

Defense Against Defeat

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: Ephesians 6:14-17.

B. The armor of God defends us in attack and makes it possible that we might stand in an evil day.

C. Only the Christian is able to resist the attack of the devil by putting on this armor.

D. The armor is representative of Christ.

1. The first three pieces have to do with you in Christ.

2. The last three pieces have to do with Christ in you.

E. The Word of God has been given to us so that we can manage practicing Christian truth. (Colossians)

F. The authority of Scripture is the authority of Jesus Christ.

II. The sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God.

A. The sword of the Spirit is a saying of God applied to a specific situation.

B. This saying is used for defense against the deceit of the devil.

C. The sword is the only weapon that is both defensive and offensive. (Hebrews 4:12)

D. The devil goes out of his way to make the Bible appear fantastical in order to prevent people from reading it.

E. The answer to the devil's deceit is to read the honest accounts of Scripture. (Proverbs 3:4-5, Ephesians 4)

F. The greater exposure there is to Scripture, the more the Word can have an effect.

G. The responsibility of the Christian when a saying is placed in his mind is to heed it and take it seriously.

H. We are to compare Scripture with Scripture to discern its meaning.

I. Jesus answered the devil by quoting Scripture.

III. To become a Christian is to put on the armor of God.

A. We are to use this armor so that we do not fail.

B. Think through the armor of God when placed under trial.

Application questions:

1. What is the sword of the Spirit and how is it to be used?

2. How does the sword of the Spirit relate to Scripture? Explain.

3. What areas of your life can you most use the sword of the Spirit? What are some verses that might be useful for you to memorize in this regard?
