
**WINNING
THE BATTLE**

FOR THE

**MINDS OF
MEN**

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DEDICATION

To my family who sacrificially gave me up
once again for the Kingdom;
to Bob and Rush and Gary who helped
re-engage my earlier training; to my uncle
Jim who first caused me to bow my knee to
Jesus, and perhaps most specifically to my
initial tutor — thanks, Mom.

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Dropped Into The Battle Zone

You are involved in a battle to the death between two competing world systems over the control of this planet. At birth you were dropped in the midst of the battle zone. Although most Christians are unaware of the immediacy of this battle, every single one of us is involved because neither one of the two warring “superpowers” will allow any of us to remain neutral. This war is being fought both with ideas and raw power. In our lifetime (or perhaps, by stretching it, in our children’s lifetimes), it will erupt into ultimate confrontation.

This is the ultimate battle between God and Satan, between the kingdom of God and the world system, between Jesus Christ and the devil. The battle lines have been drawn, the challenge has been raised and there is no backing out. Though by appearance things may appear to be “normal”, the armies nevertheless are amassing as “the kings of the earth [world system] take their stand against the Lord and against His anointed [the Church]”.¹ We are moving into the time of the earth’s fire.

Freedom’s only hope is in God—God working out His plan of the ages through His people, the Church. Christians and Christians alone of all the people in the earth can possess the moral fervency and ideological consistency necessary to mobilize the armies of righteousness to a successful confrontation. They alone possess

¹ Psalm 2:2

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the moral fuel and the truth that frees.² Christians, under the guidance and in the power of the Holy Spirit, are the only visible hope for a world trapped in increasing fear, despair and bondage.

Calling Christian Heroes

This book is a call for Christian heroes, for Christians who will stand up for the faith and pursue righteousness both in their own lives and in society: no matter what the cost.

This book will (1) show clearly the necessity of “occupying (in victory) until Christ comes;”³ (2) expose ways the enemies of God’s moral order are trying to destroy not only our communities but our children’s futures; (3) show how you can find your place of service (ministry) in the battle;⁴ and (4) teach you biblical principles in understanding and shaping political and economic events.⁵ It will also jar you.

Christians cannot afford to look at the world through splintered lenses, mixing and matching Christian principles with the principles of the Opposition. Christians must look, live, and act with an integrated *Christian worldview* to successfully participate in the ultimate victory of the Lord in His work. It is this Christian worldview alone that will allow the Church to cut through the smoke of deception shrouding the battlefield for the minds of men. True Christianity recognizes that God’s Word speaks to all that man is and does — and it deals with ultimate issues. True Christianity is looking for a world ordered in such a way that His kingdom comes, and will is done *on earth* as it is in heaven.⁶

Birthpangs, Death, and Strong Men and Women

For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. ...but all these things are merely the beginning of birth pangs (Matthew 24:7, 8).

I’m not preoccupied with “doom and gloom,” but I am obsessed with the promised redemption of a fallen world. Jesus spoke of the tumultuous last days as “the beginning of birth pangs.” There is pain and suffering to come, but the result is life not death,

² John 8:32, 36. ³ Luke 19:13. ⁴ Ephesians 4:7; 1 Peter 4:10. ⁵ Ephesians 3:10. ⁶ Matthew 6:10

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birth and not annihilation. We Christians can, should, and must play out our courageous part in this labor and birth process as the Lord prepares for His return. I am convinced from careful study of the scriptures that we don't have to—in fact should never—give up and let Satan have any uncontested power over the earth. Satan is a bully who rules by fear and deception. Christian liberators must declare the truth: Satan is a defeated enemy, defeated at the cross. Christians have a duty before our Lord and Master to bring both Christ's victory and His message of redemption to liberate the nations. Our message of Christ's kingdom is designed to set men free personally, in their families, communities, nations, and even in the world.

True freedom is measured by the degree to which a culture honors human dignity, recognizing men and women as created in the image of God.⁷ Ultimately, to reject God also rejects the value of man. The more truly Christian a culture is, the more it is moral, free, productive, and civilized. Conversely, the less Christian it is, the more poverty, exploitation, hopelessness and death exist. In our own case, as the western world moved into the twentieth century, it cast off the restraints of historical Christian values and substituted Freudian psychology, scientific socialism, and evolutionary relativism, bringing us a century of death. Evolution teaches us that man, as "evolving muck" has no special claim to life, and that all relationships are based on the ethics of the power of the survival of the fittest. An evolving world is based on and legitimizes incredible cruelty. The wide spread acceptance of evolution has given us the most barbaric period in history.

The Century Of Death

Over one hundred and fifty million human beings have been killed in this century (not counting war casualties) at the hands of torturers, through planned famine, by executioners, or by abortionists.⁸

Where was the Church in all of this? Mostly deaf, dumb, and blind—doing nothing more than wringing its hands and waiting for Jesus to come.

