



MESSAGE

STUDY GUIDE

GROUP MATERIAL

SONGS

Unique Sword of the Spirit: the Word of God

Bible Reading: Eph. 6:12-17; Heb. 4:12; 2 Tim. 3:16-17

[Watch LIVESTREAM here at 10am](#)

[Join our post-sermon discussion on Zoom at 11am](#)

[Join our citKids Connect discussion at 11am](#)

"The Spirit's Sword, God's Word" "Take...the sword of the Spirit—which is the word of God." (Eph. 6:17)

- A. The Sword –most important weapon
- B. Old Testament Background (Isaiah 11:4-5; 49:1-2)

God's Word as a Sword—Two Functions (Heb. 4:12; Eph. 6:17)

- A. God's Word as a 'Surgical Sword' for Heart-operations (Heb. 4:12)
- B. God's Word, the Spirit's Sword, is the Believer's Weapon (Eph. 6:17b)
- C. Scripture [Gk. graphe]: an 'Armory' (storehouse for weapons) (2 Tim. 2:15; 3:16-17; Acts 17:11-12)
 - 1. "Do not make the mistake...The Bible is not the sword of the Spirit it is the armory, or storehouse for weapons. There are thousands of swords in [the Bible] & every one of them is powerful & two-edged."—Harry Ironside (1876-1951; Toronto)
- D. D. Jesus used the Sword, God's Word, (from Scripture's 'Armory') against Satan (Mt. 4:4, 7, 10)
 - 1. "The Spirit & the Word work together as a powerful combination. The best e.g....is Jesus in the wilderness"—William Cook
- E. Complementary Spirit & Word (Eph. 6:17; 1:13; John 6:63)

1. "The divine gifts: the Spirit of God and the word of God...here...[are] complementary"—Bo Young Kang
- F. Faithful Holding to God's Word & God's Spirit
- G. Not for Evangelism or Attack, but for Spiritual Defense

Satan's Strategy—Deceitful Doctrinal Winds (Eph. 4:14-15)

A Doctrinal Wind—RHEMA vs. LOGOS (Eph. 4:14-15)

- A. Driving a Wedge between Logos & Rhema
 1. "Some preachers are driving a wedge between the 2 Greek words: logos & rhema." —David Watson
- B. Logos—Rhema: Distinguished only in older (outdated) NT Dictionaries—e.g. W. E. Vine
 1. Did Jesus defeat Satan with a 'Rhema Word'? (Mt. 4:4)
 2. "Christ...was tempted by the enemy. Jesus responded using the Rhema Word of God"—C. Trammell, Jr.
 3. Greek OT: "the LXX treats logos & rhema as synonyms & uses both for [the Heb.] dabar." —G. Bromley

An Invalid Dichotomy—Logos & Rhema are Synonyms

- A. Logos & Rhema "mean the same thing...Logos and rhema are synonyms."—J. Draper, K. Keathley
- B. Examples: Logos & Rhema used Interchangeably (Jn. 2:22, etc.)
 1. "The one who...does not receive my words [rhemata (pl.)] has a judge; the word [logos] that I've spoken will judge him on the last day." (John 12:48 ESV)

ERROR: 'Rhema Word of Faith' alleges there are 2 Distinct Swords—Logos & Rhema (Heb. 4:12; Eph. 6:17b)

- A. "Two Swords from the Lord...Logos & Rhema...Did you know that every believer has 2 swords?"—Ed. Delph, David Lake
- B. "There are not two Words of God, but only one."—Gerhard Kittel
 1. "Did you know that every believer has two swords?...[Heb. 4:12] informs us about Logos...[Eph. 6:17] informs us about Rhema. Logos is the Bible, the written Word of God—the...complete Word of God...Logos is one of the swords...But, God decided that believers...need another sword too...Rhema is God speaking...to a person or through a person a now-word, for a now-time, in a now-circumstance...Rhema is a powerful sword too...We need both swords."—Ed. Delph, David Lake

Damaging Effects of the 'Rhema Doctrine'

- A. It wrongly equates the 'Logos' with Scripture [Graphe]—the Bible's Written Word
- B. Scripture (Gk.: Graphe) is distinguished from Logos (e.g. John. 2:22)
- C. The 'Rhema Word' allegedly Superior to the 'Logos Word'
- D. The 'Rhema Doctrine' undermines the Bible's Authority
- E. Establishing a 'False Doctrine'
- F. Restoring the OT Prophet's Role (1 Sam. 10:14-16; cf. Jer. 31:34; Heb. 8:11)
- G. Paul's Pattern: He rejected the "prophetic ['Rhema'] word" of Agabus & Co. (Acts 21:10ff)