

Living Worthy of My Calling, Pt. 37
“The Sword of the Spirit” I
Ephesians 6:10-18

by the power and enablement of the Spirit

In order to stand amidst spiritual conflict,

I must learn to apply the Word of God *actively* and *with precision*.

Review: the Whole Armor

- (1) **The Implements of Preparation, Readiness**
- *fixed* to the body prior to the conflict
 - make sure they're on and you're protected
 - the belt
 - the breastplate
 - the shoes
- (2) **The Implements of Action, Conquest**
- The soldier actively utilizes these pieces
 - “taking” or “take up”
 - the shield
 - the helmet
 - the sword

The Sword of the Spirit

1. The Original Sword of the Soldier:

(1) Construction

- Gk: “**machaira**” – a sharp, pointed, two-edged sword, about 18” in length
- could easily maneuver with one hand, thrusting and cutting

(2) Purpose

- could be used offensively or defensively
- fantastically effective in close combat if one was skilled in its use

2. Interpretation:

“ take...the sword of the Spirit which is the Word of God”

(1) Identity: the Word of God – the offensive weapon of the Christian soldier

- 1- Reminds us of **the nature of our conflict**

- 2- Reminds us of **the origin of the Word of God** – “God-breathed”

- 3- Reminds us of **the only way this word can be known – and thus effectively used:**

(2) Power and Effectiveness

-1- It is ***the offensive weapon*** for our warfare

- You cannot put the enemy to flight without a sword
- You cannot have any sense of victory without using the sword
- If we do not use the sword we have only a sense of endless onslaught with little relief

-2- **We must appreciate its unique power in this conflict**

- It is fantastically effective because of its Divine origin
- It is the only thing the enemy fears; the only thing he respects
- It is the only power sufficient to subdue the world, the flesh, or the devil

(3) Use

-1- It is to be used *actively*

-2- It is to be used *skillfully – with precision*

- Gk: “the RHEMA of God” conveys the idea of specific words, utterances

Further Application