

## The Sword of the Spirit Eph. 6:17b

### ***What a Roman soldier's sword was all about:***

- ◆ This is the only offensive weapon referred to, but the context is clearly defensive (recall *stand firm* 3x in 11,13,14).
- ◆ In mind was the gladius—"The sword that conquered the world."

### ***Why we need the sword of the Spirit:***

- ◆ The Sword = God's Word and is usually constructive: Ps. 1:1-3, 33:6, Lk. 7:6ff., I Pt. 2:1, Jn. 17:17, Eph. 5:26, but it can also be destructive: Isa. 11:4, Rev. 1:16, 2:16, 19:14,15, II Thess. 2:8. The idea ≠ preaching the Word, but defending with the Word.
- ◆ We must realize the power of God's Word and be able to wield it, Heb. 4:12,13, II Cor. 10:4,5. Note the sword-like effect of words spoken in Isa. 49:2 and Hos. 6:5.

### ***How we take up and wield the sword of the Spirit:***

- ◆ Jesus' example of confronting the attacks from the devil offer us the perfect example: Matt. 4:1-11—*It is written . . .*
- ◆ To be able to wield a sword against devilish attacks, one needs to . . . know what the Word says.

. . . have a right understanding of it, Jn. 18:9-11, II Tim. 2:15.

. . . be able to call it to mind and speak it when confronted.



*And the sword of  
the Spirit, which is  
the word of God . . .*

**The Sword of the Spirit**

