

SOLDIERS OF CHRIST ARISE

Ephesians 6:10-17

INTRODUCTION

- A. Read the text.
- B. Regarding the text.
 - 1. There is a war going on—
 - a. I am not talking about the war in the Middle East.
 - b. I am talking about the war between good and evil.
 - 2. In that we are in a state of war with the forces of evil, we as soldiers—
 - a. Must be willing to go into battle (2 TI 2:3).
 - b. Must be willing to learn about the one weapon that we have (EP 6:17).
 - c. Must be willing to continue to fight as long as we live (1 TI 6:12).
- C. Let us look at our responsibilities as soldiers of the cross.
 - 1. We need to look at our responsibilities as soldiers of the cross.
 - 2. We need to know what these responsibilities are.

DISCUSSION

- I. THAT WE MUST REALIZE THAT THE CHURCH IS A MILITANT ORGANIZATION.
 - A. Most in the church, in general, don't want to think of the church as anything other than a social club.
 - 1. While it is a society of mutual love, its primary mission is not to be sociable (1 PE 1:22; PR 11:30).
 - 2. The church is not in the business of entertaining people (MK 16:15, 16; 2 CO 9:13; EP 4:15, 16).
 - 3. Some get upset when you refer to the church as an army.
 - B. The church is an army; it is the army of Christ.
 - 1. As Christians we are to fight the good fight (1 TI 6:12; Jude 3).
 - 2. We are to endure hardships as good soldiers (2 TI 2:3).
 - C. The church is engaged in a war between God and Satan and it must fight.
 - 1. We have those from within who are trying to destroy the church (RO 16:17, 18; 2 JN 9-11).
 - 2. We have those from without who are trying to destroy the church (1 CO 10:14; CO 3:5).
- II. THAT WE MUST BE AN ACTIVE PARTICIPANT IN THIS WAR.
 - A. We have no choice but to fight in this war.
 - 1. Jesus said that whoever was not for him, was against him (MT 12:30).
 - 2. We are to bravely stand against the wiles of the devil (EP 6:14).
 - B. We only have one weapon and we must know how to use it (1 PE 3:15).
 - 1. In order to do this we must study the scriptures (2 TI 2:15).
 - 2. We must know the scriptures well enough to defend them from whoever attacks them.
- III. THAT WE MUST WEAR THE ARMOR OF CHRIST.
 - A. Name the parts of the armor.
 - 1. Have your loins girt about with truth (JN 17:17).
 - 2. Have on the breastplate of righteousness (RO 1:17).
 - 3. Have your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace (RO 10:15).
 - 4. Take the shield of faith (RO 10:17).
 - 5. Take the helmet of salvation (RO 10:10).
 - 6. The sword of the Spirit—the Word of God (MT 10:34).

- B. If a Christian does not have all the uniform on, he is out of uniform and is derelict in his/her duties as a soldier of Christ.
- C. Those that are out of uniform are easy prey for the enemy.

CONCLUSION

- A. We have seen in this lesson that—
 - 1. The church is a militant organization.
 - 2. We as soldiers are to be active participants.
 - 3. We are to make sure we are in uniform.
- B. Let us wear our uniforms proudly.