

**one little word shall fell him****I. Slide1 Announce:**

- A. Slide2-5 Larry: HS. Lasters. CFLC. Nursery.
- B. *Kelly wanted to thank all those who helped put on the Christmas celebration. All those who baked, decorated, made crafts, set up and tore down (including all the men) and prayed, thanks soooo much!!!!*
- C. Slide6 Israel: Last Day (Mon) to get signed up for Israel. Have to release seats.
- D. Slide7 Prayer Night: 6:30-7:30 tonight.
- E. Slide8 Christmas Service Times: 9,11am & 3,5pm.
- F. Slide9 Church History Books: (Martin Luther film) *Exploring Ch History*, Howard Vos. *Ch History in Plain Language*, Bruce Shelley.
- G. Prayer: Luther, A Mighty Fortress. *And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us, we will not fear, for God hath willed his truth to triumph through us. The Prince of Darkness grim, we tremble not for him; his rage we can endure, for lo, his doom is sure; one little word shall fell him.*

**II. Slide10 Intro: one little word shall fell him**

- A. Remember, 1st 3 pieces of armor are **past** (14,15) & next 3 are **future** (16,17). *Having & taking*
- B. Remember, **The armor** really is a symbolic description of *the Lord Himself*.
  1. Christ is the **Truth** (John 14:6), and He is our **righteousness** (2 Cor. 5:21) and our **peace** (Eph. 2:14). His faithfulness makes possible our **faith** (Gal. 2:20); He is our **salvation** (Luke 2:30); and He is the **Word** of God (John 1:1, 14).
    - a) Each piece is *how to lay hold of Him* as our defense against our enemy.
  2. God's armor is **tailor-made** for us, but we **must** put it on.
- C. General MacArthur said, *Whoever said the pen is mightier than the sword, obviously never encountered automatic weapons*.
  1. I think a similar statement can be said of the devil, *his weapons formed against us are mightier than just his threats*.
- D. Slide11 It has been said that the bible is, *an armory of heavenly weapons; a laboratory of infallible medicines; a mine of exhaustless wealth; a guidebook for every road;*

*a chart for every sea; a medicine for every malady; & a balm for every wound.*

### III. Slide12 SHELTERED WITH HIS SHIELD (16)

#### A. Slide13a THE SHIELD

B. What type of shields were there in Scripture? Ps.35:2 says, *Take hold of shield and buckler, And stand up for my help.*

1. Shield מגן *megen*

2. Small round convex shield, curled like a giant Frisbee at the edges.

a) It was strapped to the soldiers left forearm. He would strike with the sword while using his shield to ward off the enemies blows.

3. Buckler צָנָה *tsinah*

4. Large shield, rectangular 4'h x 2 ½'w. It was made of a thick plank of wood.

5. Covered with leather soaked w/water (treated to extinguish the fiery pitch on arrows)

a) These were also able to interlink so as to make a *phalanx*, a wall of protection.

6. This larger shield is what Paul is talking about here.

C. How would you use the small shield? [For personal protection in the spl realm against fiery darts]

D. How would you use the large shield? [Protecting others as well]

#### E. Slide13b FAITH

F. *Above all soldier...stand* behind that shield. *Above all Christian...stand* behind faith.

1. **W/o faith it is impossible to please Him.** Heb.11:6

2. Faith is vital in your Christian life...that's why Satan attacks it.

G. Since satan is the source of unbelief and doubt, *has God indeed said?* seems to be his favorite question (Gen. 3:1). As believers use the shield of faith, the fiery darts of unbelief and doubt are kept away. Wiersbe

H. What type of faith is he talking about here?

1. Not historical faith [I believe all of the major doctrines of the bible], Not salvation faith, but practical faith/everyday faith. Wiersbe

