

SERMON: A GOOD SOLDIER

2ND TIMOTHY 2:3-4

(3) Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.

(4) No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.

Introduction

There are many metaphors to describe Christians. Sometimes we are called a family; sometimes a flock of sheep, sometimes a human body. In this text, Paul alludes to Christians as soldiers in the Lord's army. He admonishes Timothy to continue as a good soldier. Let's look at some of the qualities of a good soldier. Before I get into my exposition, let me say that I have the highest respect and regard for the men and women in our military and their families. They keep us safe and free. In this fallen world of ours, a strong military is a necessity. In the world to come there will be no need for it, but we are not there yet! Now let's get to the exposition.

Exposition

1. A Good Soldier Is Brave to the Point Of Death

(Ready to Give His/Her All)

("God Don't Want, He Can't Use No Coward Soldiers")

2. A Good Soldier Is Tough

(Endures Hardships- Wimps Need Not Apply)

3. A Good Soldier Understands Hierarchy, Authority, and the Chain Of Command (Obeys Commanding Officer)

4. A Good Soldier Is Knowledgeable and Prepared

(Knows Weapons, Enemies and Terrain)

(Been Through Boot Camp)

5. A Good Soldier Follows Limiting Conventions

(Our Weapons Are Not Carnal)

(Geneva Conventions)

6. A Good Soldier Gives the Mission Top Priority

(Mission-Men/Women-Me)

7. A Good Christian Soldier Is a Prayer Warrior and a Praise Warrior

Closing thoughts

One important key is for a good soldier not to become entangled in civilian affairs. (The phrase “this life” in the King James Version is better translated as “civilian life.”) He is a soldier 24/7. Perhaps Paul was referring to the Roman code of Theodosius, which forbade a soldier from engaging in a civilian occupation. Likewise, we are Christians 24/7. We must enthusiastically follow our commander-in-chief, Jesus Christ. Give God Glory! Give God All the Glory!

Related Scriptures

Ephesians 6:10-17

2nd Corinthians 10:4

2nd Corinthians 5:14

1st Timothy 6:12

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