

## Who Will Stand With Me?

### A CALL TO WAR

With knowledge increasing on every side these are times that try men's souls. No matter what field of expertise we embrace none of us can keep up with what goes on in our particular field. Sometimes our senses are overwhelmed. We recoil and cry out for help. Times of stress mount on every side as the capacity to retain new information as well as the rising cost of living drives many to despair.

In a time like this, when we are required to know so much, is the Holy Spirit calling,

**" Who would be blind as my servant, deaf as my messenger?" " Who will stand with me?"**

Isaiah 42:18-19

18 "Hear, you deaf; and look, you blind, that you may see.

19 Who is blind but my servant, Or deaf as my messenger whom I send?  
Who is blind as he who is perfect, And blind as the Lord's servant? NKJV

The call is to hear the voice and follow the leading. Yes it is a call to war, a spiritual battle. It is not so much a call to arms as it is to disengage from reactionary thinking. It is not a call to inaction but to **purposefully act**.

Matthew 5:25

25 Agree with your adversary quickly, while you are on the way with him, lest your adversary deliver you to the judge, the judge hand you over to the officer, and you be thrown into prison. NKJV

How many people really practice this way of life? How many of us war in the spirit in times of adversity. How can we agree with our adversary? How can we turn the other cheek? These are basic principles of spirit life and war.

Scripture tells us that **we do not war against flesh and blood** but against principalities and powers, spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavens.

Have you ever felt like a fool, a failure in this battle? Have you tried to measure the results with your senses and come up wanting? In order to fight in this spiritual war we often look like we are losing the observable earthly struggle.

Imagine living in Israel in the time of Jesus. A Roman soldier demands that you carry his things over a mile to his house. You have other plans. Everything inside wants to tell him off or perhaps kill him. Instead you not only walk the mile but help him get out of his armor and leave him with a kind word.

Jesus, understanding the war He was in, said to Satan,

Mt.4 1-4

**" Man does not live by bread alone but by every word of God."**

Is it the living word that determines what I should do or not do? Should I learn to listen for the word just as Jesus did? He said,

Jn. 5:19

"Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner. NKJV

Just because there is an accusation against me does not necessarily imply a rebuttal. Turning the other cheek is oftentimes **the master's response to warfare**. Going the extra mile and agreeing with my adversary are high points in a soldier's training.

Matthew 5:38-42

**38 Go the Second Mile**

"You have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.' 39 But I tell you not to resist an evil person. But whoever slaps you on your right cheek, turn the other to him also. 40 If anyone wants to sue you and take away your tunic, let him have your cloak also. 41 And whoever compels you to go one mile, go with him two. 42 Give to him who asks you, and from him who wants to borrow from you do not turn away. NKJV

**If we agree with the enemy and fight with his tactics are we brought under his authority and control?**

Genesis 4:6-7

6 So the LORD said to Cain, "Why are you angry? And why has your countenance fallen? 7 If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its desire is for you, but you should rule over it." NKJV

**Instead of bringing his soul under the rule of God Cain murdered his brother. Allowing God to be master of his soul would have made Cain an overcomer.**

## **THE REAL ENEMY**

I try to keep in mind that my battle is not with flesh and blood. It is with forces that cannot be observed through the senses alone. In **a sense** the senses must be disengaged in order to engage the enemy. Blindness, a deafness, must guide us out of this realm into the illumination of His presence. The blind man of **John 9** is **blind for the glory of God**. When Jesus heals him he understands what is really going on when the religious leaders do not. He has become **blind to the rewards** of loving the world and its proud way in favor of **knowing Jesus** the Messiah. For that reason Jesus declares that he came to **give sight to the blind and blindness to them who think they see**.

In the last century we witnessed ongoing world threatening warfare. In each World War we could name a flesh and blood enemy. It was believed if we exterminated that foe the world would be at peace. In every case like Hydra, the many-headed monster, another face appeared in the dark. In the 1940's the enemy was *Nazi Germany*. But what was the hidden enemy? In the 1950's the enemy was *Soviet Communism*, today the western world calls the enemy *Terrorism* or *Jihad*. But what is the spiritual force behind all these foes?

