# God is Marshaling His Army for the Rescue of His Truth
## Victory Through the Word of God
## By Connie Smith, November 10, 2026

***John 1:1-5 1 In the beginning was the gospel preached through the Son. And the gospel was the word, and the word was with the Son, and the Son was with God, and the Son was of God. 2 The same was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made by him; and without him was not anything made which was made. 4 In him was the gospel, and the gospel was the life, and the life was the light of men; 5 And the light shineth in the world, and the world perceiveth it not.***




***1 Thessalonians 1:5 For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance; as ye know what manner of men we were among you for your sake.***

### I. In The Beginning

- **God's Power: He is sovereign-He has Lordship over everything. (*Genesis 1:2*)**
- **He establishes His divine authority over everything that is, was and will be. (*Ecclesiastes 3:14-15*)**
- **God's character is good and what He creates is also good. (*Genesis 1:14*)**
- **Jesus is with God in the beginning.**
- **God establishes morals and a pattern for things in the earth, on the earth, in the heavens and for mankind.**
- **Let there be Light.**
  ***DC 85:3*** *3a And the light which now shineth, which giveth you light, is through him who enlighteneth your eyes, which is the same light that quickeneth your understandings; which light proceedeth forth from the presence of God, to fill the immensity of space. 3b The light which is in all things; which giveth life to all things; which is the law by which all things are governed; even the power of God who sitteth upon his throne, who is in the bosom of eternity, who is in the midst of all things.*

**In the Beginning…the precious gift given to mankind: the Gift of Agency**

- **The Spirit of Opposition** *2 Nephi 1*
  *81 For it must needs be, that there is an opposition in all things.*
  *82 If not so, my first born in the wilderness, righteousness could not be brought to pass; neither wickedness; neither holiness nor misery; neither good nor bad.*
  *95 For there is a God, and he hath created all things, both the heavens and the earth, and all things that in them is;*
  *96 Both things to act, and things to be acted upon;*
  *97 And to bring about his eternal purposes in the end of man, after he had created our first parents, and the beasts of the field and the fowls of the air, and in fine, all things which are created, it must needs be that there was an opposition;*
  *98 Even the forbidden fruit in opposition to the tree of life; the one being sweet and the other bitter;*
  *99 Wherefore, the Lord God gave unto man, that he should act for himself.*
  *100 Wherefore, man could not act for himself, save it should be that he was enticed by the one or the other.*
- These choices are described in several ways but mean the same: Good and evil, light from dark; liberty/eternal life vs captivity/death; freedom verses bondage.
- *Genesis 50: 25 And it shall come to pass that they shall be scattered again; and a branch shall be broken off, and shall be carried into a far country; nevertheless they shall be remembered in the covenants of the Lord, when the Messiah cometh;* ***for he shall be made manifest unto them in the latter days, in the Spirit of power; and shall bring them out of darkness into light; out of hidden darkness, and out of captivity unto freedom.***

## II. God's Provision… and How God Reveals Himself to Man

- **Spoken Word** –
  *Exodus 3:2, 14; 2 Nephi 14:3*; *Romans 10:15-16*
  God's own Voice
  Angelic Messages/Holy Ghost
  Preached Word by Man

- **Written Word –**
  *Genesis 6:9*; *Genesis 1:1; 2 Nephi 15:1*; *Ether 5:22-26; Acts 16:14, 30-32*
  How does this affect you and your walk with the Lord?

- **Angels and Angelic Ministry - Taken from website: Hebrews for Christians: *Malakh* (מַלְאָךְ) is a Hebrew word meaning "angel, messenger, envoy," pronounced "mal-AKH."**
  *Genesis 4:6; 7:32-33; 18:19-33; 19:15; Luke 15:10*; *2 Corinthians 11:13;*
  *2 Corinthians 18:13; 2 Nephi 6:23*; *Alma 16:66; Matthew 18:10; Psalm 91:9-11*

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- **Dreams & Visions -** *Joel 2:28*; *Acts 2:17*; *Ecclesiastes 3:14-15*

