



CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH
NINILCHIK

SUNDAY YOUNG PEOPLE'S READING

The HOLY WAR

Made by Shaddai Upon Diabulous for the
Regaining of the Metropolis of the World

or

The Losing and Taking Again of the
Town of Mansoul

by John Bunyan

Retold in Modern English
by Jon Cardwell

April 23rd, 2023
(Episode 68)

"I have given symbols..." Hosea 12:10

[Mr. Prywell spied out what Diabolous and the lords of the pit were planning and brought word back to Mansoul. A diligent search was now underway to discover Diabolonians still dwelling among them.]

Now, in the house of Mr. Mind, and in the house of the great Lord Willbewill, were two Diabolonians found. In Mr. Mind's house was one Lord Covetousness found, but he had changed his name to Prudent-Thrifty. In my Lord Willbewill's house, one Lasciviousness was found; but he had changed his name to Harmless-Mirth. These two the captains and elders of the town of Mansoul took them and committed them to custody under the hand of Mr. Trueman, the jailer; and Mr. Trueman handled them so severely, and chained them with irons so well, that in time they both contracted pulmonary consumption, and died in the prison-house. According to the agreement of the captains and elders, their masters were also brought in to repent in the open place, to their shame, in order to serve as a warning to the rest of the town of Mansoul.

Now, this was the manner of repentance in those days: the offending persons were convinced of the evil of their doings, were admonished to openly confess their faults, and to strictly amend their lives.

After this, the captains and elders of Mansoul still desired to find more Diabolonians wherever they lurked, whether in dens, caves, holes, vaults, or wherever else they could, in or about the wall or town of Mansoul. Although they could plainly see their footprints, and easily follow their tracks and smells to their holds, even to the mouths of their caves and dens, yet take them, hold them, and do justice upon them, they could not; for their Diabolonian ways were so crooked, their holds so strong, and they were so quick to take sanctuary there.

But Mansoul now ruled over the remaining Diabolonians with so firm a hand that these filthy ones were glad to shrink into corners. Time was when they dared walk openly, and in the day; but now they were forced to embrace privacy, and the night—time was when a Mansoulian was their companion, but now they counted them deadly enemies. Mr. Prywell's intelligence made this good change in the famous town of Mansoul.

By this time, Diabolous had finished assembling his army, the one which he intended to bring with him for the ruin of Mansoul. He had set over them captains, and other field officers, such who liked his furious stomach best. He made himself lord paramount. Incredulity was general of his army. Their highest captains shall be named afterwards, but now, for their officers, colors, and shields.

1. Their first captain was Captain Rage. He was captain over the Election-doubters. His were the red colors and his standard-bearer was Mr. Destructive. He had the great red dragon for his shield (Rev 12:3-4, 13-17).

2. The second captain was Captain Fury. He was captain over the Vocation-doubters. His standard-bearer was Mr. Darkness and his colors were those that were pale. He had for his shield the fiery flying serpent (Num 21).

3. The third captain was Captain Damnation, who was captain over the Grace-doubters. His were the red colors and Mr. No-Life bore them. His shield was the dark den (Matt 22:13; Rev 9:1).

4. The fourth captain was Captain Insatiable. He was captain over the Faith-doubters. His were the red colors, Mr. Devourer bore them, and he had for a shield the yawning jaws (Prov 27:20; Psa 11:6).

5. The fifth captain was Captain Brimstone. He was captain over the Perseverance-doubters. His colors were also red, borne by Mr. Burning. His shield was the blue and stinking flame (Psa 11:6; Rev 14:11).

6. The sixth captain was Captain Torment, who was captain over the Resurrection-doubters. His colors were pale, Mr. Gnaw was his ancient-bearer, and the black worm was his shield (Mark 9:44-48).

7. The seventh captain was Captain No-Ease. He was captain over the Salvation-doubters. His colors were red, Mr. Restless bore them, and his shield was the ghastly picture of death (Rev 6:8; 14:11).

8. The eighth captain was the Captain Sepulcher. He was captain over the Glory-doubters. His were also the pale colors, Mr. Corruption was his ancient-bearer, and he had for his shield a skull and dead men's bones (Jer 5:16; 2:25).

9. The ninth captain was Captain Past-Hope. He was captain of those who are called the Felicity-doubters. His ancient-bearer was Mr. Despair, his also were the red colors, and his shield was a hot iron and the hard heart (1 Tim 4:2; Rom 2:5).

These were his captains, and these were their forces, these were their standards, these were their colors, and these were their shields. Now, over these the great Diabulous made superior captains, and they were seven in number: as, namely, the Lord Beelzebub, the Lord Lucifer, the Lord Legion, the Lord Apollyon, the Lord Python, the Lord Cerberus, and the Lord Belial. He set these seven over the captains, with Incredulity as lord-general, and Diabulous was king. Those officers and nobles without a command also, such as were like themselves, were some

of them made captains of hundreds, and some of them captains of more. And thus the army of Incredulity was complete. So they set out from Hell-Gate Hill, where they had their rendezvous, and went upon their march with a straight course toward the town of Mansoul.

Now, as was hinted before, the town had, as Shaddai would have it, received the alarm of their coming from the mouth of Mr. Prywell. Therefore they set a strong watch at the gates, and had also doubled their guards. They also mounted their slings in good places, where they might conveniently cast out their great stones to annoy their furious enemy.

Now the Diabolonians who were in the town could not harm them as they had planned since Mansoul was now awake. But alas, poor people! They were severely frightened at the first appearance of their foes, and at their sitting down before the town, especially when they heard the roaring of their DRUM (1 Pet 5:8). This, to speak truth, was amazingly hideous to hear. It frightened all men seven miles round, that is, if they were awake to hear it. The streaming of their colors was also terrible and discouraging to behold.

When Diabulous had come up against the town, first he made his approach to Ear-gate, and gave it a furious assault, supposing, as it seemed to him, that his friends in Mansoul had been ready to do the work within; but the vigilance of the captains had already taken care of that. Therefore, lacking the help he expected from them, and finding his army warmly attended by the stones slung by the slingers— for I will say this of the captains, that considering the weakness Mansoul had suffered due to a long illness, they gallantly behaved themselves— Diabulous was forced to make some of his doubters retreat from Mansoul, and to entrench himself and his men in the field just beyond the reach of the slings of the town (Jas 4:7).

Now having entrenched himself, he cast up four mounts against the town. The first he called Mount Diabolus, putting his own name on it, the more to frighten the town of Mansoul. The other three he called thus: Mount Alecto, Mount Megæra, and Mount Tisiphone; for these are the names of the dreadful furies of hell. Thus he began to play his game with Mansoul, and to serve it as does the lion his prey, even to make it fall before his terror. But, as I said, the captains and soldiers resisted so stoutly, and did so by such execution with their stones, that they made him— though against stomach— to retreat; and for this reason, Mansoul began to... **Be Continued...**