

Wage War

Sunday Morning, November 11, 2012

Thesis:

Be A Veteran of the Faith
Faithfully Defend Your Walk With the Lord

Introduction:

Conversation With The Holy Spirit Skit

I. Christianity 101: "Wear the Full Armor of God" **(Ephesians 6: 10-17)**

10 Finally, be strengthened by the Lord and by His vast strength.

11 Put on the full armor of God so that you can stand against the tactics of the Devil.

12 For our battle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the world powers of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavens.

13 This is why you must take up the full armor of God, so that you may be able to resist in the evil day, and having prepared everything, to take your stand.

14 Stand, therefore, with truth like a belt around your waist, righteousness like armor on your chest,

15 and your feet sandaled with readiness for the gospel of peace.

16 In every situation take the shield of faith, and with it you will be able to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one.

17 Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is God's word.

II. Why Do We See Wars? **(James 4: 1-2)**

1 What is the source of wars and fights among you? Don't they come from the cravings that are at war within you?

2 You desire and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war. You do not have because you do not ask.

The Source of Wars

(Luke 21: 9-10)

9 When you hear of wars and rebellions, don't be alarmed. Indeed, these things must take place first, but the end won't come right away."

10 Then He told them: "Nation will be raised up against nation, and kingdom against kingdom.

Wars Must Take Place

"Must" - Dei in the Greek - Means "Necessary"

Acknowledge and Pray for our Military Veterans and Those in Active Duty.

III. Be A Veteran of Faith. Defend Your Walk With the Lord **(II Corinthians 10: 3-6)**

3 For though we live in the body, we do not wage war in an unspiritual way,

4 since the weapons of our warfare are not worldly, but are powerful through God for the demolition of strongholds.

We demolish arguments

5 and every high-minded thing that is raised up against the knowledge of God, taking every thought captive to obey Christ.

6 And we are ready to punish any disobedience, once your obedience has been confirmed.

Powerful Warfare Over Strongholds

"Punish" - In the Greek it Means Avenge, Vindicate, Retaliate

(The Most Impenetrable Place Examples on Back)

1. The Svalbard Global Seed Vault - A doomsday seed vault on a remote Norwegian island in the Arctic Ocean opened in 2008, creating a bank of more than 100 million seeds representing every major food crop on Earth. The Svalbard Global Seed Vault is meant to be a Noah's Ark for plant genetics.

2. The Granite Mountain Record Vault, is the Mormon church's more secretive vaults, used to store genealogical and other historical records. Commonly referred to as "The Vault", it is a massive feat of excavation, going far into and deep under solid mountain rock. Fire-proof, flood-proof and even earthquake-proof, the vault also contains extensive motion and heat detectors, and as well as infrared sensors, there are also a few 6-ton blast doors and seismic sensors can detect any drilling that might be the result of a would-be thief. Your objects are safe as can be at this place.

3. Fort Knox is a fortress in security and design, under which lies the vault itself, protected by solid granite walls and a door that weighs 22 tons. The vault is opened by a combination which is provided by various members of the staff, as no single person has the entire combination. The whole place is also protected by alarms, cameras, armed guards, the US Mint Police, as well as soldiers from the nearby army base, thousands of soldiers as well as helicopter gunships.

4. U.S. Air Force installation in Nevada – Nickname: Area 51. The entire area is restricted, with the off-limits airspace above it being referred to as "The Box" by pilots in the area, and they are "authorized to use deadly force" on any intruders that fail to heed any warnings offered to them. Private security subcontractors provide perimeter surveillance, driving camouflaged Jeeps and Humvees and are armed with M16 assault rifles.

5. Saddam's bunker - An impenetrable underground fortress so hardcore, that even bombs couldn't get in. Well, US forces dropped a couple of 2-ton "bunker busting" bombs clean on top of Saddam's bunker and while the palace above the bunker was quite damaged, nothing inside the bunker was affected at all. Apparently, the shelter could withstand a nuclear blast from a bomb going off just 200 meters away. Designed by the grandson of the woman that built Hitler's bunker, it came with its own power station, water treatment plant and air filtering system.

Can you imagine having your own place that secure? Your very own most impenetrable place where you could protect whatever you wanted to protect without worry.

(Romans 7: 18-25)

18 For I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my flesh. For the desire to do what is good is with me, but there is no ability to do it.

19 For I do not do the good that I want to do, but I practice the evil that I do not want to do.

20 Now if I do what I do not want, I am no longer the one doing it, but it is the sin that lives in me.

21 So I discover this principle: When I want to do what is good, evil is with me.

22 For in my inner self I joyfully agree with God's law.

23 But I see a different law in the parts of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and taking me prisoner to the law of sin in the parts of my body.

24 What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this dying body?

25 I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, with my mind I myself am a slave to the law of God, but with my flesh, to the law of sin.

War Against Our Mind

Conclusion:

To Be A Veteran of Faith We Must Wage War Against Our Own Sinful Nature Through Christ in Victory!