I. How do you define faith?

- J. Faith is *trusting* completely & unconditionally in **God & His Word**.
- K. Why did the biblical greats believe in God?
1. Because they had a right view of **whom He is**. They had such an exalted view of the sovereign God that *they took Him at His Word*.
  2. Sometimes He would have to speak to them *a couple words/times...*
    - a) Remember the night before **Gideon** attacked the midianites w/his 300 soldiers, God said (read Judges 7:9-11; 13). [Barley, a food for poor farmers, representing Gideon]
      - (1) The dreams omen was clear. So Gideon *heard & worshipped*.
- L. Slide13c QUENCH ALL THE FIERY DARTS OF THE WICKED ONE
- M. *Fiery darts/flaming Missiles* – In Paul's day archers of the Roman army would put a cotton-like material on the tip of their arrows & soak it in pitch. Before they shot the arrow, they would **light it**. *It would burn slowly but it was very hot*. When the arrow hits its target, the pitch would splatter & start little fires on the clothing of the soldier or on a wooden target.
- N. What were some of Satan's flaming missiles in Scripture against Jesus?
1. In the wilderness against **Jesus** they came in the form of *the temptation to disbelieve God*. *They sounded like this...*
    - a) Psst, don't trust God to care for you, you've already gone w/o food for 40 days, take matters into your own hands & make a few loafs of *Panera* bread.
    - b) Psst, Jump! God will take care of you. You're the Messiah remember? Angels will catch you, land you safely, & then **all** will be able to see....you are the Messiah.
    - c) Psst, didn't God tell you you'd have all the kingdoms? then come w/me & I'll give them to you early. [Don't think spiritual, think physical, you're hungry. Doubt God's faithfulness. Take a shortcut]
  2. Of course **Jesus** was able to *parry each thrust of Satan's plastic child's sword, with the steel-bladed sword of Gods Word*.
- O. What are Satan's flaming missiles against **us today**?
1. *With impure thoughts or opportunities...who will know?*
  2. *With selfishness...you deserve it.*

3. *With doubt, fear, disappointment, lust greed, vanity, & covetousness, etc.*

P. Why does Satan's fling flaming missiles against **us today**?

1. To solicit ungodly responses.
2. I thought the Greek word for **dart** was interesting.

Slide14 **Dart/missile** n. βέλος - *a weapon that is forcibly thrown or projected at a target but is not self-propelled* (arrow, javelin, dart, and other projectiles).

a) **Thus**, I was thinking, Satan's darts are not a *laser-guided bomb* or *precision guided munition*. Satan can only fire unguided bombs AKA, *dumb bombs*. He is **NOT** omniscient

Q. So how do we quench the flaming arrows?

1. **Believe/trust/have faith in God.**

a) **See** while you believe in God your shield is **up**. **When** Satan lies & you believe it, your shield goes **down**. *And this is the victory that has overcome the world; our faith.*

R. Which **area** do you seemed to be hit the most in when it comes to **your faith**?

S. What does this verse say to **you**? *Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your exceedingly great reward.* Gen.15:1 (ours also!)

#### IV. Slide15 **THE HELMET OF SECURITY (17a)**

A. Slide16a **THE HELMET**

B. Made of solid-cast metal, or leather w/patches of metal.

1. It protected the soldier from arrows, **but** mostly from the broadsword (3-4' long, massive handle, held w/2 hands, lifted it over head & then came down w/a crushing blow).
2. The soldier might **not** carry it *until it was needed for battle*, **thus** the command to *take it up*.

C. What does the helmet protect? [head, *i.e.* the mind]. Knowing this, if you were the devil, how would you wage warfare?

1. Maybe you'd use *Doubt*, or *Discouragement*, or *Disbelief*.
2. There are plenty of *head games* for him to choose from.

