Armor of God- Sword of the Spirit

Ephesians 6:10-18

¹⁰ Finally, my brethren, *be strong in the Lord*, and in the power of his might.

¹¹ *Put on the whole armour of God*, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

¹² For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

¹³ Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

¹⁴ Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;

¹⁵ And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;

¹⁶ Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.

¹⁷ And *take* the helmet of salvation, *and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:*

¹⁸ Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

We have discussed at length all the doctrines associated with the Armor of God and finally come upon the final piece of the armor which is offensive in nature. It is the Sword of the Spirit which is the Word of God. This phrase *"Word of God"* is mentioned 48 times in the King James Bible. The very first mention of this is found here:

1 Samuel 9:27

²⁷ And as they were going down to the end of the city, Samuel said to Saul, Bid the servant pass on before us, (and he passed on), but stand thou still a while, *that I may shew thee the word of God.*

We have the Word of God, but not just a partial at all, but the full Word of God. The Word bears witness to itself that it is true. There are many evidences of this but I will point out just a few here in this article. Take a look at Mark 1:1-3:

Mark 1:1-3

1 The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God;

² As it is written in the *prophets, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee.*

³ The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.

In verse 2 it mentions *"as it is written in the prohpets"* which leads us to ask what prophets spoke of this? The answer is found here:

Malachi 3:1

3 Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me:

and the LORD, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the LORD of hosts.

As we can see, Malachi spoke of the same event, i.e. John preparing the way of the Lord. But of course this was not the only prophet who spoke of this:

Isaiah 40:3

³ The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, *Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.*

So as the Word says, *"as it is written in the prophets"*, which the word **PROPHETS** being plural, shows the Word bearing witness to itself by showing that 2 prophets spoke of the same event. When we look at other translations of the same verses in Mark 1:1-3, we find a different meaning associated with what these translations say that alters the meaning of the truth that God showed:

Mark 1:1-3New International Version (NIV)

John the Baptist Prepares the Way

1 The beginning of the good news about Jesus the Messiah,^[a] the Son of God,^{[b] 2} as it is written in Isaiah the prophet:

"I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way"^[c]—
³ "a voice of one calling in the wilderness,
'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.'"^[a]

Here one can plainly see that what God said compared to the NIV. In the KJB the Word says that the **PROPHETS (Isaiah and Malachi)** said this, but the NIV changes this to just Isaiah....

Mark 1:1-3New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

The Proclamation of John the Baptist

1 The beginning of the good news^[a] of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.^[b]

² As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,^[C]

"See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,^[d] who will prepare your way;
³ the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'"

Notice in this version of the KJB it says the same thing. It is very plain to see that the Word of God was changed. And just for good measure:

Mark 1:1-3New American Bible (Revised Edition) (NABRE)

I. The Preparation for the Public Ministry of Jesus^[a]

Chapter 1

¹The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ [the Son of God].^[b]

The Preaching of John the Baptist. ² As it is written in Isaiah the prophet:^[C]

"Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way.
³ A voice of one crying out in the desert: 'Prepare the way of the Lord,

make straight his paths."

Very subtle indeed but this is how Satan deceives people. This texts that alter the true Word of God all claim to come from *"older and reliable manuscripts".* This is hardly the case at all. You will find the uniqueness in the true Word of God that it will bear witness to itself that it is true. As you can see so far, the other translations do not do this, but it is for a reason. The actual designs of these translations attempt to rob Jesus Christ of His deity that He is God. We will see this more as we move along. There are basically 2 reasons why man would distort the truth of the Word. Either they are willfully ignorant, or they are deceiving the masses for personal gain.

2 Thessalonians 2:2

² That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand.

As we can see from the above scripture, this too was going on in Paul's day. When he would write a letter, many people would alter what he was saying and then give it to others as if it was Paul who wrote it! This is nothing new. And Paul talked about this:

2 Corinthians 2:17

¹⁷ For we are not as many, which CORRUPT the word of God: but as of sincerity, but as of God, in the sight of God speak we in Christ.

Here is saying that there are many out there who corrupt the Word of God. Should it be strange that this is happening in our day as well? These supposed older manuscripts were corrupted by men who corrupted Paul's letters from the very beginning. Let us look at another scripture:

Colossians 1:14

¹⁴ In whom we have redemption through his **BLOOD**, even the forgiveness of sins:

Compared to:

Colossians 1:14*New International Version (NIV)*¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Where there is no blood, there is no redemption:

Hebrews 9:22

²² And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; *and without shedding of blood is no remission.*

The NIV makes an obvious attack on the truth by removing the word blood from the equation of redemption and remission of sins. Here is another attack:

Acts 8:37

³⁷ And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, *I believe that Jesus Christ is the SON OF GOD*.

