

“Run To The Battle”

By Mrs. Sojourner

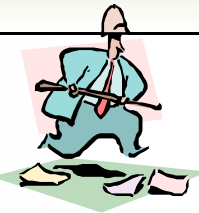
Recently I overheard The Sojourner and a retired military man talking. Listening to their conversation, I was struck by a point that was made—an obvious point. When everyone else runs from the battleground, soldiers run toward the battle. “Of course,” you may think, “they run to the battle, that’s the soldiers’ function.” True. My question is, why do so many Believers, spiritual warriors, run from anything that remotely resembles a battle, spiritual or otherwise?

Yes, Jesus is the Prince of Peace, but as The Sojourner explains, Jesus, came to restore peace between God and man not necessarily between man and man. Also, Jesus said “... I did not come to bring peace, but a sword”^[a]

Consider these scriptures: You armed me with strength for battle; you made my adversaries bow at my feet.^[b]

Your troops will be willing on your day of battle. . .^[c]

¹⁰Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.
¹¹Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil’s



Notes:

[a] Matt. 10:34 NIV
[b] Ps. 18:39 NIV
[c] Ps. 110:3 NIV
[d] Eph. 6:10-17 NIV

schemes.¹²For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.¹³ . . . put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.
¹⁴Stand firm then, with the belt of truth . . . the breastplate of righteousness . . .
¹⁵and with your feet fitted . . .
¹⁶In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, . . .
¹⁷Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.^[d]

There is a spiritual battle in progress. We are our Heavenly Father’s soldiers. He’s given us everything we need to fight this spiritual battle. The Holy Spirit goes with us. So let us RUN to the battle and to victory!

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...with The Sojourner

“Living In The Glory” (Teaching Sketch)

Philippians 3:1-11 (NIV)



There are some aspects of being a Believer in Jesus the Christ which may seem quite foreign to those who have been in Christ for many years, or raised in “Christian homes,” depending on dogma.

Living in the glory is to live in Christ’s glory, not our own. Christ’s glory is bestowed on all who are in him and thus in his Kingdom. Living in the glory is to live in the Kingdom of the Blessing. Christ’s Kingdom is the Kingdom of the Blessing.

It has been God’s desire to bless mankind since the very beginning!^[a] God gave man-

kind complete dominion over the whole planet. This should demonstrate God’s desire to have fellow-

ship with mankind and that mankind would not live in poverty in the “here and now.” Think of it, mankind was given all the produce of the earth, all the wealth. This was not limited only to the planet but to an open door to the Godhead, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit!

God Bestowed

The fact that God bestowed on mankind all of this creation certainly demonstrates his will. Then, as we know, Satan came along, had an encounter with Eve, and de-

Notes:

[1]

[a]

28And God blessed them and said to them, Be fruitful, multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it [using all its vast resources in the service of God and man]; and have dominion over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, and over every living creature that moves upon the earth.

29And God said, See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the land and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food.

30And to all the animals on the earth and to every bird of the air and to everything that creeps on the ground--to everything in which there is the breath of life--I have given every green plant for food. And it was so.

31And God saw everything that He had made, and behold, it was very good (suitable, pleasant) and He approved it completely. And there was evening and there was morning, a sixth day. Gen. 1:28-31 AMP

Please note: This is a teaching sketch only and not the complete teaching.

Scripture: Philippians 3:1-11 (NIV)

(NIV is employed here to allow English speakers around the world equal understanding of the words used)

¹Finally, my brothers, rejoice in the Lord! It is no trouble for me to write the same things to you again, and it is a safeguard for you.

²Watch out for those dogs, those men who do evil, those mutilators of the flesh. ³For it is we who are the circumcision, we who worship by the Spirit of God, who glory in Christ Jesus, and who put no confidence in the flesh— ⁴though I myself have reasons for such confidence.

If anyone else thinks he has reasons to put confidence in the flesh, I have more: ⁵circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; in regard to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶as for zeal, persecuting the church; as for legalistic righteousness,

Notes:
[a]

faultless.

⁷But whatever was to my profit I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them rubbish, that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God and is by faith.

¹⁰I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead.

Just so you'll know:

Our service is informal. We look to the Holy Spirit of God to guide us corporately and individually.

Our service usually follows this general pattern:

- **Informal sharing** of what we have seen the Lord do in, through, and around us since we last met.
 - Testimonies are often a part of the conversation.
- **Opening Prayer**
- **Praise & Worship**
- **Words of Prophecy or Knowledge** if they have been given during “Praise & Worship” (other times as the Spirit moves).
- **The Pastoral Message**
- **Prayer Requests**
 - Ministry to those present & intercession.
- **The Blessing**

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Philippians 3:1-11 (NIV)

ceived her into questioning God. She then had Adam participate in the folly and Satan took the bestowment from them.

The Curse

It is at this point God removes mankind from the Kingdom of the Blessing. Mankind then must toil for most of the sustenance to maintain life. It is important to notice Genesis 3:19 because toil is a part

¹⁷And to Adam He said, Because you have listened and given heed to the voice of your wife and have eaten of the tree of which I commanded you, saying, You shall not eat of it, the ground is under a curse because of you; in sorrow and toil shall you eat [of the fruits] of it all the days of your life.

¹⁸Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth for you, and you shall eat the plants of the field.

¹⁹In the sweat of your face shall you eat bread until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you shall return. Gen. 3:17-19 AMP

of the curse, not for those in the Kingdom of The Blessing! The curse is the reason Jesus needed to come to restore mankind to the original state enjoyed at the beginning with God. God was the provider before the fall of man-

kind. God is an excellent provider today because Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and forever!

Kingdom Care

You see, every person in the “Kingdom of the Blessing,” God’s Kingdom, has the benefits of “The Kingdom” which is why we are cast our care on Christ. Look at this verse from 1 Peter 5:7:

⁷Casting [Greek—**epi** *throw upon*] all your care [Greek—**merimna** the *idea of distractions* from focusing on Christ] on Him, for He cares [Greek—**melo** of *interest to, it matters, takes your care*]. The Sojourner Word Studies)

You see, Christ took, and takes, the cares of the World System—Mammon System—which are of the curse, from us as long as we throw them to him. We are then “set free indeed” to enjoy and function in Christ’s Kingdom with his support, authority, and power—wonder-working power!

Stay In The Blessing

This is then the hope of God’s call on us, the hope we have to live Christ’s Kingdom!

riches from Eph. 1:18 <G4149> ploutos—wealth (as fullness), i.e. (lit.) **money, possessions, or (fig.) abundance, riches, (special) valuable bestowment :-riches**

Strong’s Greek Hebrew Dictionary