

Man of God, will You Answer His Call?

“And from the days of John the Baptist until now, the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force” Matthew 11:12 [KJV]

Men, our entire world is involved in a devastating Spiritual war that has eroded our own integrity, violated the sanctity of our relationships with our wives and children, deteriorated the power of Christ's church, and threatens, even now, to destroy our very nation, which, in its founding, was “under God, indivisible.” If we are to overcome the Enemy, who is bringing this destruction among us, there will be a substantial cost to those who take up arms in this battle. God's Word tells us that He is searching for:

“... a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before Me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none.” Ezekiel 22:30 [KJV]

For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew Himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect towards him. 2 Chronicles 16:9 [KJV]

Do you want to be “that” man? Are you wearied by the compromise and excuses of others that have brought us to this point? By those in your own life? Are you ready to allow God to heal you, strengthen you, and place you “in the gap?” If so, unite with men of integrity, fight in the power of the LORD, take this battle to the Enemy. I am not talking about “doing church.” I'm talking about selfless heroism - the laying down of your life, demonstrating your love for God, your family, and your neighbor.

This is **WAR!**

God further tells us in His Word:... *If My people, which are called by My name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land. 2 Chronicles 7:14 [KJV]*

These are not easy challenges, especially for men, called by society to be courageous, self-reliant providers & protectors of families. But, in conjunction with any act of God, that He wills to carry out in and through His people, only two things are required from us: **COMMITMENT** and **FAITH**. If we fully commit to follow our Leader into battle, train diligently to discipline these worldly bodies and get them into shape, learn to skillfully use the weapons He has fashioned for us, and trust His battle plan and His commands to be absolutely sound, we will become an essential part of the victory of the ages.

This is not a mission for half-hearted, weekend soldiers. There WILL be casualties, but the cause is worthwhile and ultimate victory is assured. The eternal souls of your wife, your children, your relatives, your co-workers, your neighbors, your countrymen, and your fellow soldiers - as well as your own soul - all hang in the balance. Will you deny yourself, take up your cross, and follow Jesus with all that is within in you and everything you have?

IF NOT YOU, WHO? IF NOT NOW, WHEN?

*Also I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” Then I said, “**Here am I. Send me.**” Isaiah 6:8 [KJV]*

SUMMIT Stand In The Gap Challenge

In the days ahead, earnestly pray and ask God to speak to your heart. This is not a one-time, 15-minute effort. Take several opportunities, perhaps daily, to offer up your heart, asking God whether He is pleased with your current commitment of your resources – Time, Talents, and Treasures – toward your relationship with Him and in ministry to Christ's body and to those who are lost. Are you spending what God has given you on yourself for temporary pleasures, or worse, for foolish or sinful purposes. Wait, patiently, in silence, and listen for Him to speak. Consider the eternal value of how you spend the greatest amount of your time and energy and allow God to show you where changes are needed. *For example, perhaps you need more time in God's Word and less time in front of the TV or at the gym. Or, maybe you are neglecting your wife and children because success at work is more satisfying to your ego.* When you have heard from the Lord, complete the following statements and share them with a pastor or a brother in the LORD who can encourage you and hold you accountable to follow through.

I believe God has shown me that He wants me to **reduce** or **eliminate** these things in my life:

I believe God has shown me that He wants me to **increase** or **add** these things in my life:

I commit to the following actions to bring about the changes:
