

FirstFruits Gathering At Harvest Christian Church

What's Love Got to Do With It? – Part 2 February 2, 2021 Suzi Armstrong

We are in a war! The Lord has marched out as a warrior; He has stirred His zeal for His nations. With a shout He has raised a battle cry and will triumph over His enemies. **The heart of a warrior is very important.** A warrior with an injured heart will not be able to stand in battle. A warrior with the heart of God will pursue, overtake and recover all. In Proverbs the condition of the heart is referred to many times – we are exhorted to guard our heart with all diligence because it is the well-spring of life. Proverbs 17 talks much about the condition of the heart. It is imperative that a warrior's heart is teachable and understanding. A perverse heart never has anything good to say. A heart that is crushed struggles with depression. A heart under pressure needs to bridle its tongue.

1 Samuel 30.3-4, 6, 17-19 NIV

³ When David and his men reached Ziklag, they found it destroyed by fire and their wives and sons and daughters taken captive. ⁴ So David and his men wept aloud until they had no strength left to weep.

⁶ **...David found strength in the LORD his God.**

¹⁷ **David fought** them from dusk until the evening of the next day, and none of them got away, except four hundred young men who rode off on camels and fled. ¹⁸ **David recovered everything** the Amalekites had taken... ¹⁹ Nothing was missing...David brought everything back.

Part of the call on David's life was to be a warrior. The Lord sent David into many battles. A warrior needs to be strong and courageous physically and mentally, fearless in the fight and confident in victory. David received the stamina and boldness to overtake the enemy by strengthening himself in the Lord. What does love have to do with that? David's connection with the Lord came out of deep relationship that was filled with love.

When David strengthened himself in the Lord he let the love of God heal his wounds and mend his broken heart. The source of the strength that David received was the unending depth of the love of God being poured into David reviving and empowering him to go back into war.

Psalm 13.4-5 NIV

⁴ and my enemy will say, "I have overcome him,"
and my foes will rejoice when I fall.

⁵ But **I trust in your unfailing love;**
my heart rejoices in your salvation.

Psalm 31.15-16 NIV

¹⁵ My times are in your hands;
deliver me from the hands of my enemies,
from those who pursue me.

¹⁶ Let your face shine on your servant;
save me in your unfailing love.

Psalm 44.2-4 NIV

² With **your hand you drove out the nations**
and planted our ancestors;
you crushed the peoples
and made our ancestors flourish.

³ It was **not by their sword that they won the land, nor did their arm bring them victory; it was your right hand, your arm, and the light of your face, for you loved them.**

⁴ You are my King and my God,
who decrees victories for Jacob.

- In this scripture the reference is to the battles the Israelites fought in the wilderness were won because of the love of God.

We are in a war season and the King of Glory who is mighty in battle is at the head of His angel armies. The Lord is saying to us, "As warriors in battle engage with My love. For My love will heal your wounds and give you strength to stay in the battle. Let My unending love strengthen your bones. I will fill your heart with the dimensions of My Spirit and My being. A warrior heart can see what I see. A warrior heart of love is filled with compassion – do not let your heart become hardened and dull or open to offense and the arrows of accusation. War is hard – be filled with My love.

What does love have to do with it? It is core to My being. I am love, and I do everything out of love. I am the giver of love. In My love hope and life abounds. The benefits of My love are greater than you know. Receive My love and My compassion – be filled with the substance of My love. My love will fill you and cover you. Let My unending love be the lens you look through and the filter for your ears. Let My wrap-around love be your shield in battle. Do not become battle weary. In My love is refreshing for your soul and hope for the future.

1 Chronicles 12.38 NASB

³⁸ All of these, **being men of war** who helped in battle formation, came to Hebron **with a perfect heart** to make David king over all Israel; and all the rest of Israel also were of one mind to make David king.

- A perfect heart can only come from being united with Christ in love.
- Do not grow weary in well-doing. This is a war season!

Prayer:

Psalm 18 ³³ Through you we ascend to the highest peaks of your glory to stand in the heavenly places, strong and secure in you. ³⁴ You've trained us with the weapons of warfare-worship; now we'll descend into battle with power to chase and conquer the foe. **Psalm 33** ¹⁶ Even if the best warrior who went to battle could not be saved simply by his strength alone. ¹⁷ Human strength and the weapons of man are false hopes for victory; they may seem mighty but they will always disappoint. ¹⁸ The eyes of the Lord are upon *even the weakest worshipers* who love him—those who wait in hope and expectation for the strong, steady love of God. **Psalm 110** ⁵ The Lord stands in full authority to shatter to pieces the kings who stand against Him on the day he displays his terrible wrath. ⁶ He will judge every rebellious nation, filling their battlefield with corpses, and will shatter the strongholds of ruling powers. ⁷ Yet he himself will drink from his inheritance as from a flowing brook; refreshed by love he will stand victorious!

We decree our God is victorious in battle.

John 3 ¹⁷ God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to be its Savior and rescue it! ¹⁸ So now there is no longer any condemnation for those who believe in him, but the unbeliever already lives under condemnation because they do not believe in the name of God's beloved Son. **We declare that the Gospel of Jesus Christ is released in clarity and strength across our city and nation. Michigan and the United States of America are a LIGHT to the nations of the world.**