

Steve Siefkes
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Ephesians 6:17
Sword of the Spirit

Introduction: Swords are an integral part of a soldier's weaponry. They can be used both defensively and offensively. God's provision for His soldier's is a unique sword unlike any other. Let's take a look.

A. Historical

1. Roman sword, Matt.26:47; Acts 12:2
 - a. Machaira, 6 – 18” in length
 - b. Known as “the sword that conquered the world”
 - c. Well known tactic was for the soldier to step in closer to his enemy so the enemy's longer sword or spear was ineffective
 - d. Was a double-edged weapon
 - e. Used for thrusting and slashing
2. Biblical, Hebrews 4:12

B. Greek

1. Take, NT 1209, “receive from someone else”
 - a. Aorist - Once
 - b. Middle - Subject initiates and does
 - c. Imperative – Imposes a demand upon the will and is contingent upon the response
2. Of the Spirit
 - a. Giver is the Spirit, II Pet. 1:21
 - b. Spirit, GK. 4151, “breeze, wind, Spirit”
3. The Sword
 - a. Definite article, NT, 3588, “the”
 - b. Sword, NT, 3162, “knife, sword”
4. Which is the Word of God
 - a. Word, NT, 4487, “utterance, word”
 - b. God, II Tim. 3:16-17
 - c. Heb. 4:12; II Cor. 10:-5

C. Application

1. Jesus' example, Matt. 4:1-11; Mk. 1:12-13; Lk. 4:1-13; cf. Gen. 3:13-15
 - a. Lust of the flesh, God's provision, Duet. 8:3
 - b. Lust of the eyes, Satan used the Word as well, Psa. 91:11-12 but omits a phrase
 - c. Pride of life, cf. Isa. 14:13-14; Jn. 12:31; Duet 6:13, 10:20
2. Our command, use the Sword, Heb. 4:12; Psa. 119
 - a. Defensively, deflects attacks
 - b. Offensive, inflicts wounds

Conclusion: There is no temptation that is not common to man and He has provided your armor. His armor is sufficient; His Sword is sharp and ready for action. It is honed to perfection. Don't be afraid to fight a defeated foe!