

MARRIAGE BY THE BOOK

THE SWORD of THE SPIRIT

PRAYER

1. **REVIEW: THE SWORD of THE SPIRIT WHICH IS THE WORD OF GOD**
 - A. Ephesians 6:17 ... and take the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.
2. **“THE WORD of GOD”** ... **NOTE:** There are DIFFERENT GREEK WORDS for **“THE WORD OF GOD”**.
 - A. **GRAPHE**... The **WRITTEN** WORD of GOD
 1. The **BIBLE**
 - a. The **WORD of GOD** in **WRITTEN FORM**
 - b. 2 Timothy 3:16 (NASB) All Scripture (“Graphe”) is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness;
 2. The **GRAPHE** is the **GRAPHE WHETHER** we **OPEN** it, **READ** it, or **LEAVE IT** on the **SHELF**.
 - B. **LOGOS**... The **UNDERSTANDING** of the **WRITTEN WORD of GOD (GRAPHE)**.
 1. John 1:1 (NASB) In the beginning was the **Word (LOGOS)**, and the **Word (LOGOS)** was with God, and the Word (LOGOS) was God.
 - a. “The **WORD**” here is translated **LOGOS**
 2. God uses the **LOGOS** (the **UNDERSTANDING of THE WORD**) to cut through our **thoughts**, our **habits**, and our **strongholds** in order to **REMOVE THEIR INFLUENCE OVER US**... so the **SPIRIT** can have **CONTROL**.
 - C. **RHEMA**... Is **SPEAKING OUT LOUD** the **“WRITTEN WORD of GOD” (LOGOS)**.
 1. In Ephesians 6:17 the **WORD** Paul uses for **“THE WORD of GOD”** is **RHEMA**... the **SPOKEN “WORD of GOD”**.
 2. Ephesians 6:17 (NASB) And **take** THE **HELMET OF SALVATION**, and the **sword of the Spirit**, which is the word of God (RHEMA).
 3. **RHEMA** Is a **SPECIFIC ORAL DECLARATION** regarding our **UNDERSTANDING** of the **WORD of GOD**.

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4. The **REASON** many **CHRISTIANS** are **LIVING DEFEATED LIVES** is that we have **NOT GRADUATED** from **GRAPHE** to **LOGOS** to **RHEMA**.
5. The **BIBLE** is **JUST A BOOK** to us **UNTIL** we **OPEN** it, **READ** it, **UNDERSTAND** it, and **SPEAK** it **OUT LOUD**.
6. **MANY CHRISTIANS** live **DEFEATED LIVES** because we have gotten **STUCK** in **LOGOS-LAND**.
7. We **want** to **UNDERSTAND** the sermon, we **try** to **UNDERSTAND** Bible studies, and we **take notes** on the **KNOWLEDGE, BUT HAVE NOT USED WHAT WE HAVE LEARNED** in **SPIRITUAL WARFARE** AGAINST THE DEVIL, **OUR ENEMY**.
8. When we are in close-up **BATTLE WITH** the Devil and **ALL HELL HAS BROKEN OUT IN OUR LIVES ("The EVIL DAY")... WE NEED THE RHEMA...**
 - a. **THE SPOKEN WORD** of GOD **FOR OUR SPECIFIC SITUATION**.
9. We need to **HEAR GOD SPEAKING** to us... and **SPEAK THAT TRUTH** straight to Satan and his demons!
 - a. **Psalm 46:10a (NLT2)** "Be still, and know that I am God"
10. God's **SPOKEN WORD** was **POWERFUL** enough to **COMPLETELY CHANGE** things "**in the BEGINNING**", bringing things into **EXISTANCE** out of **NOTHING**.
11. **Genesis 1:3;6;9;11;14-15;20;22;24;26;29-31 (NASB)** Then God **said**, "Let there be light"; and there was light. Then God **said**, "Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." Then God **said**, "Let the waters below the heavens be gathered into one place, and let the dry land appear"; **and it was so**. Then God **said**, "Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees on the earth bearing fruit after their kind with seed in them"; **and it was so**. Then God **said**, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night, and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years; and let them be for lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth"; **and it was so**. Then God **said**, "Let the waters teem with swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth in the open expanse of the heavens. God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas,

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and let birds multiply on the earth." **Then God said**, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures after their kind: cattle and creeping things and beasts of the earth after their kind"; **and it was so. Then God said**, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." **Then God said**, "Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the surface of all the earth, and every tree which has fruit yielding seed; it shall be food for you; and to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the sky and to every thing that moves on the earth which has life, *I have given every green plant for food*"; and it was so. **God saw all that He had made, and behold, it was very good.** And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

a. **God's SPOKEN WORD (RHEMA) had the POWER WITHIN IT to ACCOMPLISH GOD'S DESIRE.**

12. Satan **KNOWS** that all he has to do is **TWIST GOD'S WORD** and it will become a **DULL SWORD, unable to carry out its PURPOSE** both as an **internal sword (LOGOS)** and as an **offensive weapon (RHEMA)**.

