

38-Armor of God--- Sword of the Spirit

Each day I put on the Armor of God. At the beginning of the day, I speak with God. The dialogue is “Finally, I **take up the sword of the Spirit, Your Word**. Help me to read the Bible in a fresh, exciting way so I will always be ready to deflect attacks and pierce hearts with your truth.”

The Sword of the Spirit is the only offensive weapon in the Armor of God.

Knowledge of the Word is key to your effectiveness as you battle the enemy. Is the Word hidden in your heart? It must be if you are to draw upon His wisdom for the plan for your life. You live in a spiritual battlefield where the deceiver is battling the Creator. You need the Creator’s Word if you are to identify and deflect lies from the deceiver. The Creator’s Word is critical as you make decisions at key crossroads in your walk. Left to your own you are at great risk. Your knowledge of God’s plan for your life and your willingness to be disciplined are the foundation of your walk. It is critical to be engaged with like-minded folks who can encourage you.

Think my words are too strong? Look around you at all the folks who are slaves to addictions. How does this happen? It happens with a single false step. A single bad decision. Once you are on the slippery slope there is only one way to go. DOWN!!!

The only way to defeat the deceiver’s half-truths is to know the truth! Know that the devil is the father of lies! Know that he is a murderer prowling like a roaring lion seeking to devour! Know that he is a thief who comes to steal and kill and destroy! Know that he is an outcast who has been vanquished from Heaven! Know what God’s Word says about your enemy!

Verses:

2 Corinthians 10:4 “For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds.”

Romans 12:19 “Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, ‘Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord’.”

Revelation 20:3 “And threw him into the pit, and shut it and sealed it over him, so that he might not deceive the nations any longer, until the thousand years were ended. After that he must be released for a little while.”

Revelation 12:9 “And the great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.”

Genesis 3:1 “Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, Did God actually say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden?’”

Hebrews 4:12 “For the Word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.”

Personal Reflection:

How deep is your knowledge of God’s Word? Do you have key verses stored in your heart? Are you open to being disciplined?

General Discussion:

Are you disciplining one another? Are you holding each other accountable?