Western civilization has embraced humanistic *socialism*, humanistic *capitalism*, and

man-centered religions of all flavors in a failed belief that mortals can solve our own problems with reason and technology. Do westerners believe that man's essential goodness will triumph?

Do Christians remember that behind all of these masks there is one force the Bible refers to as **Anti Christ**?

1 John 2:18

18 Little children, it is the last hour: and as ye heard that antichrist cometh, even now have there arisen many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last hour. ASV

**This force is out to destroy individual thinking, personal freedom, freedom to worship according to conscience, and mysteriously, in most cases, a destruction of Israel and it's people.**

This same spiritual force confronted Jesus before he began his ministry.

Matthew 4:1-13

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. 2 And when He had fasted forty days and forty nights, afterward He was hungry. 3 Now when the tempter came to Him, he said, "If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread."

4 But He answered and said, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.'" 5 Then the devil took Him up into the holy city, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, 6 and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down. For it is written: 'He shall give His angels charge over you,' and, 'In their hands they shall bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone.'"

7 Jesus said to him, "It is written again, 'You shall not tempt the LORD your God.'"

8 Again, the devil took Him up on an exceedingly high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. 9 And he said to Him, "All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me." 10 Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.'"

11 Then the devil left Him, and behold, angels came and ministered to Him. NKJV

Could the war that goes on continually in its many manifestations really be about which spiritual force will rule the earth? What if a King was to arise to rule the earth stop the antichrist spirit and bring genuine peace. Would that King be opposed? Would this force we have been speaking of try to prevent that through every means possible?

Revelation 12

1 Satan opposes the birth and rule of Christ

Now a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a garland of twelve stars. 2 Then being with child, she cried out in labor and in pain to give birth.

3 And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great, fiery red dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems on his heads. 4 His tail drew a third of the stars

of heaven and threw them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was ready to give birth, to devour her Child as soon as it was born. 5 She bore a male Child who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron. And her Child was caught up to God and His throne. 6 Then the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, that they should feed her there one thousand two hundred and sixty days.

#### 7 War in heaven Satan is cast down to the earth

And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought, 8 but they did not prevail, nor was a place found for them in heaven any longer. 9 So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

10 Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, "Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down.

#### Message to overcomers

11 And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death. 12 Therefore rejoice, O heavens, and you who dwell in them! Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and the sea! For the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, because he knows that he has a short time."

#### 13 The Church persecuted

Now when the dragon saw that he had been cast to the earth, he persecuted the woman who gave birth to the male Child. 14 But the woman was given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness to her place, where she is nourished for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent.

#### Demonic attack

15 So the serpent spewed water out of his mouth like a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away by the flood. 16 But the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed up the flood which the dragon had spewed out of his mouth.

#### Continuing warfare

17 And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ. NKJV

## IMAGINE AN EARLIER TIME

Imagine living in the USA in 1937. Your family is trying to survive. You are emerging from the great depression. It's all you can do to pay your rent or house payment. Just getting food to eat is a struggle. You hear distant rumors of trouble in Europe. Too bad I have enough on my plate. Leave us alone over here. By 1939 war has broken out in Europe. By 1940 you are hearing broadcasts coming over your radio from Edward R. Murrow in the midst of the bombing of London by *Nazi* Germany. Finally Pearl Harbor comes and your focus is a different kind of survival. You volunteer to help your country and go to war. Now all that matters is winning the war and getting back to the daily struggle for food and shelter. Your country fights for four long years until victory is won. At the end of the war

you hear rumors your enemy has systematically been destroying the Jewish people in concentration camps. It's hard to believe but it is true. You don't want to think about that, you just want to get back home and go back to work and family. You want to buy a new car and fridge, go to school and get an education. **War is over no more war.**