⁷ Genesis 1:26. ⁸ Wall Street Journal, July 7, 1986. *War Isn't This Century's Biggest Killer.*

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Millions have died in the Soviet Union, Cambodia, Southeast Asia, Red China, Africa, Afghanistan and other countries. Millions have also died in their mothers' wombs. *This is the bloodiest century in history.*⁹ These millions upon millions of corpses are mostly the victims of anti-Christian governments and/or ideologies which reject God's moral absolutes. When values become relative, so does the value of human life.

This has been a unique century of ideological warfare on a mass scale. While the religiously misguided of the Inquisition killed their thousands, the *secular humanists*, *Marxists*, and *abortionists* have killed and continue to kill multiplied millions. These myriad victims die because Christians fail to invalidate the death sentences issued by the world-system upon them. Neither political dissent nor being a fetus that is "inconveniencing" its mother's lifestyle ought to be a crime worthy of death.

Slow death is epidemic also. Sexually-related plagues are incubating a medical holocaust. Drug use is out of control; public "education" has become a misnomer; world debt is swelling to a crushing tide; liberal welfare policies are systematically destroying the black family unit; and criminals are wasting the peace loving at home while Marxists destroy the freedom-loving abroad.

We're Even Losing Ground Evangelistically!

Consider the current dimensions of our evangelistic losses. In the last fifty years, the Moslem religion has increased in size 500%; Hinduism by 117%; Buddhism by 63% and Christianity by a mere 47%. Not only have we lost two thirds of the globe politically since 1917 to the Marxists, but we are currently losing the religious world as well.¹⁰

The Question: How Did This Disaster Occur?

Don't look elsewhere for the causes of this moral cancer—look to the Church. The nations are in misery and Christian civilization is *perishing* more because of *false doctrine in the Church* than because of universal sin or Satan's power. *The Church*

⁹ Ibid. ¹⁰ *The Church Around The World*, April 1986.

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is where God chooses to act and liberate as he “takes His stand.”¹¹ When the Church *withdraws* from society, the institutions within it will decay and increasingly practice inhuman indignities. The nations are perishing because the Church has withdrawn from shaping their laws and influencing their cultures. Christian withdrawal brings decay, collapse and death. But there is no need for this Christian flight from battle: Jesus promised us that “greater is He that is in you than he who is in the world” (1 John 4:4).

Theological deception has led us into withdrawal from society and into a nearly exclusive concern with *internal church life* (privatization). Because nature abhors a vacuum, the secular state has rushed in to fill the vacuum of valueless society. It has set its own godless standards for man, standards of relativistic values and increasing degradation. For too long the Church stood back from the world and decried its ever-increasing slide into the quagmire of decay. But we have not realized that *our withdrawal* from an active role in caring for and discipling our nations is the major cause for this accelerating self-destruction. Our defective theology has shot the nations in the foot.

The Answer

It is time to reverse this disintegration of civilization. It is time to re-assert our God commanded role to be “salt and light and a city set on a hill.”¹²

In order for us to be liberators of the nations, and truly disciple them, the Church must reinvolve itself in impacting the whole world socially, politically, and culturally for Christ. We must get involved, like Jesus did. Involvement recognizes that the Church must act and be liberated itself as it turns to the job of discipling the nations.¹³ We must allow God to free the Church so we can be a free-flowing conduit of true freedom, from God to all men. The journey to freedom begins with the recognition of your own bondage and your commitment to breaking out of it. Contemporary Christians have allowed themselves to be ghettoized, shoved into a corner where we entertain ourselves and primarily

¹¹Psalms 82:1; I Corinthians 6:19. ¹²Matthew 5:13-16. ¹³Matthew 28:18-20

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demonstrate our concern for a heavenly future. We have fled from the battlefield on this earth instead of courageously acting to bring God's power to bear in the midst of it.¹⁴

Strong Men for Strong Times

It's time to break out of the Christian ghetto. It's time for the church to reclaim the agenda for change from the world system. It's time to assert the truth of God over the lies of His enemy. The battle promises to be fierce, because most men, including Christians, have been brainwashed by the world system. We Christians tend to have souls that are saved but worldly minds. Remember however that the King of Glory rides at the head of our army. And He is *already* declared to be "the King of Kings and Lord of Lords" (Revelation 19:16).

Dare to meet the challenge. God is recruiting Christian men and women just like you who can retrain their minds and qualify to carry his righteousness and justice to the imprisoned. May this book teach you how to become vitally relevant as you become the "salt of the earth." May your tombstone read:
"IT MADE A DIFFERENCE THAT THIS SOUL LIVED"

¹⁴ Psalm 110:2