

EPHESIANS

The Sword of the Spirit

Main Scripture: Ephesians 6:17

The Sword of the Spirit is ...

The Word of God (v 17)

(1 Thes 2:13; 2 Tim 3:16-17; 2 Pet 1:20-21; Is 40:8; Heb 4:12-13; Mat 5:17-19; 2 Pet 3:15-16; Col 4:16; 1 Thes 5:27; 1 Tim 5:18; Ps 119:12, 27; 2 Tim 2:15; Ps 1; Rom 12:2; Ps 119:11; Phil 4:6-7; Jn 14:26; 1 Jn 2:21-23; Jam 1:25)

A defensive weapon

(Mat 4:1-11, Jn 17:17)

An offensive weapon

(Ps 119:105, Eph 5:11, Rom 10:17, 1 Pet 3:15, Phil 2:15-16, Jn 17:17, Col 3:16, Eph 6:18)

Prayer to Take Up the Sword of the Spirit

God, I thank You for Your Word, the Bible. I thank You that it is alive, active and effective today. I repent for how I have neglected Your Word and for my lack of interest or discipline to read/study/meditate on it. I also repent for the ways I have mis-used Your Word for personal gain. Thank You for Your forgiveness.

So, by an act of my will, I now take up the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. In humility, I ask You, Holy Spirit, to enable me to understand the word of God. Help me know the truth and guide me to use it defensively against Satan's attacks in temptation and with lies. Teach me to use it offensively against Satan by leading me in the way of righteousness to renew my mind and transform my thinking. May You advance the cause of Christ through me and how I use Your Word. Thank You for Your power that is at work through Your Word, the Bible. In the mighty name of Jesus Christ I pray, amen.

The Bible

The Word of God

No other book, written over so many years, by so many different authors, collected by such a diverse group of people, containing such unified themes ... challenges the mind, stirs the soul, strengthens the spirit.

It comforts the grieving, guides the seeking, corrects the wrongdoer, and rebukes the foolish.

It confronts sin, heals wounds, imparts wisdom, and displays understanding.

It is the source of peace for the anxious, provides hope for the desperate, and gives security to the fearful.

It protects those who claim it, nourishes those who meditate on it, and is a lamp for those who read it.

The Bible proclaims the truth, predicts the future, displays the glory of God, and reveals untold mysteries.

Its precepts are binding, its predictions accurate, and its promises secure.

The Word of God is alive and powerful! It sets the sinner free and puts demonic powers to flight.

The Bible is not limited by finite minds, it lives both inside and outside the bounds of space and time, it *does not* change, and *will* last for all eternity!

The Apostle Peter says we “will do well to pay attention to it” (2 Peter 1:19).