

75.3 Soldier Up!

A few years ago, I heard about a little boy who brought his mother breakfast in bed for Mother's Day. A toy soldier floated to the top as his mom stirred her coffee. When the boy's mother asked him about it, he said, "*The best part of waking up is soldiers in your cup.*" Maybe you remember the Folders commercial.

I have been trying to balance my concerns for America and the kingdom of God. The majority of the people in my church fellowship from which I come typically quote, "*This world is not my home; I'm just a passin' through. . .*" Their point is that they feel little to no concern for anything for the nation's or world's well-being.

According to Jesus' statement in **Matthew 6:33** (NKJV) we are to put God as the priority of our lives. He said:

³³ **But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.**

In that same chapter, Jesus reminds us that we are stewards of the world in which we live. As He taught us to pray, He reminds us in **Matthew 6:10** (NKJV):

Your kingdom come.

Your will be done

On earth, as it is in heaven.

He does not tell us to ignore our responsibilities to our world. Instead, He tells us to bring the same kingdom of God we seek into our domain on earth. The coming of the kingdom and doing the will of God are parallel concepts for the same thing, the rule of God. We see His kingdom wherever we do His will. We know He rules in heaven, but we do not see His rule in the world. The lack of His kingdom rule on the earth is due in part to the lack of participation of His people in intentionally advancing the will of God.

I participated in the Living History Unit at Old Ft. Concho in San Angelo, Texas. One of the things I learned is that the Indian Wars Army did not hole up in a fort of high wooden walls to await the attacks of the Indians. Instead, the fortress was an outpost from where the soldiers went on patrol to engage the Indians.

The church is an outpost of heaven from which we engage our enemy and God's. Our job is not to hide in the citadels of our church buildings waiting for enemy attack. We are to go out on patrol to engage the foe with the weapons of spiritual warfare Paul mentions in **Ephesians 6**.

We attack Satan's strongholds knowing they will crumble, as Jesus said in **Matthew 16:18**. God Himself is our fortress, not the walls of the church buildings. Listen to **Psalms 91:2** (NKJV):

I will say of the LORD, "He is my refuge and my fortress;

My God, in Him I will trust."

As I ponder my responsibility to my country and my God I realize that this world is not my eternal home. **Psalm 90** tells me that my time is quickly running out. We only have approximately seventy to eighty years on earth and then we vanish as James' vapor in **James 4:14**. While I am only here briefly, I have an obligation to advance God's name and combat evil in all of its forms. Paul expresses this in relation to our "enlistment" in the army of God. Listen to **2 Timothy 2:3-4** (NKJV):

³ **You therefore must endure hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. ⁴ No one engaged in warfare entangles himself with the affairs of *this* life, that he may please him who enlisted him as a soldier.**

When people join the military, they are in the service for a short time, and it may be a four-year hitch or until retirement. Either way, it is not a forever commitment. The military requires its recruits to serve in a

prescribed manner as long as they are in the service. They do their duty and do not shirk responsibility. Once their enlistment has ended, they leave their military responsibilities and move back into civilian life. As Christians, we have made an eternal commitment to God with a service enlistment for our time on earth. Only God knows the length of our lives according to **Job 14:5**. While we are here, we can show indifference to our calling in this world or be an outpost of troops to engage the enemy.

There is no doubt that our Founders established America as a Christian nation. Despite our imperfections, America has been an exceptional nation. God has blessed our efforts to serve Him. Somewhere along the way, Americans turned a blind eye to the God who rescued our ancestors from tyranny. As a result, evil crept in, distracting us from God so that wickedness ran rampant, no longer hiding in the shadows.

Fighting the evils of child murder in abortion, child trafficking, attacks on the family, and assaults on the church, is not political. It is spiritual. Many people attack and criticize Pastors and preachers who speak out against abusive government control, saying they are being political, crying out, "*Separation of church and state!*" That separation is neither biblical nor constitutional. The enemies of America and Christianity have successfully removed the conscience of government by removing Christians' concerns for our country and political process.

While here, we are not to shirk our responsibilities. As good soldiers of Jesus Christ, we are to engage the enemy. What war doesn't have hardships? What military doesn't call for action during war? We are God's outpost in America to advance His will and kingdom as in heaven. God is why I started *GodNAmerica*. We are way beyond the politics of parties and are back to the basics of faith, hope, and love to confront the evil of our day. Soldier up!

Keep The Light of God's Army Burning!