Sword of Fire, Armour of Light

"My Battle - Axe, My Weapons of War"

I was never one for Christian mottos and slogans. I always thought they were really rather hokey and religious sounding and for getting peoples attention.

I never saw mottos and slogans as a means to express identity or as a word from God specific to a particular ministry.

Now, hell surfaces and darkness steadily encroach over the institutions of the earth.

In this climate, God is affirming the identity of Sword of Fire, Armour of Light as an end - time Church with an aphorism that states our purpose and perfects our definition.

"Ye are My battle – axe and My weapons of war"

Recently I was sitting in Nashville with a company of Apostles for dinner. After being questioned as to what our ministry needed, I responded by saying, "First you need to know the name of our ministry. Our ministry is called 'Sword of Fire, Armour of Light."

Abruptly the questioner said, "Wow, can you live up to that?"

She then repeated the question which I never answered. Again, she said, "I mean can you really live up to that? That's an awful lot to have to live up to."

You know, I never ask questions like that, and to be honest, for a moment I really didn't know how to respond.

I have on more than one occasion taken it for granted that everyone was taught as I had been instructed at Crusaders Ministries about the importance of names with regards to identity.

I had also believed erroneously that if anyone in the Kingdom of God could and would understand designations, identifications, and purposes it would be Apostles.

It is apparent to me that as Apostles you are what you call yourself. So quite naturally, the designation of Sword of Fire in the Kingdom of God should specify and convey that as HE IS, so too, are we.

Furthermore, I believed that our name should communicate that we have already been ordained and appointed for War and Warfare for this generation - in this age and beyond - and that this was mandated and commissioned by God before the world began.

We don't have to nor are we required to strive to live up to anything. We will simply be responsible in one way or another to just release the outer constraints of the flesh as well the expectation of men and fully partake of all we are in Christ Jesus.

It's either fully partake of all we have in Christ or live spiritually impoverished and materially beneath our appointment.

At Sword of Fire, Armour of Light, this is a rudimentary point. I have often wondered what others perceive of certain terminology, for example, "Spheres of Authority".

Increasingly, I am discovering that most of us who call ourselves Apostles and Prophets do not share the same kingdom perspective.

Without going into great detail, maybe in the Church we use terms that sound good without really having an expectation to fulfill or apply them.

Every believer has been given a measure or a portion of the fullness of Christ and each believer makes up the church. The Church is therefore ONE body composed of many members.

Each Apostle as well as each person has been equipped with a functional aptitude along with a designation to act in accordance with the Plans and Purposes of God, those being the Economy of God or the Operations of His Hands.

Paul was called to be an apostle, separated unto the Gospel of God. This sounds very good, but the designation, or sphere of authority, contained in his call as an Apostle was expressed clearly in Acts 9: 15.

Acts 9: 15

But the Lord said unto him, Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel:

I'm sure there were many that would have loved to ask the Apostle Paul if he believed that he could live up to the task set before him in His Generation.

The designation and commissioning of the Apostle Paul was so overwhelming in his day that it was very difficult to understand. Almost so staggering that even up to the present day it is falsely purported that Paul's sphere of operation was the exclusive call to the Gentiles while Peter's call was to the Jews.

Maybe a clear indication of Apostle Paul's answer to the question of whether he could live up to that lies in Paul's reluctance toward the company of John Mark. Deserters desert because they have no clear mark of destiny within them.

The Spirit of Desertion operating in men is always trying to live up to something which invariably is moveable - the ways of which can never be touch.

Even one of my dearest of mothers said to me that God is so sick of our camouflage, meaning the camouflage dress, coverings and curtains of the Church's Spiritual Warfare gatherings.

She may have had a point. It very well may be that God is tired of those Churches and their camouflage.

However, He is not tired of the clothing of war from Sword of Fire, Armour of Light. Sword of Fire, Armour of Light has been ordained to wear the uniform of warfare.

While there is nothing worse than the misapplication and misappropriation of resources during a time of war, the same must be said for those who step out of their ordered positions or Spheres of Authority for a moment to pretend and engage in make-believe.

There are no masquerades in the Kingdom of Heaven. You will wear your identity.

These episodes of pretense are "momentary fits of insanity" under the guise of Spiritual Warfare Conferences, BUT there are no High Level (Kingdom) strategies being articulated to the Church.

They take place with not <u>one</u> person walking specifically within the vocation of a warrior with a warfare mantle. There is no one with Principalic and/or Governing Authority presiding or speaking.

There is never a briefing on tactical implementation coming forth from these meetings, and there are no mission enabling parameters being set forth for the Body of Christ.

Forgive me if I see this as a fraudulent portrayal of duties and a failed representation of resources.

In this environment of War, it is time for us to know our duties, our callings, and to make them sure. We must posthaste find our place and realign ourselves with the purposes of God in the Church.

God may very well be tired of the vain shouts and squandering of opportunities by those feigned attempts at spiritual warfare.

However, let's not "throw out the baby with the bath water". Not every spiritual warfare gathering has been in error or found lacking in the appropriate means and measures.

EVERY MAN TO HIS ARMOUR!

When we first heard the call, we presented a picture with actual warfare clothing- a visual declaration that was not understood. For some they saw a black man in a uniform looking silly and that's how they believed it to be.

But for Sword of Fire, that was and is a Prophetic Portrait, given to me as I was called and separated unto Him as an Apostle. Literal military dress came with my calling.

For the next three years, I wore a camouflage uniform to every church service, conference or ministry engagement. I endured the jokes and jeers of many, most notably those who were supposedly my companions in the Gospel. In fact, even my wedding attire was camouflage fatigues.

It was actually a trip to Zambia with Crusaders Ministries that brought me out of my standard dress.

Now the days of warfare have come and darkness covers the earth. Gross darkness covers the people.

Holy Warriors, don your dress in the Spirit, and if it's a Prophetic Portrait you must paint, fear not! Draw a portrait as an Ezekiel and arm yourselves for the greatest battle in the history of Mankind!

So, in this environment of lawlessness and gross error, Warriors of the Cross will prevail and endure. Sword of Fire, Armour of Light declares that the War has already begun. Only those who desire to win will answer the call.

You can't wait until it's at your front door before you answer the call. Then, Saints, it's much too late. You are like a man searching for his gun when a bear is standing within six feet. You are a statistic and your life is over.

But heed this call and stand fast, because despite the conditions you see with your eyes, you must know that the just shall live by faith and our God is God above all and over all the earth. He will not forsake us.

The greatest release of God's Spirit will come to those who are willing to war and battle on behalf of the King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

I speak to those territorial Apostles and Prophets now. I pray that when He comes, He will find Faith in your territories by the warfare you have waged. Wage a good Warfare, Apostles. This is God's finest hour.

1 Kings 20: 11

"And the king of Israel answered and said, Tell him, Let not him that girdeth on the harness boast himself as he that putteth it off."

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