

Are You Trusting in Chariots?

Isaiah 31

1. The _____ of False Trust (v. 1-3)
 - a. _____ support
 - i. Military _____
 - ii. Military _____
 - iii. Lack of _____ consultation
 - iv. Mere _____ support
 - b. _____ support
 - i. _____
 - ii. _____
 - iii. _____
 - iv. _____
2. The _____ of True Trust (v. 4-5)
 - a. The _____ of Judah
 - i. _____ foe
 - ii. _____ foe
 - b. The _____ of Protection
 - i. _____ in
 - ii. _____ away
3. The Call for _____ (v. 6-9)
 - a. _____ the impetus to repent
 - b. Repentance the agent for _____
 - i. Rejection of _____ idols
 - ii. Rejection of _____ idols
 - c. Renunciation reveals _____ at work
 - i. Against the _____
 - ii. Amongst His _____

Thoughts on the War

Our Individual War

“Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.”

According to this passage in Ephesians 6, the armor of God includes truth, righteousness, the Gospel of peace, faith, salvation, and God’s Word together with prayer. These are the weapons of the Christian soldier.

The world’s weapons include deception, self-indulgence, hostile words, doubt, living for the moment, and human wisdom together with self-reliance. Our default mode is to deny our sin, live for ourselves and rely on money, power, or the intuition of ourselves or others to solve our problems and cover our faults.

The Judahites trusted in horses, chariots and Egypt. We trust in money, science and technology. Have you thrown away your idols and placed your trust in Christ for forgiveness and life?

Our Corporate War

When Paul wrote about the armor of God, it wasn’t just as man to man, it was as prophet to the church at Ephesus. This was not just a war against the Evil One’s plan to put individual sinners in hell with him. It was a war against the Evil One’s desire to destroy the church and thwart its work.

Our work as a body of believers includes worship (John 4:23-24), growth through discipleship (1 Peter 1:5-11), acts of mercy (James 1:26-27), and evangelism (Philippians 1:12-18). Sometimes we think this is best accomplished by lots of money, hiring professionals, getting the best marketing strategies, or relying on “the best practices” of others. Are we really ready and willing to just step out and do God’s work with His weapons?