

In that day shall the LORD
defend the inhabitants of Jerusalem;
and *he that is feeble among them at that day*
shall be as David...
Zechariah 12:8

THE WARRIOR EXPECTATION

It's a sad reality that many believers are not aware of the warrior expectation that is a clearly documented imperative throughout the scriptures. Courage is not an *optional* characteristic of the Christian walk. We are called to be nothing less than warriors first-class. The incident of David & Goliath is not recorded so much to edify as to instruct, to be our standard in a battle for which we have not been given the choice to evade.

Consider the story of the twelve spies recorded in the book of Numbers. In this account a man from each of the twelve Israelite tribes was sent to investigate the races of giants they were to war against. Understand first that this event took place *after* God had walked the Israelites out of Egyptian bondage & while they were still in the wilderness. These people had already witnessed the fantastic miracles of the ten plagues, the parting of the Red Sea in addition to water appearing out of dry rock in the desert. Yet, when ten of these men saw the grand stature & sophisticated weaponry of their adversaries they were unable to retain their faith.

Even more tragic is the fact that the despondency of these few men was sufficient to infect the entire Israelite nation with fear & confusion. It was for this very reason that God determined that a population of two million people was simply too emotionally damaged for the task at hand & could not therefore enter the promised land. He caused that entire generation to die in the desert, with the exception of only two men, the two men that had never lost their faith & courage to engage in the battle, Caleb & Joshua. This is a hard, hard biblical lesson that has direct & inescapable relevance to those living the Target experience.

Do you yet comprehend the fact that what we are engaged in is in fact a war for the very survival of our species? If not us, then who? **WE** are the bodies on the ground!

The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil
is for good men (& women) to do nothing.
Edmond Burke

Our enemies have hidden in the shadows for millennia. If we were without the potential for authoritative power they would not have exposed themselves to us in this recent offensive except for the purpose of locking us down psychologically so that we would

be unprepared to engage. When you are fully aligned in the Christ walk, you *WILL* have the promised authority.

Behold,
I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions,
and over all the power of the enemy:
and nothing shall by any means hurt you.
Luke 10:19

34 He teacheth my hands to war,
so that a bow of steel is broken by mine arms.
37 I have pursued mine enemies,
and overtaken them:
neither did I turn again till they were consumed.
39 For thou hast girded me with strength unto the battle:
thou hast subdued under me those that rose up against me.
Psalm 8:34,37,39

If you are still without the authority promised by Christ, begin by assessing your Christian walk. Are you practicing the correct doctrine? Are you a functioning disciple? Have you committed to the path of genuine repentant change? Have you forgiven your enemies? Are you controlling your speech? Have you committed to seeking Truth above delusional complacency? The list goes on, but perhaps one of the most crucial questions to be asking yourselves is this: Are you double-minded?

For let not that man think
that he shall receive any thing of the Lord.
A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.
James 1:7-8

When discussing the great & mighty warriors that fought with David, this is what was said of them:

All these men of war,
that could keep rank,
came with a perfect heart to Hebron,
to make David king over all Israel:
and all the rest also of Israel were of one heart
to make David king.
1Chronicles 12:38

Approach not integrity with a double heart;
nor be associated with double-minded men:
but walk, my children, in righteousness,
which will conduct you in good paths;

& be truth your companion.
Enoch 90 (section 18):5
(translation: Richard Laurence-updated)

This is not the time to hold back any part of yourselves. Learn to live without incurring regrets.

...He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly;
and he which soweth bountifully
shall reap also bountifully.
2Corinthians 9:6

11 And that, knowing the time,
that now it is high time to awake out of sleep:
for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed.

12 The night is far spent, the day is at hand:
let us therefore cast off the works of darkness,
and **let us put on the armour of light.**

Romans 13:11-12

These be the names of David's mighty men:

The Tachmonite that sat in the seat,
chief among the captains;
the same was Adino the Eznite:
he lift up his spear against eight hundred,
whom he slew at one time.

9 And after him was Eleazar the son of Dodo the Ahohite,
one of the three mighty men with David,
when they defied the Philistines that were there gathered together to battle,
and the men of Israel were gone away:

10 He arose, and smote the Philistines
until his hand was weary,
and his hand clave unto the sword:

and the Lord wrought a great victory that day;
and the people returned after him only to spoil.

11 And after him was Shammah the son of Agee the Hararite.

And the Philistines were gathered together into a troop,
here was a piece of ground full of lentiles:
and the people fled from the Philistines.

12 But he stood in the midst of the ground,
and defended it, and slew the Philistines:
and the Lord wrought a great victory.

13 And three of the thirty chief went down,
and came to David in the harvest time
unto the cave of Adullam:

and the troop of the Philistines
pitched in the valley of Rephaim.
14 And David was then in an hold,
and the garrison of the Philistines was then in Bethlehem.

15 And David longed, and said,
Oh that one would give me drink of the water
of the well of Bethlehem, which is by the gate!

16 And the three mighty men
brake through the host of the Philistines,
and drew water out of the well of Bethlehem,
that was by the gate, and took it,
and brought it to David:
nevertheless he would not drink thereof,
but poured it out unto the Lord.

17 And he said,
Be it far from me,
O Lord, that I should do this:
is not this the blood of the men
that went in jeopardy of their lives?
therefore he would not drink it.
These things did these three mighty men.
18 And Abishai, the brother of Joab, the son of Zeruiah,
was chief among three.

And he lifted up his spear against three hundred,
and slew them,
and had the name among three.

19 Was he not most honourable of three?
therefore he was their captain:
howbeit he attained not unto the first three.

20 And Benaiah the son of Jehoiada,
the son of a valiant man, of Kabzeel,
who had done many acts, he slew two lionlike men of Moab:
he went down also and slew a lion
in the midst of a pit in time of snow:

21 And he slew an Egyptian, a goodly man:
and the Egyptian had a spear in his hand;
but he went down to him with a staff,
and plucked the spear out of the Egyptian's hand,
and slew him with his own spear.

22 These things did Benaiah the son of Jehoiada,
and had the name among three mighty men.

23 He was more honourable than the thirty,
but he attained not to the first three.
And David set him over his guard.

24 Asahel the brother of Joab was one of the thirty;
Elhanan the son of Dodo of Bethlehem,
25 Shammah the Harodite, Elikah the Harodite,
26 Helez the Paltite, Ira the son of Ikkesh the Tekoite,
27 Abiezer the Anethothite, Mebunnai the Hushathite,
28 Zalmon the Ahohite, Maharai the Netophathite,
29 Heleb the son of Baanah, a Netophathite,
Ittai the son of Ribai out of Gibeah of the children of Benjamin,
30 Benaiah the Pirathonite, Hiddai of the brooks of Gaash,
31 Abialbon the Arbathite, Azmaveth the Barhumite,
32 Eliahba the Shaalbonite, of the sons of Jashen, Jonathan,
33 Shammah the Hararite, Ahiam
the son of Sharar the Hararite,
34 Eliphelet the son of Ahasbai, the son of the Maachathite,
Eliam the son of Ahithophel the Gilonite,
35 Hezrai the Carmelite, Paarai the Arbite,
36 Igal the son of Nathan of Zobah, Bani the Gadite,
37 Zelek the Ammonite, Nahari the Beerothite,
armourbearer to Joab the son of Zeruiah,
38 Ira an Ithrite, Gareb an Ithrite,
39 Uriah the Hittite: thirty and seven in all.
2Samuel 23:8-39