Acts 8:37New International Version (NIV)

Notice that nothing is there? That is because this verse was removed! Why would a verse that shows Jesus is the Son of God be removed??? Do you know that the phrase *"Son of God"* is found in your KJB 48 times as well as the phrase *"Word of God"*? The first mention of this phrase is found here:

Daniel 3:25

²⁵ He answered and said, Lo, I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire, and they have no hurt; *and the form of the fourth is like the SON OF GOD*.

Compare with what is found in the NASB:

Daniel 3:25New American Standard Bible (NASB)

²⁵ He said, "Look! I see four men loosed *and* walking *about* in the midst of the fire ^[a] without harm, and the *appearance of the fourth is like a son of the gods!*"

Here, Jesus is not THE Son of God, but the son of the gods removing His deity!

Ephesians 6:17

¹⁷ And *take* the helmet of salvation, *and the sword of the Spirit*, which is the word of God:

Notice here we are to take this Sword. But how can we be sure that the Word of God has been passed down to us clean and pure from corruption?

Psalm 12:1-7

12 Help, LORD; for the godly man ceaseth; for the faithful fail from among the children of men.

² They speak vanity every one with his neighbour: *with flattering lips* and with a double heart do they speak.

³ The LORD shall cut off all flattering lips, *and the tongue that speaketh proud things:*

⁴Who have said, *With our tongue will we prevail; our lips are our own: who is lord over us?*

⁵ For the oppression of the poor, for the sighing of the needy, now will I arise, saith the LORD; I will set him in safety from him that puffeth at him.

⁶ The words of the Lord are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times.

⁷Thou shalt keep them, O LORD, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever.

Notice that our tongues speak all kinds of vile things but the Words of the Lord are pure. God promised to preserve His Word from unfaithful men:

Psalm 119:89

⁸⁹ For ever, O Lord, *thy word is settled in heaven*.

His Word was settled in Heaven in eternity past. Only unfaithful men can tamper with it. If it was settled then *(Eternity Past)*, is it possible that it is not still settled today for us? Certainly not! We better have it today to obey it. Ephesians 6:17 tells us to take *"take"* the Word/ Sword of the Spirit, and fight imposters with it showing them the truth. Mankind has made these perversions of the bible because they claim it is easier to understand for people who do not speak English. And in so doing, they have corrupted the pure Words of God. This is a very subtle maneuver by Satan invoking the very same act that was done to Eve in the Garden of Eden:

Genesis 3:1

3 Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORDGod had made. And he said unto the woman, <u>YEA, HATH GOD SAID</u>, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?

Here is a carbon copy of your first translation of the Word of God, done by Satan himself. God told *(By spoken Word)* Eve not to eat of the tree of knowledge of good and Evil. Satan stood there immediately to oppose what God said and challenged Eve on it by saying, *"Yea, hath God said"*. The exact same scenario is played out when we come to our spiritual battle with Satan today. He asks the very same question and tries to make you believe the lie, by simply asking *"Yea, hath God said"*. If we take the perverted versions of the bible, we become just like Eve who transgressed the commandment of God should we believe them. The Sword of the Spirit, the pure Words of God, is only found in the King James Bible. We fight our spiritual battles with the false doctrines using the Sword of the Spirit. The association with our armor is for protection. All the pieces of the spiritual armor refer to the doctrines associated with them. We have the doctrines associated with the full truth (Belt of truth). We have the imputed righteousness of Christ and justification (Breastplate of Righteousness). We have peace with God (Gospel shoes of Peace). We have the faith of Christ (Shield of Faith). We have the hope of our salvation (Helmet) of salvation. And when Satan comes to attack these doctrines, we have the Word of God (Sword of the Spirit) to fight back. We become grounded in these doctrines and anchored down that we may fight the false doctrines that are out there. We abide in Christ, just as Israel abided under the shadow of God:

Psalm 91:1-2

91 He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High *shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. (Israel)*

² I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.

We do the same but for us it is slightly different:

Ephesians 6:10-11

¹⁰ Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.

¹¹ *Put on the whole armour of God*, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

We do this by putting on the armor of God, that is, the body of doctrines associated with our spiritual battle. This IS the Word effectually working in us who believe. (1 Thessalonians 2:13) Let us be grounded in Christ to always be ready to fight "the wiles of the Devil".... Ephesians 6:10-11King James Version (KJV)

¹⁰ Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.

¹¹Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.