

The Combat-Ready Christian



“take unto you the whole armour of God”

The Combat-Ready Christian



- ❧ *Eph 6:10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.*
- ❧ *Eph 6:11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.*
- ❧ *Eph 6:12 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.*
- ❧ Our enemy is spiritual
- ❧ The prepared soldier knows who the enemy is
- ❧ The prepared soldier know enemy the forces and tactics

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- ❧ The enemy is not God or scripture
- ❧ The enemy is not your fellow believer
- ❧ The enemy is not the unbeliever
- ❧ The enemy is Satan and his spiritual forces
- ❧ *1Jn 3:8 ... For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might **destroy** the works of the devil.*
- ❧ This is what we are to share in as believers, to tear down and to witness.
- ❧ *Joh_18:37 ...I was born, and for this cause I have come into the world, that I should bear **witness** to the truth...*

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- ❧ Who are the combatants?
- ❧ **Satan** – The commander in Chief
- ❧ **Angels** – High level operations and rulers
- ❧ **Demons** – Foot soldiers and evangelists
- ❧ Demons are also called unclean spirits
- ❧ *Mat 12:43 "When an **unclean spirit** goes out of a man, he goes through dry places, seeking rest, and finds none.*
- ❧ *Mat 12:45 Then he goes and takes with him seven other **spirits** more wicked than himself, and they enter and dwell there; and the last state of that man is worse than the first. So shall it also be with this wicked generation."*

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- ❧ Who are the combatants?
- ❧ Angels have wings and inhabit the heavenlies
- ❧ *Eph 6:12 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.*
- ❧ Angels are typically operate in territory they are invited into, operating primarily through authority structures where **decisions** and **influence** bear on many.
- ❧ Demons do the enticing (evangelism) and once enticed, that territory or person belongs in Satan's kingdom.

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- ❧ Authority structures are where **decisions** and **influence** bear on many. These are always **people**.
- ❧ If Satan can
 - ❧ Access a Pastor, he can influence the message
 - ❧ Access a Pastor, he can influence the evangelism
 - ❧ Access a Teacher, he can influence the leaders into heresy
 - ❧ Access a Mayor, he can influence city to sin
 - ❧ Access a Mayor, he can hinder churches
 - ❧ Access a President, he can influence the nation
 - ❧ Access the right President, he can influence the world!
- ❧ If God has the heart of the leaders, the influence is reversed

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- ❧ We evangelize those who are under the power of darkness to move them into the kingdom of God.
- ❧ *Col 1:13 He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,*
- ❧ We are in a war of kingdoms and each side is attempting to take as much territory as possible.
- ❧ At the time of Christ, the Jewish nation would have been one of the very few nations in God's kingdom. That has now changed.
- ❧ *Mat 4:8 Again, the devil took Him up on an exceedingly high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory.*

Kingdoms



- ❧ Whatever is in God's kingdom is under His care. Whatever is in Satan's Kingdom is under his domination.
- ❧ The Kingdom can be related to
 - ❧ People, Cities, or Nations
- ❧ *Luk 17:20-21 ...The kingdom of God does not come with observation; nor will they say, 'See here!' or 'See there!' For indeed, the kingdom of God is within you."*
- ❧ Each person, city and nation gets to decide which kingdom they hold allegiance to.

Kingdoms



- ❧ Some people have **falsely** determined that people may belong to God's kingdom, but that all nations belong to Satan, now and forever. A nation **may** serve the Lord!
- ❧ A city or nation may choose to follow Jesus and obey God.
- ❧ Nineveh repented and turned to God, thus sparing them from wrath.
- ❧ Kings and nations have sworn in the past to serve Jesus, including Switzerland, Canada and others.
- ❧ Evangelism continues on both sides and some nations that once named Christ are now lost.

