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## **The Presence: Must You Forever Resist?**

**Ephesians 6:17** - ...take the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

### **There's A Way To Stand True In The Midst Of Those Attacks**

**John 14:26** - *But when the Father sends the Advocate as my representative—that is, the Holy Spirit—he will teach you everything and will remind you of everything I have told you.*

- 1) The Spirit Empowers Us By Making The Word Of God Effective As We Speak It And Receive It.**
- 2) The Spirit Gives The Word Its Penetrating Power And Sharp Edge.**
- 3) Since The Holy Spirit's In Us, We Have A Constant Reminder Of God's Word To Use Against Satan.**

**Acts 7:1** - *Then the high priest asked Stephen, "Are these charges true?"*

### **Stephen Wields The Sword Of The Spirit With A Significant Outcome**

**Acts 7:2-4** - *This was Stephen's reply: "Brothers and fathers, listen to me. Our glorious God appeared to our ancestor Abraham in Mesopotamia before he settled in Haran. <sup>3</sup> God told him, 'Leave your native land and your relatives, and come into the land that I will show you.' <sup>4</sup> So Abraham left the land of the Chaldeans and lived in Haran until his father died. Then God brought him here to the land where you now live.*

### **God Is Greater Than Both The Temple And The Promise Land**

#### **A Relationship With God That's Built On Faith**

#### **What Was Once Dynamic, Fluid, And Active Had Now Become Static, Sheltered, And Motionless**

**Hebrews 13:10-14** - *We have an altar from which the priests in the Tabernacle have no right to eat. <sup>11</sup> Under the old system, the high priest brought the blood of animals into the Holy Place as a sacrifice for sin, and the bodies of the animals were burned outside the camp. <sup>12</sup> So also Jesus suffered and died outside the city gates to make his people holy by means of his own blood. <sup>13</sup> So let us go out to him, outside the camp, and bear the disgrace he bore. <sup>14</sup> For this world is not our permanent home; we are looking forward to a home yet to come.*

**Acts 7:44-50** - *“Our ancestors carried the Tabernacle with them through the wilderness. It was constructed according to the plan God had shown to Moses. <sup>45</sup> Years later, when Joshua led our ancestors in battle against the nations that God drove out of this land, the Tabernacle was taken with them into their new territory. And it stayed there until the time of King David. <sup>46</sup> “David found favor with God and asked for the privilege of building a permanent Temple for the God of Jacob. <sup>47</sup> But it was Solomon who actually built it. <sup>48</sup> However, the Most High doesn’t live in temples made by human hands. As the prophet says, <sup>49</sup> ‘Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool. Could you build me a temple as good as that?’ asks the LORD. ‘Could you build me such a resting place? <sup>50</sup> Didn’t my hands make both heaven and earth?’*

### **God Is Too Big To Fit In Any Temple Man Could Make**

**Acts 7:51-53** - *“You stubborn people! You are heathen at heart and deaf to the truth. Must you forever resist the Holy Spirit? That’s what your ancestors did, and so do you! <sup>52</sup> Name one prophet your ancestors didn’t persecute! They even killed the ones who predicted the coming of the Righteous One—the Messiah whom you betrayed and murdered. <sup>53</sup> You deliberately disobeyed God’s law, even though you received it from the hands of angels.”*

**Deuteronomy 10:16** - *Therefore, change your hearts and stop being stubborn.*

**As Israel Was; You Are Today. God Gave You The Law, But You Don’t Keep It.**