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What Sword Comes from Your Mouth?

“Do not think that I came to bring peace on the earth; I did not come to bring peace, but a sword” (Matthew 10:34 NASB).

The inspired Word of God is this sword that Jesus said would cause division even in families when wielded by the Holy Spirit, for it is the *“sword of the Spirit”* (Eph. 6:17a), which is *“living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart”* (Heb. 4:12).

God’s Word is no trifling matter, for Jesus told the Church at Pergamum to repent of their attachment to sin *“or else I am coming to you quickly, and I will make war against them with the sword of My mouth”* (Rev. 2:16). The Word of God from the mouth of Jesus will slay the unrepentant when He returns to conquer the earth: *“From His mouth comes a sharp sword, so that with it He may strike down the nations”* (Rev. 19:15a) *“with the breath of His mouth”* (2 Thess. 2:8), for *“with righteousness He will judge the poor, And decide with fairness for the afflicted of the earth”* (Isa. 11:4).

Today, God’s indwelling Holy Spirit wields His Word IN Believers (refining our hearts) and THROUGH us (testing the hearts of those around us). When we speak, this Sword of the Spirit can also be on our tongue, as the prophets testified: *“The Spirit of the LORD spoke by me, And His word was on my tongue”* (2 Sam. 23:2), for *“He has made My mouth like a sharp sword”* (Isa. 49:2a). Yet we must also know that the Sword of the Spirit is not the only “sword” that can be on our tongues, for we often speak *“rashly like the thrusts of a sword”* (Pro. 12:18a). Also, there are *“those who do iniquity, who have sharpened their tongue like a sword”* (Ps. 64:2b-3a), devising

“destruction, like a sharp razor...You love all words that devour, O deceitful tongue” (Ps. 52:2-4). However, we must look to God when the wicked strike at the righteous, for He *“saves from the sword of their mouth...So the helpless has hope, And unrighteousness must shut its mouth”* (Job 5:15-16).

God’s Word on our tongue cuts through the strength of the flesh and the might of the spiritual forces of darkness. God’s Word is powerful and judges who is saved and who is not, for Jesus said, *“he who rejects Me and does not receive My sayings, has one who judges him; the word I spoke is what will judge him at the last day”* (John 12:48), for *“he who does not believe has been judged already because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God”* (John 3:18). The Word wielded by the Spirit cuts to the heart, forcing people to face the truth of their sin nature, their guilt before God, and their need for Christ. Their response in their heart divides them into the repentant and unrepentant. Although its piercing can be painful, the Sword of the Spirit brings salvation and life to you if you repent, because it will separate you from your attachment to sin, which is what has made *“a separation between you and your God”* (Isa. 59:2a). Thus, the Spirit’s use of God’s Word severs repentant hearts free from their bondage to sin and restores them to God. At the same time, it brings eternal judgment to those who die unrepentant, as they reject its work to separate them from their sin, which separated them from God in the first place.

May we give every thought, word, and situation over to God, that our tongues would not be instruments of evil but that the Holy Spirit would wield the Word of God through our mouths, cutting through the power of sin over the flesh, revealing God’s judgment, and bringing salvation to repentant men and women in Jesus’ name. Even so, Amen.

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