

## The Believer's Battle pt. 14

### The Sword of the Spirit

#### Ephesians 6:10-20 (NIV)

<sup>10</sup> Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.

<sup>11</sup> Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.

<sup>12</sup> For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

<sup>13</sup> Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.

<sup>14</sup> Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place,

<sup>15</sup> and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace.

<sup>16</sup> In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one.

<sup>17</sup> Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

<sup>18</sup> And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.

<sup>19</sup> Pray also for me, that whenever I open my mouth, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel,

<sup>20</sup> for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.

### The Sword of the Spirit (the Bible) is a Sharp Weapon

#### What is a weapon?

1. Something used to \_\_\_\_\_, defeat, or \_\_\_\_\_; a means of \_\_\_\_\_ against another.

#### How is it a weapon?

2. The Word will \_\_\_\_\_ what God \_\_\_\_\_ and achieve the \_\_\_\_\_ for which He sent it.

**Isaiah 55:11 (NIV)** . . . so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.

3. The Word is \_\_\_\_\_, active, and a penetrating sword that \_\_\_\_\_ the thoughts and \_\_\_\_\_ of the heart.

**Hebrews 4:12 (NASB)** For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

a. \_\_\_\_\_

The Bible is the writing of the living God: each letter was penned with an Almighty finger; each word in it dropped from the everlasting lips; each sentence was dictated by the Holy Spirit.

Even though Moses was employed to write his histories with his fiery pen, God guided that pen. It may be that David touched his harp, and let sweet Psalms of melody drop from his fingers; but God moved his hands over the living strings of his golden harp. It may be that Solomon sang songs of love, or gave for the words of wisdom, but God directed his lips, and made the preacher eloquent.

If I follow the thundering Nahum, when his horses plowed the waters, or Habakkuk, when he sees the tents of Cushan in affliction; if I read Malachi, when the earth is burning like an oven; if I turn to the smooth page of John, who tells of love, or the rugged, fiery chapters of Peter, who speaks of fire devouring God's enemies; If I turn to Jude, who launches forth anthems upon the foes of God, everywhere I find God speaking;

it is God's voice, not man's, the words are God's words, the words of the Eternal, the Invisible, the Almighty, the Jehovah of this earth. This Bible is God's Bible, and when I see it, I seem to hear a voice springing up from it, saying "I am the book of God; man, read me. I am God's writing; open my pages, for I was penned by God; read it, for He is my author, and you will see Him visible and manifest everywhere.

b. \_\_\_\_\_

c. \_\_\_\_\_

4. The Word is a \_\_\_\_\_ fire of \_\_\_\_\_.

**Jeremiah 23:29 (NASB)** "Is not My word like fire?" declares the LORD,

5. The Word is a pounding \_\_\_\_\_ that crushes a \_\_\_\_\_ heart.

**Jeremiah 23:29. (NASB)** "Is not My word.....like a hammer which shatters a rock?"

6. The Word is the \_\_\_\_\_ door to \_\_\_\_\_.

**James 1:1, 2, 14 (NASB)** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God... And the Word became flesh,

7. The Bible is not written to \_\_\_\_\_ you, it has been written by God to \_\_\_\_\_ you.