



John's Schedule

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Wearing His Word



Part 6 (990117PM)

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Late in 1996 a plane went down in the Andes Mountains. It didn't make much news. All aboard were lost. The investigation later revealed the cause of the crash. As with all planes in snowy regions, the maintenance crews had to spray off the wings in their de-icing routine. As with all crews, some of the sensors were duct taped so that the spray would not damage them. Unnoticed at take off, these sensors were never untaped. Moments after takeoff into the snow, the pilot cried out that he was getting no readings on his sensors as he slammed into the mountain side of the airport region. Taped warning systems doomed that flight.

Living without a Word filled life is like flying into a snowstorm on a dark night with your sensors taped - you will crash sooner or later. How do we untape them if they are taped up some how? I believe the best place to see the Word filled life is through the eyes, heart and words of God's great servants. Lets start with EZEKIEL!

God's word filled servants SUBMIT to him.

- They are open to God's word [Ezekiel 1:3](#) the word of the LORD came expressly to Ezekiel the priest, son of Buzi, in the land of the Chaldeans by the river Chebar; and there the hand of the LORD came upon him. (NASB)
- They are listening to God's voice [Ezekiel 1:3](#) the word of the LORD came expressly to Ezekiel the priest, son of Buzi, in the land of the Chaldeans by the river Chebar; and there the hand of the LORD came upon him. (NASB)
- They are waiting for God's hand [Ezekiel 1:3](#) the word of the LORD came expressly to Ezekiel the priest, son of Buzi, in the land of the Chaldeans by the river Chebar; and there the hand of the LORD came upon him. (NASB)
- They are following God's lead [Ezekiel 1:20](#) Wherever the spirit was about to go, they would go in that direction. And the wheels rose close beside them; for the spirit of the living beings was in the wheels. (NASB)

Sound too good to be true? Its not. That is the way a word filled servant serves. How? By wearing His word.

Lets listen to another great servant who experienced the Word filled life, Paul. Please stand as we read about the Word filled life in [Col. 3:12-17](#)

Very literally, the "whole armor of God" he describes is a picture of Jesus Christ. In verses 14-17 is a list of the combat equipment that the Holy Spirit issues to every believer at the moment of salvation. By faith and obedient experience we find Christ is:

1. We wear His Truth
2. We wear His Righteousness
3. We wear His Peace
4. We wear His Faith
5. We wear His Salvation
6. We wear His Word as the sword of the Spirit when we are letting His Word dwell in us. [Ephesians 6:17](#) And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God;

[Colossians 3:16-17](#) Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God. 17 And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father.

Sword of the Spirit. Quick and deadly were the swords of a soldier. Vital to any

victory was the hand to hand combat which ended in the defeat of the enemy. To the Christian soldier this victorious sword comes only through the personal memorizing of the Scriptures. This is essential to effectiveness in battle. Warning: Neglecting the Word breeds weakness. And finally, watch out. Sometimes the battle gets up close and personal. Sometime there will be face to face encounters with enemies. And then only one thing will do, you must attack with the weapon of victory. And for the soldier there was only one, the short and lightning like stabs of the battle sword.

There were two swords carried in battle: the machaira , the dagger mentioned in verse 17, and the broadsword, which was from three to four-feet long. It had a massive handle that was held with both hands like a baseball bat. The soldier lifted it over his head and brought it down on his opponent's head. The broadsword was a tremendous weapon. It dealt such a crushing blow to the skull a helmet was necessary to deflect it.

Of the Spirit refers to the source or origin of the sword; hence it is "the sword given by the Spirit." "The sword of the Spirit" is specified as the Word of God. "Word" refers to the preached Word or an utterance of God occasioned by the Holy Spirit in the heart. Believers need this "sword" to combat the enemy's assault, much as Christ did three times when tempted by the devil ([Matt. 4:1-11](#)).⁽¹⁰⁾

Just as food nourishes your body⁽¹¹⁾ , God's Word is real spiritual nourishment. It's like vitamins, minerals, proteins, and carbohydrates! Without food, you become malnourished and sickly. Eventually you die. And if you don't have a healthy, regular practice of taking God's Word into your inner man - you'll experience similar results in your spiritual life.

Meditation is the process by which God's Word passes from your head down into your spirit where its power can be released . As Campbell McAlpine stated in his book *Alone With God*: "Meditation is the digestive faculty of the soul." Even though Jesus was physically depleted from 40 days of fasting, He was so strong in spirit from seeking God and meditating on the Word that He wielded a few words and they were a powerful weapon to defeat His adversary.

The prophet Jeremiah knew about the power of meditation. He cried out: "Thy words were found and I ate them, and Thy words became for me a joy and the delight of my heart..." ([Jer. 15:16](#))

- Is your spirit joyful because it's nourished by real life-giving "food" - or is it malnourished?
- Is your quiet time with the Lord a joy -or a duty? God's Word is not something you read to fulfill a daily "obligation" or to show Him what a dutiful Christian you are. In a very real sense, it's meant to bring the kind of inner happiness that gives "healing to your body and refreshment to your bones." ([Prov. 3:8](#))

Throughout the Old and New Testaments, we find men and women who knew how to take the Word of God within - and there it touched off a fire of wisdom, understanding, power, and prophetic insight. People like David, the prophets, and the Apostles knew that godly power and joy came from feasting their souls on God's Word,

Let me ask you a question: Are you feeding your spirit so you can have a Word filled life? When Word of God unleashed to transform lives what does it do?

