



CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH
NINILCHIK

SUNDAY YOUNG PEOPLE'S READING

The HOLY WAR

Made by Shaddai Upon Diabulous for the
Regaining of the Metropolis of the World
or

The Losing and Taking Again of the
Town of Mansoul

by John Bunyan

Retold in Modern English
by Jon Cardwell

September 19th, 2021

(Episode 23)

"I have given symbols..." Hosea 12:10

“These are our propositions, or conditions of peace; and upon these terms,” said the townsfolk of Mansoul, “we will submit to your King.”

But when the captains had heard this weak and feeble offer from the town of Mansoul, and their high and bold demands, Shaddai’s noble captain, the Captain Boanerges, gave to them the following speech:

“O, you inhabitants of the town of Mansoul, when I heard your trumpet sound for a parley with us, I can truly say I was glad. And when you said you were willing to submit yourselves to our King and Lord, then I was even more glad. But when you laid the stumbling-block of your iniquity before your own faces by your silly conditions and foolish complaints, my gladness then turned into sorrows, and my hopeful beginnings of your return had languished into fainting fears.

“I figure that old Ill-Pause, the ancient enemy of Mansoul, had drawn up those proposals you now present to us as terms of an agreement; but they are undeserving to resound in the ear of any man who pretends to serve Shaddai. We, therefore, jointly, and that with the highest disdain, refuse and reject such things, as the greatest of iniquities (2 Tim 2:19).

“But, O Mansoul, if you will give yourselves into our hands, or rather into the hands of our King, and will trust Him to make such terms with and for you as shall seem good in His eyes— and I dare say they shall be such as you shall find to be most profitable to you— then we will receive you, and be at peace with you. But if you don’t care to trust yourselves in the arms of Shaddai, our King, then things are as they were before; and we also know what we have to do.”

Then the Lord Mayor, that is, the old Incredulity, cried out and said to Mansoul, “We’re out of the hands of our enemies, as you see we are now! Who would be so foolish as to release the staff from his own hand and place it into the hands of whom he doesn’t know? I, for my part, will never yield to so unlimited a proposition. Do we know the nature and character of their King? It is said by some that He will be angry with His subjects if they only step out of line a fraction of an inch. Others say He requires of them much more than they can perform. For these reasons, it seems the wisest course, O Mansoul, to take good heed what you do in this matter; for if you once yield, you give yourselves up to another, and so you are no more your own! Thus, to give yourselves up to an unlimited power is the greatest folly in the world. For now you indeed may repent; but can never justly complain. Do you indeed know, when you are His, which of

you He will kill, and which of you He will save alive; or whether He will not cut off every one of us, and send out of His own country another new people, and cause them to inhabit this town?"

This speech of the Lord Mayor undid everything Captain Boanerges had said, and threw their hopes of an accord flat to the ground. Therefore, the captains returned to their trenches, to their tents, and to their men, as they were.

The Mayor, then, returned to the castle and to his King.

Now, Diabulous had waited for his return, for he had heard that his officers had been at their particular places of defense. So, when he had come into the chamber of state, Diabulous saluted him with, "Welcome, my lord. How went matters betwixt you and they today?"

So the Lord Incredulity, with a low and flattering bow in salutation, told him the whole of the matter, saying, "Thus and thus said the captains of Shaddai, and thus and thus said I."

When told of Incredulity's tidings, Diabulous was very glad to hear it, and said, "My Lord Mayor, my faithful Incredulity, I have tested your fidelity above ten times already, but never yet found you to be false. Once we polish over this brunt of battle, I promise to promote you to a place of honor, a position far better than to be Lord Mayor of Mansoul. I will make you my Universal Deputy, and you shall, next to me, have all nations under your hand; yes, and you shall shackle them so they may not resist you, nor shall any of our servants walk with more liberty, but those who shall be content shall be content to walk in your chains."

Now, the Lord Mayor came out from his visit to Diabulous, as if he had obtained a favor indeed. Therefore, he went to his habitation in great spirits, and thought to feed himself well enough with those hopes until the time came that his greatness should be enlarged.

But now, although the Lord Mayor and Diabulous had thus well agreed, yet his repulsive answer to the brave captains of King Shaddai put Mansoul into a mutiny. For while old Incredulity went into the castle to congratulate his lord with what had come to pass, the old Lord Mayor, the one who was mayor before Diabulous came to the town, that is, my Lord Understanding, and the old Recorder, Mr. Conscience, received intelligence of what had occurred at Ear-gate....

To Be Continued...

For Your Consideration

Review:

What does the town of Mansoul represent?

Who is King Shaddai?

Who is the giant, Diabulous?

What is an allegory?

From the first few episodes, what truths in the Bible does Mr. Bunyan's allegorical story represent?

Today's Episode:

Last week, Mansoul brought forth terms and conditions of their surrender. In a nutshell, they were: (1) they still wanted the old governors under Diabulous to be in charge, Incredulity, Mr. Forget-good, & Willbewill; (2) that no lustful soul be cast out of Mansoul, and that they could do what they want; (3) that every right & privilege they enjoyed under Diabulous, would continue to be theirs; and (4) that no new law, officer, or executioner of law or office, shall have any power over them, without their own choice and consent. Why does Captain Boanerges call their proposals "silly conditions and foolish complaints"? Why does he further call them "the greatest of iniquities"? Read 2 Tim 2:19 to help you answer.

Webster's Dictionary (1828) defines Incredulity as: "The quality of not believing; indisposition to believe; a withholding or refusal of belief." In the 6th paragraph, how does what Lord Incredulity says help you to understand unbelief against the truth of Jesus Christ?

Incredulity is promised a high "Universal" promotion in the Diabulous' kingdom. What does the Diabulous' promise tell you of the devil's strategy and ultimate goal? Read Genesis 3:1-5 to understand Satan's strategy and read Isaiah 14:12-14 to understand Satan's ultimate goal.