

Blunting The Sword Of The Spirit

Introduction. Our life is a spiritual warfare (2 Corinthians 10:3-4; 1 Timothy 6:12; 2 Timothy 4:7). The Spirit has equipped us with a sword to attack and defeat the devil (Ephesians 6:10-13, 17).

By faith we are victors through God's strength, grace, and love (Romans 8:37; 1 Corinthians 15:57). God's word is always sharp, but our sinful, selfish choices dull and diminish our ability to effectively use it to conquer sin and Satan.

I. What Hinders Our Use Of The Sword

- A. Indifference.
 - 1. Luke 9:23.
 - 2. Romans 12:11.
 - 3. 1 Peter 3:13-15.
- B. Worldliness.
 - 1. James 4:4.
 - 2. 1 John 2:15-17.
 - 3. John 18:36.
 - 4. 2 Timothy 2:3-4.
 - 5. 2 Corinthians 6:17.
 - 6. Galatians 5:16.
 - 7. Titus 2:11-12.
- C. Immorality.
 - 1. 1 Peter 1:14-16; 4:2-3.
 - 2. Galatians 5:19-21, 24.
- D. Compromise.
 - 1. Galatians 2:5.
 - 2. 2 Timothy 1:13.
 - 3. Acts 4:29, 31.
 - 4. Jude 3.
- E. Lack of appetite.
 - 1. Matthew 5:6.
 - 2. Luke 8:14.
 - 3. Psalm 42:1; 119:129-131.
 - 4. James 4:1-3.

II. We Persevere In The Day Of Battle

- A. We take up the whole armor of God so we can fight the battle (Ephesians 6:13).
- B. The Spirit's sword is only effective when it's used.
 - 1. Psalm 119:169-173.
 - 2. Romans 10:17.
 - 3. Revelation 14:11-13.

Conclusion. Equip yourself with the sword of the Spirit and use it to be victorious in the spiritual battle for your soul (Matthew 5:29-30). If you'll stand in the strength of God's power (Ephesians 6:10), you can win!

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