13. **Genesis 2:15-17;3:1 (NIV)** Then the LORD God took the man and put him into the garden of Eden to cultivate it and keep it. The LORD God commanded the man, saying, "From any tree of the garden you may eat freely; but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it you will surely die." ...Now the serpent was more crafty than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, "Indeed, **did God really say**, 'You shall not eat from any tree of the garden'?"

a. Study Bibles title Genesis 3, "**THE FALL of MAN**".

14. **JESUS used the RHEMA (the SPOKEN WORD of God) to DEFEAT the devil.**

15. **Luke 4:1-13 (NASB)** Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led around by the Spirit in the wilderness for forty days, being tempted by the devil. And He ate nothing during those days, and when they had ended, He became hungry. And the devil said to Him, "**if You are the Son of God**, tell this stone to become bread." **And Jesus answered him, "It is written**, 'MAN SHALL NOT LIVE ON BREAD ALONE.'" And he led Him up and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. And the devil said to Him, "I will give You all this domain and its glory; for it has been handed over to me, and I give it to whomever I wish. "Therefore **if You worship before me**, it shall all be Yours." **Jesus answered**

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him, "It is written, 'YOU SHALL WORSHIP THE LORD YOUR GOD AND SERVE HIM ONLY.'" And he led Him to Jerusalem and had Him stand on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down from here; for it is written, 'HE WILL COMMAND HIS ANGELS CONCERNING YOU TO GUARD YOU,' and, 'ON *their* HANDS THEY WILL BEAR YOU UP, SO THAT YOU WILL NOT STRIKE YOUR FOOT AGAINST A STONE.'" And **Jesus answered and said to him**, "It is said, 'YOU SHALL NOT PUT THE LORD YOUR GOD TO THE TEST.'" When the devil had finished every temptation, he left Him until an opportune time.

a. **JESUS OVERCAME Satan with THE WORD of GOD... the RHEMA, the SPOKEN WORD of GOD.**

16. QUESTION... Are WE USING THE WORD of GOD (the SPOKEN WORD of GOD) to make Satan LEAVE US ALONE?

a. The "SWORD of THE SPIRIT"... the SPOKEN WORD of GOD is our OFFENSIVE WEPON to advance against the enemy in the TRIALS, TEMPTATIONS, and SPIRITUAL BATTLES the devil brings upon us.

1) It's **PAST TIME** for us to TAKE BACK THE GROUND and **RESTORE** what has been **LOST** to the DECEPTIVE STRATAGIES of Satan.

17. WHEN we LEARN HOW TO USE THE SWORD of THE SPIRIT WHICH IS THE RHEMA... the SPOKEN WORD of GOD... IT WILL MAKE the devil FLEE!!!

3. SPEAKING GOD'S WORD INTO OUR TRIALS, TEMPTATIONS, AND SPIRITUAL BATTLES

A. If you are listening, you **NEED** to **KNOW**:

1. **YOU ARE GOING TO FACE TEMPTATION**..

a. You are **NOT IMMUNE TO FACING TEMPTATION**... no one is.

2. It's **NOT** a matter of **WHETHER** it will happen it is simply a matter of **WHEN**.

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B. **FROM THE VERY BEGINNING**, with the first two people (**Adam and Eve**) who ever lived, Satan **HAS BEEN USING TEMPTATION TO TRY TO DESTROY THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN GOD AND HUMANS.**

1. Therefore, as a **general rule**, **WHEN WE ARE TEMPTED**, look for the exit.

- a. God has **PROMISED** he will provide **A WAY of ESCAPE** so we can **“STAND”** and **NOT** give in to the temptation.
- b. **1 Corinthians 10:13 (NASB)** No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and **God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it.**
- c. That **“WAY OF ESCAPE” IS** the **RHEMA**, the **SPOKEN WORD of GOD.**

C. **COMMON TEMPTATIONS:**

1. **FEAR**

a. **LIES:**

1) **I CAN'T...**

- i. Overcome alcohol, expect a good marriage, I'm a failure, start a business, follow God...

2) **GOD WON'T...**

- i. Help me, forgive me, hear me...

3) **NOBODY CARES...**

- i. God cares, people care...