D. Slide16b **SALVATION** - *Which salvation?*

E. Slide17a 3 types: Past - Present - Future.

1. Slide17b I have **been** saved – I am **being** saved – I have **yet to be** saved.
2. Slide17c Justification – Sanctification – Glorification.
  - a) **Past** - Rom.10:9 *that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, **you will be saved.***
  - b) **Present** - Rom.5:10 *For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, **we shall be saved** by His life.*
  - c) **Future** – Rom.13:11 *And do this, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now **our salvation is nearer** than when we first believed.*
    - (1) How could you argue that this isn't the bible contradicting itself?  
[All written by the same man/Paul]
  - d) Slide17d **Past** – Saved from the **Penalty** of Sin (once & for all)
  - e) **Present** – Saved from the **Power** of Sin (in our lives daily)
  - f) **Future** – Saved from the **Presence** of Sin (all together)
3. **Salvation** here must mean steps 2 & 3 (Present & Future).
  - a) **Step 1** must have already taken place. Because this section started in vs.10, for those who are *strong in the Lord & are in the power of His might.*

V. Slide18 **THE SELF-SHARPENING SWORD OF THE SPIRIT(17b)** seen those knives?

A. Slide19a **THE SWORD**

B. Their sword or dagger was anywhere from 6-18" long.

1. Not the *broadsword* I spoke of earlier.
2. It wasn't just *flailed around* hoping to do some damage.
3. What does this already speak of as far as **handling** the word of God?

C. This dagger was in a sheath on the soldier's side, & used in *hand to hand combat*.

1. It must hit a vulnerable spot **or** it won't be effective. *We must use it precisely.*

D. Slide19b **THE SWORD OF THE SPIRIT**

- E. **Of the Spirit** – You might be filled w/bible knowledge **but** not *have* nor *use properly* the sword of the spirit.
- F. There must be *a dependence on the Spirit* for the proper use of His Sword...
1. **To understanding it** (*the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned*) **Also**, for **Teaching** us, **Guiding** us, **Reminding** us, & **Enabling** us.
- G. **Have you ever used the word of God w/o the Holy Spirit?**
1. **Yes every time** we were out to just win the argument.
  2. **Yes every time** we've gotten in the flesh.
  3. **Yes every time** we used it **as a** weapon against someone for harm.
- H. **Slide19c THE WORD OF GOD**
- I. *Rhema* - the significance of *Rhema* as distinct from *logos* is exemplified here in our text.
1. Here the reference is **not** to *the whole Bible* as such (logos), **but** to *the individual scripture* which the Spirit brings to our remembrance for use in time of need. A prerequisite being the regular storing in the mind with scripture.
- J. A material sword becomes **dull**; the Word of God **NEVER** loses its *sharpness*.
- K. **Slide20** In Joshua 1:8 **how does God define prosperity & success?** *Study this Book of Instruction continually. Meditate on it day and night so you will be sure to obey everything written in it. Only then will you prosper and succeed in all you do.*
- L. **Slide21** **What is the right way to use God's book?** Here it's illustrated in 3 things someone saw in a garden...[A Butterfly, A Botanist & A Bee]
1. **The Butterfly** alighted on a flower, stayed for a few moments & then went to another. **Never deriving any benefit from any of them.**
  2. **The Botanist** came w/a her ipad. She also spent time with many flowers & plants & typed up many notes. **But when she finished she kept it shut away in her ipad. Very little of it remained with her.**



3. **The Bee** came along, entering a flower here & there & spending time in each, emerging from each blossom *laden w/pollen*. *It went in empty & came out full*.
- a) **Some** Christians *flit about* from *passage to passage* getting little from their reading. **Others** really study & take notes, *but* don't apply it. **Others**, like the Bee, spend time all over the word, *reading, marking, & inwardly digesting & applying it*. [He goes *in empty* & comes *out full*, turning his knowledge into the *honey* that makes *life sweet*]
- (1) *Which are you?* The Butterfly, the Botanist, or the Bee?

M. **Communion**: (*Prayer*: Oh *the scandal of Grace*...You dying in MY place)

1. **Bread** - *Forgive us for* not picking up shield/*faith*, *but* worry/anxiety/stress. *Forgive us for* not putting on helmet/*salv* daily, *but* instead resting on our past *salv*. *Forgive us for* not using Your sword/*word* properly, *but* instead mishandling Your word.

2. **Cup** -

N. Let's remember, *In heaven we shall appear not in armor but in robes of glory*.

1. **So for now**...let's *strap on the Lord Jesus Christ*, *our armor & our defense* against our enemy.