Servant Soldiers! Part 1

Last week... Concluded a series of studies recognizing that personal ministry to the world around us is what we were saved for! *Privileged to be Partners with God! To carry the word that is alive and active!*

And people won't know the truth that sets them free unless we deliver, *everyday!* We won't be able to deliver it *any day* unless we process thru our distractions... <u>To be there for whoever and whatever is next!</u>

We rule over the distractions of life from the secure foundation of family... Refusing to bring our stressors into our homes, which should be our sanctuaries... So we do not trigger the works that defeat us and keep us from our ministry!

We must learn to rule and reign without hindrance... To compete with the world and devil for the souls of mankind... And to complete the mission of reconciliation of the world to God!

It was during worship, we had a word from the Lord about "the miracle!" And that turning point could have gone unnoticed... "General's perspective of the battle to break the chains of bondage... (Telestai). Each of us called to be General's: not deployed, but "activated" in place... Every General a servant, responsible for many others lives... the church, growing!

Acts 2.42-47 "And they continued steadfastly in the apostles doctrine (foundation) and fellowship (connection) and in breaking of bread (eating) and prayers and fear came upon every soul and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles! And all that believed were together and had all things common; and sold their possessions and goods and parted them as every person had need... and they continued daily with one accord in the temple and breaking bread from house to house did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart. Praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such a should be saved!

This is a picture of the early church with people who cared for and took responsibility for others! It's a picture of people who, having been cared for, now turn to serve the needs of others!

There is no other kingdom of God than the Servant-Kingdom!

Servants... We are bought with a price "doulos," slaves to God! **1Cor6.20, 7.23 Mt24.45** Okay! He is a Great Master! We are servants, diakonos, to mankind! Not always easy... People can be mean to "servers..." But since we are God's slaves, sent to serve, He deals with the rudeness! As His, we have a primary function to war for the souls of mankind! And not to be entangled in the affairs of this life! **2Tim 2.1-7**

Servant Soldiers... "My brothers, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles (methodia: tricky methods) of the devil. <u>For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood</u>, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual *hosts* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand." **Ephesians 6.10-13**

We stand between the people we love and minions of darkness seeking to snare and carry them away! **2Tim 2.26** We stand sober and alert against an enemy roaming around as a lion looking for those he can devour! **1Pet 5.8** We stand between the people we love and the "forces" who come to steal, kill and destroy! **Eph 6.12, John 10.10**

Coming to steal, kill and destroy... *Enemy called "coexistence..."* Worked so well in 313 that we are ready to repeat the dark ages again! Christianity is the only faith based on the substitutionary death and shared resurrection power of its Leader! Christ and idols have nothing in common! Can have as many "Get Together" summit's as you can plan... *but it won't bring people together in heaven!*

Anyone can say we are no longer a Christian nation, but by majority we are! And now is the time to light the beacons of spiritual warfare for the souls of our society!

Enemy called "fluid morality..." Everyone has been empowered to be their own lawmaker... Including our politicians and judges! LAISD: 14 yr. old girl mature enough to have sex with he 28 yr. old teacher! Cannot prosecute the teacher since she was compliant! The law says nothing about the child's mentality! Under-age is statutory! "Offense declared by statute!"

Without discernment of the "woes," they call evil good and good evil; rewarding evil with good and good with evil!

Enemy called "terrorism..." Another aid-worker beheaded by ISIS! Boko Haram: 200 school girls/6 mo. ago, 45 people dead in Azaya Kura/Thursday, renewed attacks in Cameroon... Islamic State in Iraq and Syria – now flying flag in Libya... "ISIS eyeing Mediterranean/Europe..."

Terrorists are practicing in their own backyard, preparing to bring the fight to the "Great Satan..."

5 dead/five wounded (3 Americans) in Jerusalem synagogue massacre! Marysville shooter kills four, then himself, over breakup! "FSU gunman feared government was targeting him..." So he shoots up a library...????

"In the last days men's hearts will faill them for fear... and they will flee when no one is pursuing them!"

Lk 21.26 Pr28.1

There are many enemies arranging themselves for battle against God and His people... But we have been equipped, and are *resource-full*, for whatever comes next!

And our thanks belongs to God who always causes us to triumph in Christ Jesus!

Thanks-full/Confident... Because we are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that we should show forth the praises of Him who has called us out of darkness (skotia: ignorance of the divine, associated wickedness and the misery of hell) into His marvelous light: in times past were not His people, but we are now the people of God: we had not obtained mercy, but now we have obtained mercy. **1Pet 2.9,10**

Give thanks to the Father, who has made us able to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: Who has delivered us from the power of darkness (skotia: ignorance of the divine, associated wickedness and the misery of hell), and has translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son! **Col 1.12-13**

Of all the things we have to be thankful for... do not forget our privilege to be His partners in the war for men's souls!