Kingdoms



- ❧ The degree of servitude to the kingdom determines the level of activity that the king may operate.
- ❧ One who is a nominal Christian limits what God can do in their lives.
- ❧ Nations that are nominal sinners, limit what Satan can do in them
- ❧ Cities that are sold-out to Jesus will experience dramatic changes and prosperity
- ❧ Nations that are totally given to demons with public parades and spectacles see the open and flagrant operation of demon powers.

Kingdoms



- ✧ Jesus evangelizes with truth and appeal.
- ✧ Demons evangelize with lies, temptations and all manner of deception. Satan plays dirty.
- ✧ The person or nation that tolerates the operation of Satan will find it a thorn in their side.
- ✧ *Num 33:55 But if you do not drive out the inhabitants of the land from before you, then it shall be that those whom you let remain shall be irritants in your eyes and thorns in your sides, and they shall harass you in the land where you dwell.*
- ✧ Sin will remain a beach-head from which Satan can operate.

Kingdoms



- ❧ Conversely, an ungodly nation with a few believers can have a beach-head then later become a total nightmare for Satan's kingdom.
- ❧ The question is this? Whom shall be the irritant and beach-head for whom? Who is advancing and who is retreating.
- ❧ There was a day when the Church of Jesus Christ was advancing only. Some people felt that restraint should be lifted and sin allowed.
- ❧ Now we live in a day of full retreat in some cities and nations. Our battle leaders are passing through the ranks the wrong way because they can't retreat fast enough!

Kingdoms



- ❧ God is looking for a new slate of leaders to replace the cowards heading for the safety of our most rear ranks.
- ❧ Jesus came to destroy the works of Satan, not be afraid of Him or concede the world to Him.
- ❧ Jesus came for the whole world and for all who “would”.
- ❧ We are able to walk in the power and the authority of the Lord against ALL the works of the enemy.
- ❧ The decision is yours, to **retreat** and **hide** in the back of our ranks like many of our older leaders, or to **boldly** head to the **front** of the lines and give courage to the troops.

Kingdoms



- ❧ It requires a new **decision** to evangelize
- ❧ It means a new **courage** to hold up Christ in our lives, City and our Nation.
- ❧ Remember, Satan's evangelists are out recruiting with sin at the fastest rate possible so a stagnant church will loose ground.
- ❧ We have all the advantages. Let me remind you of that fact with these words when Israel, few in number and smaller, attacked nations larger than themselves and well fortified.

Kingdoms



- ❧ *Deu 31:6 Be strong and of good courage, do not fear nor be afraid of them; for the LORD your God, He is the One who goes with you. He will not leave you nor forsake you."*
- ❧ *Jos 21:43 So the LORD gave to Israel **all** the land of which He had sworn to give to their fathers, and they took possession of it and dwelt in it.*
- ❧ *Jos 21:44 The LORD gave them rest **all** around, according to all that He had sworn to their fathers. And not a man of all their enemies stood against them; the LORD delivered all their enemies into their hand.*
- ❧ *Jos 21:45 **Not a word failed** of any good thing which the LORD had spoken to the house of Israel. **All** came to pass.*

The Condition & The Key



- ❧ *Jos 22:5 But take careful heed to do the commandment and the law which Moses the servant of the LORD commanded you, to love the LORD your God, to walk in all His ways, to keep His commandments, to hold fast to Him, and to serve Him with all your heart and with all your soul."*
- ❧ The end times will take care of themselves. The anti-Christ does not need your assistance. In the end times, we are to be found by our master doing the works of God!
 - ❧ *Mat 24:45-46 "Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his master made ruler over his household, to give them food in due season? Blessed is that servant whom his master, when he comes, will find so doing.*

Clash of Kingdoms



- ❧ What will the Lord come and find you doing?
 - ❧ Burying your talent in the ground or using it
 - ❧ Hiding at the back or leading
 - ❧ Spreading influence or giving it to the enemy
 - ❧ Being a light or covering it up
- ❧ *Jos 24:15 And if it seems evil to you to serve the LORD, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, ... [sin, witches and the occult, atheism or even Islam]. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD."*