

Welcome to God's Army

Scripture:

1 Peter 1:13-16 (NIV) Therefore, prepare your minds for action, be self-controlled, set your hope fully on the grace given you when Jesus Christ is revealed. {14} As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. {15} But just as he who called us is holy, so be holy in all you do {16} for it is written, "Be holy, because I am holy."

Introduction

We are facing a season in human history in which the ease of our past lives is coming to a close. God is preparing us to be his final army in the conflict against the forces of evil.

I. Develop a soldier's attitude

2 Timothy 2:3-4 (NKJV) You therefore must endure hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. {4} No one engaged in warfare entangles himself with the affairs of this life, that he may please him who enlisted him as a soldier.

- A. Commit to a soldier's career
- B. Prepare to live under field conditions
 - 1. Inconvenienced
 - 2. Difficult
 - 3. Exposed to the elements
- C. Take care of your resources
 - 1. Clean your gun
 - 2. Keep it oiled

II. Develop self control

Galatians 5:22-23 (NKJV) But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, {23} gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.

- A. Do your job
 - Judges 7:21 (NKJV) And **every man stood in his place** all around the camp; and the whole army ran and cried out and fled.
- B. Let others do theirs
 - 1 Corinthians 12:18-20 (NKJV)**
But now God has set the members, each one of them, in the body just as He pleased. {19} And if they were all one member, where would the body be? {20} But now indeed there are many members, yet one body.
- C. Be a soldier when you're alone, in the

dark

- D. Be prepared to be a casualty
 - Esther 4:16 (NKJV)** "Go, gather all the Jews who are present in Shushan, and fast for me; neither eat nor drink for three days, night or day. My maids and I will fast likewise. And so I will go to the king, which is against the law; **and if I perish, I perish!**"

III. Trust your commanding officer

2 Timothy 2:1 (NKJV) You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.

- A. His grace keeps you secure
- B. Know He has a complete battle plan
- C. Know He will take care of you

1 Corinthians 1:9 (NKJV) **God is faithful**, by whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.