

December 9, 2018

Sword of the Spirit

Matthew 26:36-39

Dressed for War

Ephesians 6:10-18

The Sword of the Spirit: Prepared by the Word of God

- This is the soldier's *offensive* weapon.
- Jesus wielded this sword to penetrate and cut through the attacks of his enemies.

Heb 4:12 For [...the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God...] is living and active [effectually powerful], sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and [resulting in] discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart...

Deut. 33:29 the sword of God's triumph

Josh 5:13-14 Now when Joshua was near Jericho, he looked up and saw a Man standing in front of him with a drawn sword in His hand. Joshua went up to Him and asked, "Are you for us or for our enemies?" 14 "Neither," He replied, "but as Commander of the army of the Lord I have now come

- As the pre-Incarnate Son entered the battle with His sword drawn against the strong hold of Jericho, so also the Incarnate Son entered the Garden with the Sword drawn against the stronghold of His people's disobedience.
- The *Divine Word of God* (John 1:1) enters the Garden as the *Incarnate Word of God* (John 1:14) to do battle, armed with *the Sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God*.

Peter 1:23 ...the living and abiding Word of God...

- Jesus was armed with the sword of the knowledge of God's will (Psalm 119:11).
- Jesus was able to cut through the temptation to withdraw from the fight.
- He entered the battle ground of Gethsemane as the Victor over the works of the devil (1 John 3:8b).
- Jesus grew up nourished and trained by the Word throughout his life.

Luke 2:52 Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man

- Jesus began his ministry by defeating the power of Satan with the sword of the Word (Matt. 4:1-10), and he will end his ministry in the same way.
- Jesus is now ready for the greatest battle of his ministry—to *fight the good fight of faith* for the will of God.
- Jesus will engage the battle *for the obedience of faith* (Rom. 1:5), unto death (Phil. 2:8).

Rom 5:19 *For as by the one man's [act of] disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one Man's [act of] obedience the many will be made Righteous (2 Cor. 5:21)*