4) **I DON'T MATTER...**

- i. We matter to God... not because of what we do, but because of Whose we are

5) **IT'S TOO LATE FOR ME...**

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i. No... the feeling of guilt should prompt us to repentance... **NOT** helplessness.

b. **TRUTH:**

- 1) **Philippians 4:13 (NASB)** I can do **all things** through Him who strengthens
- 2) me.
- 3) **Lamentations 3:22-23 (NASB)** The LORD'S lovingkindnesses indeed never cease, For His compassions never fail. *They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness.*
- 4) **Psalms 23:4 (NASB)** Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.
- 5) **Psalms 34:4 (NASB)** I sought the LORD, and He answered me, And delivered me from all my fears.
- 6) **2 Timothy 1:6-7 (NASB)** For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and love and discipline.

c. **APPLICATION**

2. **MONEY**

a. **LIE:** Your fulfillment in life is tied to how much you have.

b. **TRUTH:** **1 Timothy 6:10 (NASB)** For the love of money is a root of all sorts of evil, and some by longing for it have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

c. **APPLICATION**

3. **PRIDE**

a. **LIE:** Don't admit your struggle because people will look down on you. You need to seem like you have it all together.

b. **LIE #2:** Look at how wonderful you are, and all that you have done with your hands. People should be praising you.

c. **TRUTH:** **1 Peter 5:5c (NASB)** for GOD IS OPPOSED TO THE PROUD, BUT GIVES GRACE TO THE HUMBLE.

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d. **TRUTH:** Proverbs 16:18 (NASB) Pride goes before destruction, And a haughty spirit before stumbling.

e. **APPLICATION**

4. **SEX**

a. **LIE:** I can look and flirt with it, as long as I don't indulge.

b. **TRUTH:** 1 Corinthians 6:18 (NASB) Flee immorality. Every *other* sin that a man commits is outside the body, but the immoral man sins against his own body.

c. **APPLICATION**

5. **ENVY**

a. **LIE:** I'm better than that person. The only reason they got that is because... (You can fill in the rest).

b. **TRUTH:** Exodus 20:17 (NASB) "You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife or his male servant or his female servant or his ox or his donkey or anything that belongs to your neighbor."

c. **APPLICATION**

6. **LUST**

a. **LIE:** You see it. You want it. You can have it.

b. **TRUTH:** 1 John 2:16 (NASB) For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world.

c. **APPLICATION**

7. **ANGER**

a. **LIE:** There isn't anything wrong with a little righteous indignation.

b. **TRUTH:** James 1:19-20 (NASB) *This* you know, my beloved brethren. But everyone must be quick to hear, slow to speak *and* slow to anger; for the anger of man does not achieve the righteousness of God.

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c. APPLICATION

4. STORY ABOUT NOT USING WHAT WE HAVE:

1. BODY BUILDER

2. **Matthew 25:14-31 (NASB)** "For *it is* just like a man *about* to go on a journey, who called his own slaves and entrusted his possessions to them. "To one he gave five talents, to another, two, and to another, one, each according to his own ability; and he went on his journey. "Immediately the one who had received the five talents went and traded with them, and gained five more talents. "In the same manner the one who *had received* the two *talents* gained two more. "But he who received the one *talent* went away, and dug *a hole* in the ground and hid his master's money. "Now after a long time the master of those slaves *came and *settled accounts with them. "The one who had received the five talents came up and brought five more talents, saying, 'Master, you entrusted five talents to me. See, I have gained five more talents.' "His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful slave. You were faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' "Also the one who *had received* the two talents came up and said, 'Master, you entrusted two talents to me. See, I have gained two more talents.' "His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful slave. You were faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' "And the one also who had received the one talent came up and said 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow and gathering where you scattered no *seed*. 'And I was afraid, and went away and hid your talent in the ground. See, you have what is yours.' "But his master answered and said to him, 'You wicked, lazy slave, you knew that I reap where I did not sow and gather where I scattered no *seed*. Then you ought to have put my money in the bank, and on my arrival I would have received my *money* back with interest. 'Therefore take away the talent from him, and give it to the one who has the ten talents.' "For to everyone who has, *more* shall be given, and he will have an abundance; but from the one who does not have, even what he does have shall be taken away. "Throw out the worthless slave into the outer darkness; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. "But when the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne.

3. **The same can be said for any CHRISTIAN who has ACCESS to THE FULL ARMOR of GOD... B U T DOES NOT USE IT TO LIVE A VICTORIOUS LIFE.**
4. **IF WE will simply USE THE ARMOR ON A DAILY BASIS..., WE WILL WALK IN VICTORY.**

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5. DISCUSSION AND QUESTIONS