Within a few years however the Korean *conflict* begins. This time the enemy is *communism*. It has a different face but represents the same evils we have just finished destroying. *Communism* hates individual and religious freedom. It too hates the Jewish people and is supporting the Arab states in their attempt to destroy Israel. This battle with communism (*humanistic socialism*) goes on through the 1980's when it is declared defeated and a time of prosperity comes in the 90's. Time to get that new fridge but no, now it is a new computer, cell phone and all the advances of technology overwhelm us and we wallow in our newfound freedom. **War is over war is dead.**

One morning we wake up and the trade towers in New York are on fire and falling. We have been attacked not by Nazism or Communism this time we call it *Terrorism* and trace it's roots to Islam. Terrorists hate individual freedom, religious freedom and the Jewish state. Does anyone see a pattern here? **Is the enemy the same but his outward appearance different? Is this the same continuing war?**

## **BLIND & DEAF**

**Is the Lord calling for people of vision who are willing to be blind and deaf?**

Is. 42 14-17

"I have held My peace a long time,  
I have been still and restrained Myself.  
Now I will cry like a woman in labor,  
I will pant and gasp at once.  
15 I will lay waste the mountains and hills,  
And dry up all their vegetation;  
I will make the rivers coastlands,  
And I will dry up the pools.  
16 I will bring the blind by a way they did not know;  
I will lead them in paths they have not known.  
I will make darkness light before them,  
And crooked places straight.  
These things I will do for them,  
And not forsake them.  
17 They shall be turned back,  
They shall be greatly ashamed,  
Who trust in carved images,  
Who say to the molded images,  
'You are our gods.' NKJV

If we are to fight an enemy who is constantly changing shape we must be led in a way we have not yet fully known. Light must spring up before these spiritual warriors for

they are opposing darkness. They must follow a master who knows how to **walk in the way while he wars in the spirit.**

In WWII Reese Howells and a team of intercessors fought against Hitler not with sword but with prayer. Not by action and reaction but by supplication and praise. He discerned that the enemy was antichrist and the battle was spiritual. Satan was not only waging a war of conquest but a war to destroy the very people the Living Messiah was returning to rule. If antichrist could destroy the Jews, God's arrival on this planet would be delayed, there would not be a nation called Israel. Anti Christ is not only a particular personage it is **a spirit that inhabits antichrist figures** who represent that spirit in any given generation. Reese Howell's intercessors focused on defeating that spirit.

#### Is.42 18-22

18 "Hear, you deaf; And look, you blind, that you may see. 19 Who is blind but My servant, Or deaf as My messenger whom I send? Who is blind as he who is perfect, And blind as the LORD's servant? 20 Seeing many things, but **you do not observe**; Opening the ears, but **he does not hear.**" 21 The LORD is well pleased for **His righteousness' sake**; He will exalt the law and make it honorable. 22 But this is a people robbed and plundered; All of them are snared in holes, And they are hidden in prison houses; They are for prey, and no one delivers; For plunder, and no one says, "Restore!" NKJV

Jesus had the uncanny ability to not see the obvious and deal with the root of the situation.

#### Jn.3 1-3

There was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. 2 This man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, "Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him." 3 Jesus answered and said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, **he cannot see** the kingdom of God." NKJV

Jesus answered Nicodemus real question. He did not react to the statement about his ministry.

#### Luke 19:37

37 Then, as He was now drawing near the descent of the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works **they had seen**, NKJV

Jesus comes riding into Jerusalem on a donkey. People are throwing their garments on the path before Him . They are praising and worshiping the "**Son of David**" and saying " **Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**" Does Jesus hop off the donkey and celebrate? Does he please the crowd by promising them reward? No He weeps. He sees the eminent destruction of the nation. He sees the curse coming because they reject **the day of their visitation**. These very same people will be crying out shortly, "**Crucify Him.**"

