



THE SWORD OF THE SPIRIT

Hello, again. Are you ready for this month's Bible study? This time, let's see if we can pick up our sword and fight the enemy. We know who our enemy is, don't we? It's not our brother or sister, our mommy or daddy. It's the devil and his servants. You see, when you fight other people, the devil is just laughing and getting the victory. So, let us keep this in mind as we go on.

Unlike the other pieces of the armour of God, which are all defensive, the sword of the Spirit is a powerful offensive weapon of spiritual warfare. *Offensive* means that we attack with it. The Bible tells us that this sword is the Word of God.

In the Greek language, there are two words for the English word *word* - they are *Logos* and *Rhema*.

Logos - the Word of God (see Strong's dictionary #3056) is often used to identify the written scriptures in the Bible, which were given

to people under the inspiration of God. The Bible, as God's *Word*, is the written revelation of God to humanity. Jesus completed this expression as the literal embodiment of God's Word, *Logos* (John 1:1-5,14).

Rhema - the Word of God (Strong's dictionary #4487) is the spoken Word of God. It is something that is uttered by the living voice. Or, sometimes you may have a problem and while you are reading the Bible, a verse pops up at you out of the pages, encourages you and gives you a direction in which to go. This also is

EPHESIANS 6:17B

...and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

Rhema Word - God speaking.

Can you guess which Greek word is used in Ephesians 6:17 where it talks about the sword of the Spirit? You are right, it is the word *Rhema*. As with the other pieces of the armor of God, we need to have faith as a foundation to use the sword of the Spirit. Jesus said in Mark 9:23, *If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth.*

As a very important side note, I have to mention that we have to be very careful how we use our tongue, what we say. Let me explain to you why: when we look at how the world was created, we see that it was by God speaking His Word. Hebrews 11:3 says, *Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word (Rhema) of God...* Since God created us in His likeness, we, too, have the ability to release power through what we say. For example, our words can

bring life and death (Proverbs 18:21). They can build people up or tear them down (James 3). So, it is very important that we would speak the words of God.

Going back to the sword of the Spirit, God has a simple way for us to use His Word as a weapon against the enemy. Jesus is our greatest example. He used the sword of the Spirit in resisting Satan in the wilderness (Luke 4). He responded to each of the temptations by quoting scripture. In the same way, we can use scripture to destroy the lies that trouble us.

When using the sword of

the Spirit, we need to make sure that we know God's written Word well. We need to learn the Bible. When we study the Bible, it not only familiarizes us with the Word, but also builds up our faith (Romans 10:17). Children, have your daily quiet times with the Lord, praying and reading the Bible. The best method for learning the Bible is to study it each day in a quiet time with God. Then, memorize verses. The Holy Spirit will remind you of the verses you learned when you get into a battle with the devil. Then, you will be able to use them effectively to de-

stroy the kingdom of darkness.

If you want to know in more detail how to use your sword effectively, read the story on the page 30 called *The Dark Evil Man and the Sword of the Spirit*.

Children, practice fighting with the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God, in your every day life. Then, write us what you experience. We are looking forward to hearing your testimonies!

(Based on children's lessons given by a number of teachers in Prague, Czech Republic.)