

Revelations Series

Message by Dr. M. Holloway

Amplification & Power Point – Pastor Gangwer

The necessity of War. – part I

Intro: Many times, things aren't always as they _____ or as we think they should be. Having the right _____ is important so we can have the right perspective. This is true with evil such as war. We think to ourselves, "How horrible is war!" And while we acknowledge that war is horrible, yet, _____ rejoices! Which ever way the world goes we would be wise more often than note to go the _____ way of the world. Folks, it is about discernment and as the Redeemed of the Lord we have to stop being so _____. We will see throughout the Bible that God is not _____ war. We have been redeemed by the blood of the Lord and as such we are _____ of the cross and this means we are in a knock-down, dragged out battle against the most wicked forces in all of creation. We see the unsaved putting together material, be it movies such as the "passion," put out and financed by an unsaved actor and containing a great deal of religion from a catholic perspective. Certainly, unscriptural in a number of areas. Many Believers jumped on the bandwagon extoling it as some great virtuous movie. We are indwelt by the Holy Spirit of God and our assumption, and we should know better, is if it is about Jesus, then it all has to be good! How can we expect the unsaved to get it right? Satan is so cunning and ever so crafty that he seeks to use a dash of truth in the midst of deception, and we need to be _____ in our perceptions than we have or are used to being. War! Is God a Man of war, or is He a God of love and peace? **(Matthew 10:34)**

He is both, Revelation 6:1 – 4. Folks while this is a Tribulation passage, we are in a _____, a war that began in heaven when Satan rebelled against God **(Revelation 12:2)** and then Satan took it to the Garden of Eden and ever since to the human heart and soul. War has been a cruel _____ into God's creation; however, God was not taken by surprise as God knew lucifer would slander Him before he was created. The same goes for Adam and Eve's sin in the Garden of Eden. God is never blindsided by anything anyone does! God saw all this and allowed it all to take place. So, the question is not why God allowed or allows war, but the question is, "what are we supposed to learn from this and from the rider on the red horse?"

War is an _____ part of the Christian life – **Second Corinthians 10: 1 – 6**. War is a part of God's will for our lives **(I Timothy 1:18 & 19)**. God has placed us into the trenches with the expectation of being good soldiers and wage war against _____ wherever & wherever it rears its ugly presence. Far too many professing Christians either do not realize this or they are sorely misguided, and the latter is the greater problem.

1. Far too many do not like the Old Testament, they want to spend their time in the New Testament and see only that God is a God of _____, and He is this, but He is also a God of war.
2. Therefore they develop a _____ idea about God and teach an errant concept of God.
3. While it may be hard for some Believer's to understand this side of God, that He is a warrior, it is because they want to see Him as a cuddly teddy bear that never gets angry.
4. Such is not a true biblical picture and it overshadows His holiness over which He wages war.

5. Both the attribute of love and warrior fit together as do all His attributes.

We ask, why is the book of Revelations at the end of the Bible canon? Why tell us about all the horrors of the Tribulation which we, the Redeemed of the Lord aren't going to be going through? Especially seeing that the unsaved can't understand it as we can. It's called *balance*! Balance in our lives and in His infallibly preserved Word. God wants us to understand His great love and the warfare we find ourselves in as Satan wages war against us. We are truly in a spiritual warfare that is bigger than we can imagine, and the stakes are very high – eternity with Christ or eternity without Christ! Loved ones saved or loved ones lost to hell. A life lived well for the Lord with a testimony reflecting a Christ-likeness, or a life lived pointless without a useful testimony. – **(First Corinthians 3:15)**

Warfare is a part:

I. Of God's _____ – Numbers 1:2 (“all that are able”)

- A. Fighting is a part of our _____, not with each other, but with the enemy of righteousness.
1. Not as mercenaries, but as the Redeemed of the Lord for His kingdom.
 2. We are to be _____ engaged in this spiritual warfare.
 3. We are to be _____ for this spiritual warfare that will not end this side of the Rapture for us.
 4. The thing to understand is that we will never be _____ of temptation living in a fallen world.
 5. God points to this never-ending war in this world, so we will be warned, and taxed in the battle and become tired of living in this old fallen world of darkness and _____ heaven.
- B. Some of the most heavily attended funerals are those of teenagers or very young adults.
1. It isn't that others are not important, but the expression of a young person's funeral is this,
 - a. “They were so young and had so much life to live ahead of them.”
 - b. “It was a life cut short before it could reach its potential.”
 2. We have become _____ to death, it is becoming less of an enemy and many look at death as,
 - a. A release from a physical difficulty or an emotional difficulty.
 - b. Some, just as a release from the burdens of life.
 - c. Some because they have more loved ones in heaven, they just want to go to be with them.
 3. What is it that brings about how we have come to view death and war?
 - a. We get tired of _____ with our emotions and our flesh.
 - b. We get tired of _____ the devil and the world.
 - c. We get tired of health problems, financial problems and the frustration of old age.
 4. So much so, that when we near that time, we welcome death.
 - a. We will hear, “I'm ready to go home to the Lord.”
 - b. We will hear, “I'm ready to die, I have no reason to continue on.”
- C. If one does not _____ they are in a battle it is either because they are not saved or they are not living a separated life to the Lord. **(John 16:33)**
- D. Prayerfully, when we get to heaven we will be battle worn, battle tired because we never gave up this battle to which the Lord has called us to fight. **(I Timothy 1:18 & 19.)**
- E. If done right, lived right, the Christian life is not for the _____ of heart! **(II Timothy 3:12)**

Point two will be - Warfare is justified to fight oppression – Numbers 10:7 – 9.