Instead of celebrating, Jesus, blind to that situation, sees the polluting of the Temple, gets a whip and drives out the money changers saying, " My Fathers house is a house of prayer but you have made it a den of thieves." While the Romans were destroying the nation, these religious leaders were raking off the profits instead of **praying for awakening**. They were not crying restore us O Lord. This call from Isaiah is true today

Is. 48 8-13

8 **Bring out the blind people who have eyes, And the deaf who have ears.** 9 **Let all the nations be gathered together, And let the people be assembled. Who among them can declare this, And show us former things? Let them bring out their witnesses, that they may be justified; Or let them hear and say, "It is truth."** 10 "You are My witnesses," says the LORD, "And My servant whom I have chosen, That you may know and believe Me, And understand that I am He. Before Me there was no God formed, Nor shall there be after Me. 11 I, even I, am the LORD, And besides Me there is no savior. 12 I have declared and saved, I have proclaimed, And there was no foreign god among you; Therefore you are My witnesses, "Says the LORD, that I am God. 13 Indeed before the day was, I am He; And there is no one who can deliver out of My hand; I work, and who will reverse it?" NKJV

**Throughout the Bible, after the prophetic call is rejected, is a remnant of God's people called out to closely follow?** If you say yes, have you noticed a blindness and deafness to the majority opinion are requirements for this ministry?

In a civilization that only honors monetary success Jesus would be considered an unwanted distraction, one who must be eliminated.

Of course there is a blindness that happens as a rejection of truth. Blindness happened to Israel as a nation in former times because of rejecting the light of God. This causes people to be blind to the **visitation** of God. **Reject visitation and be led into captivity.** Once in Babylonian captivity a remnant cries out for revival and mercy. Eventually God restores their sight.

It seems to me that Captivity and Babylon are synonymous. When a nation turns from God it is turned over to Babylon. This usually manifests first in the pursuit of pleasure and secondly in being carried away to a foreign land. Geographical Babylon is modern day Iraq.

**Does being blind mean we should turn from the lies and deception bombarding our senses as if from hell itself?**

Recently I heard a famous TV news anchor say,  
*" A person can be basically honest even though they lie."*  
Could it be that love of the truth is the missing ingredient in our conversation? Scripture states that no lie is of the truth **1 Jn 2 21** yet a young person today is bombarded with deception and inaccuracy at every turn.

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## Does blindness reject fear as a weapon? Does it say no to being an accuser?

### Often soldiers use their authority to take advantage of their enemies.

John the Baptist when asked by the soldiers what they must do in order to repent said in effect "Don't use fear as a weapon, don't take advantage of your position." Lk. 3 14. John was calling them to repentance to humility of heart.

What would Donald Trump say? Could it be,  
"Get all you can while you can any way you can?"

The Apostle Paul said,

### Phil 3.11

" Be anxious for nothing, but in everything with prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be known to God and the peace that passes all understanding will keep your heart and mind in Christ Jesus."

### Eph 6:10-18

Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. 11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. 12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. 13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

**14 Stand therefore**, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, 15 and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; 16 above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. 17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; 18 praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints  
NKJV

### Be Still Stand and See

The Psalmist wrote

### Ps 46:8-11

8 Come, behold the works of the LORD,  
Who has made desolations in the earth.  
9 He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;  
He breaks the bow and cuts the spear in two;  
He burns the chariot in the fire.  
10 **Be still, and know** that I am God;  
I will be exalted among the nations,  
I will be exalted in the earth!  
11 The LORD of hosts is with us;  
The God of Jacob is our refuge.  
Selah NKJV

## Ex 14:13-14 Stand still and see the salvation of our God

13 And Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid. Stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which He will accomplish for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall see again no more forever. 14 The LORD will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace."

NKJV

Stand therefore, Be still and know, Stand still and see; These references are not a call to inaction but **to placement. God is the ultimate warrior.**

### How are we to be still, stand and see? How does placement effect the battle?

In Second Chronicles 20 King Jehoshaphat cries out in prayer regarding an enemy invasion.

