

# THE SWORD OF THE SPIRIT

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Matthew 4:1-11

**Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.**

□ **Ephesians 6:17**

When Satan tempted Jesus, how did Jesus fight him off? "It is written"! "It is written"! "It is written"! If the Son of God himself appealed to Scripture over and over in overcoming evil, then surely we need the Bible.

To know the thoughts of God and the way to be saved, you need "the holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus" (2 Timothy 3:15). To grow mature in faith, you need the Bible: "All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work" (2 Timothy 3:16). To resist sin and conquer Satan, you need "the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God" (Ephesians 6:17).

Why is the Bible so powerful and perfect? Because it's not just something people made up, "but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit" (1 Peter 1:21). Since God cannot lie, no part of the Bible is false. Jesus said bluntly, "Scripture cannot be broken" (John 10:35).

Depend on the Bible. Hear it preached at church. Read it at home. Believe it. Trust it. Treasure it. Meditate on it. Memorize parts of it. Fight sin and Satan with it. Find God and his promises through it. "He has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature" (2 Peter 1:4).

PRAYER--Lord, I have put my hope in your word. Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. All your words are true; all your righteous laws are eternal. Amen. (Psalm 119)