



Hand to Hand Conflict

In writing these documents I have come across some fierce opposition. Satan does not enjoy being exposed, he likes to fight in the darkness, keeping his victims unaware of his intentions. I would like to put to paper my struggles with the devil and share it with you. Often in times of peril it is very hard to see the way, often another's struggles, falls and triumphs can give you strength in your own personal fight. Friend, the devil is very cunning, he also knows who to target, he knows who Jesus has picked for special missions and he personally targets those people. The more important the commission the more determined the devil is.

I know personally how the devil fights and believe me it's frightening. I know from experience that it feels like the life force is being sucked out of you, like a large hand is on your chest pushing you under, down beneath the earth. I also know the physical pain and mental anguish that accompanies these storms. It is a fight for life. I don't have to do the actual fighting but it is my responsibility to hold on, that is my only responsibility - to hold on to Jesus. Jesus knows when the devil is forming his battle lines and Jesus marshals His own army in defence. I also know from experience that no matter how hard the devil attacks he cannot win the fight. He has no power to kill me, my bodyguard is much stronger. Jesus Himself does intercede if necessary, but mostly angel warriors do get the victory, Jesus sends strength and help from heaven.

But what of the fight and why? The after effects leave me shattered, like there isn't any strength left in me, exhausted. Mental fights / storms can be just as exhausting as physical ones. Picture it if you will a boat overturned at sea, the passengers drowning. There is a island within reach but the night is dark and the sea is choppy. Wave after wave crashes over your head and pushes you under, it is a swim for your life or sink in the billows. You put your all into the fight and swim for the shore. Just when you think life is lost and you feel you can go no further your feet touch the sand of that blessed island, you made it. Looking back the way you just came you see the ship is sunk but shining in the night are the angels who just carried you to shore. Yes Jesus was there all through the night and it was Jesus who carried us to safety.

Friend, these battles with the devil are very real. We are a very real threat to his kingdom, we are exposing his character to the world and we are fighting for Jesus, his arch enemy. Satan isn't going to take this lying down, he is going to fight. We need to be painfully aware of how the devil fights. He doesn't play fair, we know that, but in his fights he always uses a element of truth and this my friend, can be our downfall. If we listen to the 'truth' the devil advocates it can be our downfall. Now we know that our merciful and loving Saviour will never allow us to sink, especially when we are fighting tooth and nail for Him, but it is of utmost importance to recognise when the devil is aiming his fiery darts

at us. If we can see the devil in the detail, believe me my friend, the battle is much easier to fight.

To recognise the ‘devil in the detail’ we need to stop and listen, pause for a moment and think, are you getting all the truth? The devil only gives you what he can use to bring you down, he often only gives you the negative, he pushes hard upon you the injustices, the neglect, physical pain, anguish of mind, anything within you he can use to pull you down. Often what he says is true, but he always falls short of telling you about our Saviour’s love. Once we recognise friend, who is talking the battle is much easier to fight. Always stop and reason out a situation, we can often see much clearer.

While we may ‘realise’ we are in a fight with the devil the actual fight is still very hard to bear. Yes our only duty is to ‘hold on’ but if we change our perception it makes the storm lighter to bear. Recognise who is talking and change your viewpoint, instead of agreeing with the devil’s ‘true’ arguments, block him, turn your back and don’t listen to him at all. Look to Jesus, Jesus will send help to guide you through the storm.

Friend, times are tough. We are living in the last days, time is running out. The commissions we have are some of the most important, we are fighting for the world. Satan isn’t going to let us pass by there is too much at stake. We are fighting to prove to the universe God’s law is just, we are fighting for heaven, Satan my friend, is fighting for his life. Friend, I can tell you from experience these fights are vicious, in some I really thought I was going to lose my life (I now know from experience how strong my Saviour is and I know from experience that the devil has no power to kill me). These battles have been fierce and as I keep fighting for Jesus I know they are only going to get worse. I stand ever ready to fight. My blessed Saviour died on the cross so I can live and for that I love Him dearly, for that I’d lay down my life for Him. I’m in this battle till the end. As long as there is life in me I will fight for Jesus no matter what the devil throws at me. I now know my heavenly protection can keep me safe, I know the devil is still going to attack, but I do my uttermost to keep a positive outlook and sing my way through the storm. Jesus is coming ready or not. I stand fully armed with the armour of God, ready to go to war with the devil and his agents, ready to fight for Christ, ready to go home.

Amen