

STUDY NOTES FROM KAREN HOERDEL'S "SPIRITUAL ARMOR" TEACHING SERIES

The Sword of the Spirit Study Notes

The Sword/Offensive

The Roman soldiers used the sword as both an offensive and defensive weapon. Used in a defensive manner, the sword, along with the shield, breastplate and helmet, enabled the soldier to withstand the blows from the enemy's sword. As the only offensive weapon in the armor, the soldier used the sword in attacking and counter-attacking his attacker until he was seriously wounded or killed.

The Roman sword had a straight two-edged bladed, rather broad, and of nearly equal width from hilt to point. It was sharp on both sides (Why does the Word hurt? It cuts.)

The Spiritual significance of the sword of the Spirit is that it literally refers to the Word of God. Ephesians 6:17b (**SWORD**). The Word refers to the individual scripture which the Holy Spirit brings to our remembrance for use in time of need. Obviously this requires the regular storing up of our minds with the Word of God.

Using the sword means holding fast to the Word of God while directing it at the enemy as you would a sword.

Use the sword. Don't just stand there in your armor.

Don't allow it to remain passively in the sheath.

Don't wave it wildly about.

Don't just talk about the sword ("I have the sharpest sword in all the world, etc.")

Don't stop and listen to the enemy nor attempt to reason with him.

The more you use it, the sharper it gets!

Pull out the sword; take the Word of God and use it aggressively.

Learn the Word of God and hide it in your heart - then use it in times of temptation.

It will cut in pieces the snares of the enemy.

SWORD = "IT IS WRITTEN!"

The SWORD of the Spirit: The Word of God - Ephesians 6:17b

John 1:1, 14 - WORD = GOD = JESUS

Matthew 10:19-20 - WORD = HOLY SPIRIT

SWORD OF THE LORD

Deuteronomy 32:41-43 - Divine judgment

Joshua 5:13-15 - Captain of the Host

Judges 7:20-21

Psalms 45:3

Isaiah 11:4

Isaiah 49:2

Romans 13:4 - power and authority

II Thessalonians 2:8

Revelation 1:16
Revelation 2:12, 16
Revelation 19:11-15

POWER OF THE WORD

Jeremiah 5:14 - a devouring flame
Jeremiah 23:29 - a crushing hammer
Ezekiel 37:7 - a life-giving force
Romans 1:16 - saving power
Ephesians 6:17 - offensive and defensive weapon
Hebrews 4:12 - surgical instrument

OUR EXAMPLE: Matthew 4:1-11 - Jesus
Compare to Genesis 3:1-6 - Eve
See I John 2:16 - 3 temptations

**Psalm 17:4b... “by the word of Thy lips, I have kept me from the paths of the
destroyer.”**