

THE HELMET & THE SWORD: PART IV
EPHESIANS 6:10-20
SEPTEMBER 27, 2009

Questions for Study & Reflection

1. Read Luke 4:1-15. What precisely was the devil tempting Jesus to do in verses 3-4? Jesus responded to this temptation by quoting Deut 8:3. Read this verse in context and discuss in more depth Jesus' tactic in answering this way.
2. What precisely was the devil tempting Jesus to do in verses 5-7? Jesus responded to this temptation by quoting Deut 6:13. Read this verse in context and discuss in more depth Jesus' tactic in answering this way.
3. What precisely was the devil tempting Jesus to do in verses 9-11? Jesus responded to this temptation by quoting Deut 6:16. Read this verse in context and discuss in more depth Jesus' tactic in answering this way.
4. The first lesson Pastor Charlie drew from the exchange in Luke 4:1-15 is that Jesus always appealed to the ultimate source of authority, that is, the Word of God. Why is this tactic so effective against the devil? Why was the devil unable to gain victory against Jesus when he used this same tactic? What does this imply about our own tactics in the day of battle?
5. Read Rev 1:16 and 19:11-16. What does the sword protruding imply about the eternal place and function of the Word of God? What does it imply about our own spiritual battles today?
6. The second lesson Pastor Charlie drew from the exchange in Luke 4:1-15 is that Jesus was able to draw the Word of God out of his mind because he had spent his life soaking in the Word. What does this imply about our own lives in Christ? Are you taking the responsibility to make sure your mind is soaked in the Word? If not, what specific steps will you take now to remedy this problem?
7. The third lesson Pastor Charlie drew from the exchange in Luke 4:1-15 is that Jesus not only knew the Word of God but he was in union with the God of the Word. Why is this principle so crucially important? Why is it to a great extent *the* key to success in spiritual battle? What does this lesson imply for our own battles today?
8. The fourth lesson Pastor Charlie drew from the exchange in Luke 4:1-15 is that, like Jesus, we are not just called to defend against the devil but to attack his forces and infiltrate his Kingdom. Read Mat 28:18-20 and talk about the implications of Jesus' words for the life and mission of the church.