who comes from God, so that we may understand what has been freely given

Our Sword - The Word of God . . . (cont.)

to us by God. We also speak these things, not in words taught by human wisdom, but in those taught by the Spirit, explaining spiritual things to spiritual people. But the person without the Spirit does not receive what comes from God's Spirit, because it is foolishness to him; he is not able to understand it since it is evaluated spiritually.” (1 Cor. 2:11b-14)

“I say, then, walk by the Spirit and you will certainly not carry out the desire of the flesh.” (Gal. 5:16)

- is how we counter Satan's _____ and _____.

“If you continue in my word, you really are my disciples. You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” (John 8:31b-32)

“Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth.” (John 17:17)

“I have stored up Your word in my heart, that I might not sin against You.” (Ps. 119:11, ESV)

“Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind....” (Rom. 12:2)

- requires _____ and _____ in order to handle it effectively.

“Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth.”
(2 Tim. 2:15, NASB)

“...constantly nourished on the words of the faith and of the sound doctrine which you have been following...discipline yourself for the purpose of godliness....” (1 Tim. 4:6-7, NASB)

“But be doers of the word and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.”
(James 1:22)

Our Example:

_____ (Matt. 4)

HOW IT WORKS --

Satan: “Nothing good can come out of all this chaos and trouble!”

Our Counter-attack: *“And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.” (Rom. 8:28, NASB)*

Satan: “This temptation is too powerful for you.”

Our Counter-attack: *“No temptation has come upon you except what is common to humanity. But God is faithful; he will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to bear it.” (1 Cor. 10:13)*

Satan: “God will never forgive you for this.”

Our Counter-attack: *“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” (1 Jn 1:9)*

Satan: “You can’t do it!”

Our Counter-attack: *“I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.” (Phil. 4:13, NASB)*

Satan: “You’re too far gone to be saved.”

Our Counter-attack: *“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.” (John 3:16, NASB)*

Satan: “Be afraid! -- of the dark, of the unknown, of what other people think, etc.”

Our Counter-attack: *“The Lord is my light and my salvation—whom should I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life—whom should I dread?” (Ps. 27:1)*

Satan: “You’re all alone!! You don’t have anyone!”

Our Counter-attack: *“...for He Himself has said, ‘I will never leave you or abandon you.’” (Heb. 13:5b)*

Satan: “You’re a loser!”

Our Counter-attack: *“No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.” (Rom. 8:37)*

Satan: “You can’t know for sure that you’re saved.”

Our Counter-attack: *“I have written these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life.” (1 John 5:13)*

Satan: “You’re all alone!! You don’t have anyone!”

Our Counter-attack: *“for he himself has said, I will never leave you or abandon you.” (Heb. 13:5b)*

Satan: “You’re still condemned! God hasn’t forgiven you.”

Our Counter-attack: *“Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those in Christ Jesus.” (Rom. 8:1)*

Satan: “Worry about this! Be anxious about it!”

Our Counter-attack: *“Don’t worry about anything, but in everything, through prayer and petition with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.” (Phil. 4:6-7)*

Satan: “Give up on God! Just quit!”

Our Counter-attack: *“Yet those who wait for the Lord will gain new strength; they will mount up with wings like eagles, they will run and not get tired, they will walk and not become weary.” (Isa. 40:31, NASB)*

Satan: “You’re no match for my power!”

Our Counter-attack: *“You are from God, little children, and you have conquered them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.” (1 John 4:4)*