It Transforms:	Into:
Self sufficiency	Godly reliance
Spiritual coldness	Full hearted devotion
Life of apathy	Devoted care
Total self-centeredness	Loving sacrifice
Pride	Humble submission
Smothering bitterness	Sweet forgiving spirit
Grip of fleshly desire	Purity of mind
Present moral defilement	Pursuit of holiness
Scars of past	Opportunities to share grace received
Greed - idolatry	Worship
Anger	Self-controlled/spirit filled joy
Rebellion	Living sacrifice
Bondage to alcohol, sex	Bond-slave to Christ

What are the benefits of this Word filled life?

I've found at least a dozen byproducts of the word filled life:

- The word filled life meditates on God all day long: [Joshua 1:8](#) "This Book of the Law

shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success."

- The word filled life enjoys God all day long: [Joshua 1:9](#) "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."
- The word filled life experiences life long FRUITFULNESS: [PSALM 1:2](#) [At the front door of the longest book of the Bible is a secret recipe for spiritual success. God wants us to prosper and bear fruit. How? Meditation!]
- The word filled life experiences PEACEFULNESS IN TRIALS: [PSALM 35:28](#) [No one in scripture has more of their life laid bare than David. His affair, family problems, job stress, people problems, enemies, Satanic attack and more. How did you do it Dave? Meditation on the Word!] [Psalm 35:27-28](#) Let them shout for joy and be glad, Who favor my righteous cause; And let them say continually, "Let the Lord be magnified, Who has pleasure in the prosperity of His servant. And my tongue shall speak of Your righteousness And of Your praise all the day long."
- The word filled life experiences STABILITY IN ROUGH SEAS: [PSALM 37:30](#) [Is your boat rocking? Starting to list, sink? What is the sure fire way to stabilize things? Meditate on the Word!] [Psalm 37:29-31](#) "The righteous shall inherit the land. And dwell in it forever. 30 The mouth of the righteous speaks wisdom, And his tongue talks of justice. 31 The law of his God is in his heart; None of his steps shall slide."
- The word filled life experiences refreshing PERSONAL WORSHIP IN ALL TIMES: [PSALM 63:6](#) [Are you running fast and thin? Do your nights and days run together? How many times have you wished for a quiet day at a mountain, seaside or forest retreat with just your Bible and a cup of coffee? God says, the coffees on and I'm waiting at every turn of your life. Turn your car, bus, sink, computer work station, desk or whatever into an altar. How? By Meditating on the Word!] [Psalm 63:6](#) "When I remember You on my bed, I meditate on You in the night watches. 7 Because You have been my help, Therefore in the shadow of Your wings I will rejoice. 8 My soul follows close behind You; Your right hand upholds me."
- The word filled life finds God's COMFORT IN ADVERSITY: [PSALM 77:12](#) [Do you feel it is too hard to even go on? Does the enemy seem to be winning. Are the problems multiplying like weeds? God has a solution and it is simple and powerful. What/ Meditating on his Word!] [Psalm 77:12](#) "I will also meditate on all Your work, And talk of Your deeds."
- The word filled life experiences A LIFELONG TESTIMONY TO GOD'S FAITHFULNESS AS OLD AGE COMES: [PSALM 71:24](#) [Ever want to end up as sweet as some of the precious saints you know. They die serenely, enduring those last long and pain filled days with a strength and peace that only comes from God. Where did they get that in life and into the shadow of death? By Meditating on the Word!]
- The word filled life finds nourishment in the lord: [Psalm 81:16](#) "He would have fed them also with the finest of wheat; And with honey from the rock I would have satisfied you."
- The word filled life can see heaven on earth : [Isaiah 33:14-17](#) "The sinners in Zion are afraid; fearfulness has seized the hypocrites: "Who among us shall dwell with the devouring fire? Who among us shall dwell with everlasting burnings?"

- A. LIFESTYLE OF HOLINESS : v. 15a He who walks righteously and
- B. INTEGRITY OF COMMUNICATION v. 15b speaks uprightly,
- C. A HEART OF COMPASSION v. 15c He who despises the gain of oppressions,
- D. HONESTY IN FINANCES v. 15d Who gestures with his hands, refusing bribes,
- E. CULTIVATING SPIRITUAL SENSITIVITY v. 15e Who stops his ears from hearing of bloodshed,
- F. PURSUED PURITY v. 15f And shuts his eyes from seeing evil:
- G. SECURE WORSHIP v. 16a He will dwell on high;
- H. SECURE DWELLING v. 16b His place of defense will be the fortress of rocks;
- I. SECURE NOURISHMENT v. 16c Bread will be given him,
- J. SECURE REFRESHMENT v. 16d His water will be sure.
- K. A SIGHT OF THE KING OF HEAVEN v. 17a Your eyes will see the King in His beauty;
- L. A SIGHT OF GOD'S HEAVEN v. 17b They will see the land that is very far off.

- The word filled life is transformed into Christ-likeness: [Romans 12:1-2](#) "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God."
- The word filled life is full of God's spirit: [Colossians 3:15-17](#) "And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful .16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.17 And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him." Peaceful, thankful and spiritual!

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