#### 2 Chron 20:12-22

For we have no power against this great multitude that is coming against us; nor do we know what to do, but **our eyes are upon You.**"

13 Now all Judah, with their little ones, their wives, and their children, stood before the LORD.

14 Then the Spirit of the LORD came upon Jahaziel the son of Zechariah, the son of Benaiah, the son of Jeiel, the son of Mattaniah, a Levite of the sons of Asaph, in the midst of the assembly. 15 And he said, "**Listen**, all you of Judah and you inhabitants of Jerusalem, and you, King Jehoshaphat! Thus says the LORD to you: '**Do not be afraid** nor dismayed because of this great multitude, for **the battle is not yours, but God's**. 16 Tomorrow go down against them. They will surely come up by the Ascent of Ziz, and you will find them at the end of the brook before the Wilderness of Jeruel. 17 You will not need to fight in this battle. **Position yourselves, stand still and see** the salvation of the LORD, who is with you, O Judah and Jerusalem!' **Do not fear or be dismayed**; tomorrow go out against them, for **the LORD is with you.**"

18 And Jehoshaphat bowed his head with his face to the ground, and all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem bowed before the LORD, worshiping the LORD. 19 Then the Levites of the children of the Kohathites and of the children of the Korahites stood up to **praise the LORD God of Israel with voices loud and high.**

20 So they rose early in the morning and went out into the Wilderness of Tekoa; and as they went out, Jehoshaphat stood and said, "Hear me, O Judah and you inhabitants of Jerusalem: **Believe in the LORD** your God, and you shall be established; **believe His prophets**, and you shall prosper." 21 And when he had consulted with the people, he appointed those who should **sing** to the LORD, and who should **praise the beauty of holiness**, as they went out before the army and were saying:

"Praise the LORD,  
For His mercy endures forever."

22 Now when they began to sing and to praise, the LORD set ambushes against the people of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir, who had come against Judah; and they were defeated. NKJV

**They learned to position themselves and God fought for them**

### **The Roman Soldier**

Though the Centurion was a Roman soldier he had learned the lessons of placement. He had submitted to God as best he could in his sphere of influence. He understood how faith involved submission and Jesus said of him

“ I have not seen such faith in all of Israel.”

Luke 7:1-10

Now when He concluded all His sayings in the hearing of the people, He entered Capernaum. 2 And a certain centurion's servant, who was dear to him, was sick and ready to die. 3 So when he heard about Jesus, he sent elders of the Jews to Him, pleading with Him to come and heal his servant. 4 And when they came to Jesus, they begged Him earnestly, saying that the one for whom He should do this was deserving, 5 "for he loves our nation, and has built us a synagogue."

6 Then Jesus went with them. And when He was already not far from the house, the centurion sent friends to Him, saying to Him, "Lord, do not trouble Yourself, for I am not worthy that You should enter under my roof. 7 Therefore I did not even think myself worthy to come to You. But say the word, and my servant will be healed. 8 For I also am a man placed under authority, having soldiers under me. And I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes; and to another, 'Come,' and he comes; and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it."

9 When Jesus heard these things, He marveled at him, and turned around and said to the crowd that followed Him, "I say to you, I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel!" 10 And those who were sent, returning to the house, found the servant well who had been sick. NKJV

**Oftentimes it was the Gentile or the rejected sinner that saw Jesus when the Jew did not. Could it be that way with many of us today? Could pride prevent visitation to some while Jesus is revealing himself to the poor in spirit?**

John 4:19-26 – According to the prejudice of his day Jesus should not be talking to the woman of Samaria.

19 The woman said to Him, "Sir, I perceive that You are a prophet. 20 Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, and you Jews say that in Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship."

21 Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when you will neither on this mountain, nor in Jerusalem, worship the Father. 22 You worship what you do not know; we know what we worship, for salvation is of the Jews. 23 But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. 24 God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

25 The woman said to Him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ).  
"When He comes, He will tell us all things."

26 Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am He." NKJV

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