



Mirror, Mirror on the Wall
Session 7

The Sword of the Spirit

- I. The basics of spiritual warfare
 - A. We are engaged in a battle but it is not against flesh and blood.
 1. It is a battle against confusion.
 2. It is a battle against discouragement.
 3. It is a battle against despair.
 4. It is a battle against lies.
 - B. The devil and his demons are our primary adversaries.
 1. The enemy all around us – the world system
 2. The enemy within us – the selfish flesh
 - C. Our only defense is to “be strong in the Lord and the power of His might.”
 1. Christ is my authority in every area of life – the belt of truth.
 2. Christ is my confidence in my standing before God – the breastplate of righteousness.
 3. Christ is my inner strength – the shoes of peace.
 4. Christ is my resistance in my thought life – the shield of faith.
 5. Christ is my hope for the future based on the return of Jesus Christ – the helmet of salvation (anticipation).

6. Christ is my ever present help, defensively and offensively – the sword of the Spirit.

II. The sword of the Spirit, the Word of God. Ephesians 6:17

- A. This is not the Logos which refers to the complete revelation of what God has said.
- B. This is rhema which refers to a specific saying of God, a passage or a verse which has special application to an immediate situation.
 1. Moments of temptation or doubt
 2. Questions that catch us off guard
 3. Sitting in a meeting or driving in your car
- C. It is the Spirit's answer to an attack of the devil.
- D. It defends and protects us.
- E. It pierces other hearts and destroys the lies of the devil in other people.
- F. We are to proclaim the truth. We don't have to support it with long and extensive arguments.

For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

Hebrews 4:12

- G. It gets below reason and pierces the armor that has been erected against it. It gets to the heart.
- H. This is why there is always a satanic attack on the Bible.
- I. The "sayings of God" are a sword of the Spirit to defend against that which would undermine and attack ultimate authority.
- J. The greater exposure there is to Scripture, the more the Spirit can use this mighty sword in our lives.
- K. The devil can quote Scripture.

III. Every area of bondage in our lives can be traced back to a lie.

- A. The lie – God is not really good. If He was good, my life wouldn't be so hard. The truth – God is good and everything He does is good. Psalm 119:68

- B. The lie – God doesn't love me.
The truth – See how great a love the Father has lavished on us that we should be called the children of God. I John 3:1
- C. The lie – I need more than God to be happy.
The truth – The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not be in want. Psalm 23:1
- D. The lie – God's ways are too restrictive.
The truth – God's ways are best. Joshua 1:8
- E. The lie – God should fix my problems.
The truth – God is more concerned about what is going in me than what is going on around me. 2 Corinthians 4:17
- F. The lie – I'm not worth anything.
The truth – My value is not determined by others or me. My value is determined by how God views me. Psalm 139; Ephesians 1:3-8
- G. The lie – I can't help the way I am.
The truth – I have been set free to join with God in my transformation. Galatians 5:16
- H. The lie – I demand my rights.
The truth – Yielding rights will set me free. Luke 9:24
- I. The lie – I can sin and get away with it.
The truth – I will reap the consequences of my actions. Galatians 6:7-8
- J. The lie – I cannot win the victory over sin.
The truth – I can win the victory over sin. Galatians 2:20

IV. Victory in spiritual warfare – from bondage to freedom

- A. Identify the area of struggle.
- B. Identify the lie(s) at the root of the struggle.
- C. Replace the lie with the truth. *The truth will set you free.* John 8:32