- **Power of the Holy Ghost -** The gift of the Holy Ghost is one of the most important gifts you'll ever receive. In the book, *Lectures on Faith*, the Holy Spirit is described as **"the fullness of the glory of the Father—possessing the same mind with the Father"** (pg. 74). …which Spirit is shed forth upon all who believe on his name and keep his commandments; and all those who keep his commandments shall grow up from grace to grace, and become heirs of the heavenly kingdom, and joint heirs with Jesus Christ; **possessing the same mind, being transformed in the same image or likeness, even the express image of him who fills all in all; being filled with the fullness of his glory, and become one in him, even as the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are one"** (pg. 75).
  *Moroni 7:14-15*

  ***DC 1:7 Search these commandments, for they are true and faithful, and the prophecies and promises which are in them shall all be fulfilled.***

  ***1:8a What I, the Lord, have spoken I have spoken, and I excuse not myself;***

  ***1:8b and though the heavens and the earth pass away, my word shall not pass away, but shall all be fulfilled, whether by mine own voice, or by the voice of my servants, it is the same;***

  ***1:8c for behold, and lo, the Lord is God, and the Spirit beareth record, and the record is true, and the truth abideth for ever and ever. Amen***

## III. Feast Upon the Word - The Words of Christ will tell you how to live.



- ***2 Nephi 14:4 Wherefore, I said unto you, Feast upon the words of Christ; for behold the words of Christ will tell you all things what ye should do.***

- *2 Nephi 14:12; Matthew 13:21*

- Surrender your gifts, your talents, your desires, to the Lord. Pray that God will multiply your gifts and talents and dedicate them to Him.

- **Some 30, Some 60 and Some 100-fold**
  How many seeds are in one apple? How many apples are in one seed?

- **Read the Word, Hear the Word, Speak the Word, Live the Word – This is feasting!**

## IV. The Word of God is Compared to a Sword

- *Ephesians 6:17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God;*
- *Hebrews 4:12 For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of body and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.*
- Two different Greek words are used to refer to the Word of God. One is the well-known word **"logos," which indicates the whole revelation of Scripture.** The Lord Jesus Himself is also called the "logos" in *John 1*. The other word used for the Word of God, and the one which is used here in *Ephesians 6:17*, is **"rhema," and it refers to a specific saying, or a specific word for the present need.**
- The Word of God is for our everyday use…
  - **When you are tempted to lust, you need a word from God – possibly a text that reminds you that Christ is enough.** *Colossians 2:9-10 For in him dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily. And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power;*
  - **When you are faced with obnoxious people, you need a word from God reminding you of the love and patience He had for you when you were in your sins.** *Romans 5:8 But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.*
  - **When you find your priorities shifting toward worldly things, you need a word from God to steer you back to proper values.**
    *Matthew 6:38 Wherefore, seek not the things of this world but seek ye first to build up the kingdom of God, and to establish his righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you.*
  - **If you are a timid person and are in a situation where there is opportunity to share the gospel, you need a word from God.**
    *2 Timothy 1:7 For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power and of love, and of a sound mind.*
- **The secret power behind the Word of God is the Holy Spirit.**
- Whether male or female, **one must know the Word and know the God of the Word.** Study, Practice Daily, Be Grounded. *2 Timothy 2:15 Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.*



- **The armor is a picture of Christ Himself.** He is the Truth, He is our righteousness and He is our peace. He is the source of our faith and our salvation. Christ is the living Word of God.

## V. The Word of God is Compared to a Rod of Iron

- When studying about these two symbols, the rod and the sword, to describe the Word of God, they both have this ability to show forth strength and authority. The rod is comparable also to the shepherd's staff that could be used as a weapon or a means of leading the sheep to green pastures and still waters. In Lehi's Vision it led the people to the tree of life.

- *Revelation 12:1-3; 1 Nephi 4:38-41*

## VI. God's Provision for Redemption and Salvation

- Jesus Christ the Son of God – The Word made flesh *John 1:1-5*

- The way was prepared from the beginning to bring us back into the presence of God through the atonement of Jesus on conditions of Repentance and Baptism and Obedience to the commandments.

- *Genesis 6:49-65, 4:5*

- Our Response should be like King Lamoni's: *Alma 13:53* And if there is a God, and if thou art God, wilt thou make thyself known unto me, and **I will give away all my sins to know thee, and that I may be raised from the dead, and be saved at the last day.**

**The Word of God is more than just another good book or good words. Our Scriptures contain a standard for living Christ's way. By living His way, we become filled with His likeness until we are a reflection of His image. By doing this we recover our created identity and discover again the true selves God created us to be. We were created in His image and in His likeness and are restored to that likeness once again.**

