

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH

Acts 16 16-18; Matthew 11:12

As we look around us in this 21st century, particularly in the church, we see that satan is wreaking havoc in the body of Christ. This warfare is not only happening with the laity, but it is also happening in leadership. Over the past few years, we have seen renowned men and women of God with television ministries, radio broadcasts and even some that are known nationally and internationally fall from grace. We have seen some of every transgression exposed publicly. We have seen infidelity, homosexuality, drug abuse, embezzlement, domestic violence, multiple divorces and even imprisonment.

It seems that satan has loosed a greater set of demons upon the face of the earth and it is to the point where almost anything goes. There is a spirit of murder in the land. If it's not murder, the news is reporting rape or robbery. Sexual immorality is rampant and all types of acts are being perpetrated against children and even on the elderly. Drug addiction is a national problem, not to mention all types of diseases. Our schools have become a place of violence and bullying and gang violence are on the rise like never before.

It's time for the Christians to arise and declare war. It's time that we take our place in battle and declare that enough is enough. We can no longer shake our heads and talk about how bad times are or about how strong the churches used to be and the power they use to have. The bible declares that ***"The weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds."*** (II Corinthians 10:4)

One of the reasons that it appears that satan is winning is because for too long the body of Christ has taken a passive stand against the enemy. But God is calling for us not to be passive any longer, but to take a militant stand against satan and his army.

The word passive means: Influenced or acted upon without exerting or acting in return. It means to offer no opposition or resistance.

When satan sees this mindset, he moves in with great power because he sees no resistance. He feels as though it is "open season" because there appears to be a lack of power coupled with a spirit of carelessness and unconcern.

On the other hand, the word militant means: to serve as a soldier. Ready and willing to fight. It means to be vigorous or aggressive in support of a cause.

When satan sees the militant mindset, he is threatened because the militant mindset is a mindset that says, "If I go down, I'm not going down without a fight."

With this in mind, we must understand that the victory lies in our mindset because the battlefield is the mind. Someone once said that it is not the size of the dog in the fight, but it's the size of the fight in the dog.

The bible declares "*..... the Kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force.*" (St. Matthew 11:12)

Observe the following parallel of the passive mindset and the militant mindset.

Passive: Whatever will be, will be.

Militant: Call the things that be not, as though they were!

Passive: You can't fight City Hall.

Militant: I'll fight until the walls come down. (There are cases that have gone from City Hall to the Supreme Court and laws were changed as a result of one person's militant stance, i.e., Madelyn O'Hare)

Passive: I can't do it.

Militant: I can do all things through Christ which strengthen me!

Do you have unsaved children? Are you sick or afflicted in your body? Do you seem to be living in undeniable defeat? Rise up child of God and declare that enough is enough.

In the lesson (Acts 16:16-18) we see one of satan's messengers. We see her agitating the men of God by following them and passing herself off to be some great Prophetess. Although her statements were statements of truth, her motive was all wrong. The Apostle Paul allowed her for many days to come behind him with her declarations. But I believe he said within himself when he got tired of the foolishness, "Enough is enough." When he had enough, he rebuked the devil in her and the demonic spirit came out.

In closing, God has given his people all of the weapons that are needed to gain the victory in every situation. They are the real massive weapons of destruction.

They are:

The name of Jesus, The blood of Jesus, the word of God, the Power of praise and worship, the power of prayer and fasting, and the powerful weapon of love.

When we exercise our rights and privileges and use the weapons that we have been given, we will be able to stand in times of battle and declare that enough is enough and not only win the war, but walk away with the spoils.

*The words satan and devil were purposely not capitalized in this lesson. We would rather be grammatically incorrect than to capitalize his name to give him any honor.