



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

August 20, 2023

(Episode 79)

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

[As the battle between Diabolous and Mansoul continued, Captain Credence encouraged the Mansoulian soldiers with a speech, saying, "Gentlemen soldiers, and my brothers in Shaddai's eternal plan, I rejoice greatly this day to see for our Prince in the field so stout and so valiant an army, and such faithful lovers of Mansoul. You have since, as suits you, shown yourselves to be...] men of truth and courage against the Diabolonian forces; so that, for all their boast, they have not yet much cause to boast of their gains. Now be courageous and act like men, at least this one time; for in a few minutes, after the next engagement, this time you shall see your Prince show Himself in the field. Once we have made this second assault upon this tyrant, Diabolous, then Emmanuel will come."

No sooner had the captain made this speech to his soldiers that one Mr. Speedy traveled speedily to the captain from the Prince to tell him that Emmanuel was near. As soon as the captain had received this news, he communicated it to the other field-officers, and they in turn, to their soldiers and men of war. Therefore, like men raised from the dead, the captains and their men arose, engaged the enemy, and cried as before, "The sword of the Prince, Emmanuel, and the shield of Captain Credence!"

The Diabolonians also moved with life and vigor, resisting the Mansoulians as well as they could; but in this last engagement, the Diabolonians lost their courage and many of the Doubters fell down dead to the ground.

Now when they had been in the heat of battle about an hour or more, Captain Credence lifted up his eyes and saw, and, behold, Emmanuel came. He came with colors flying, trumpets sounding, and the feet of His men hardly touched the ground. They accelerated toward the captains who were engaged. Then Credence flowed toward the town with his men and gave the field to Diabolous. So Emmanuel came upon him on the one side, the enemies' place was now between them both. Then, again, they fell to it afresh; and now it was just a little while more until Emmanuel and Captain Credence met, still trampling down the slain as they came.

When the captains saw that the Prince had come, and that He fell upon the Diabolonians on the other side, and that Captain Credence and His Highness outflanked the enemy between them, they shouted. Their shout was so stout that the ground tore again. They shouted, "The sword of Emmanuel and the shield of Captain Credence!"

Now, when Diabulous saw that he and his forces were surrounded by the Prince and His princely army, he and the lords of the pit who were with him made their escape, forsaking their army, and leaving them to fall by the hand of Emmanuel, and of His noble Captain Credence. So they all fell down slain before them, before the Prince, and before His royal army. There was not left so much as one Doubter alive, dead men spread upon the ground as one would spread manure upon a field.

When the battle was over, all things came to order in the camp. The captains and elders of Mansoul came together to salute Emmanuel while they were still outside the corporation of the town. They saluted Him and welcomed Him; and that, with a thousand welcomes because He had come to the borders of Mansoul again. So He smiled upon them and said, “Peace be to you” (John 20:19). Then they prepared themselves to go to the town; they went then to go up to Mansoul, they, the Prince, with all the new forces He had just brought with Him to the war. Also all the gates of the town were set open to receive Him because they were so glad of His blessed return. And this was the manner and order of His going into Mansoul:

First, as I said, all the gates of the town were opened; yes, the gates of the castle also. The elders of the town of Mansoul, too, placed themselves at the gates of the town to salute Him at His entrance there; and so they did, for as He drew near and approached the gates, they said, “*Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in*” (Psa 24:7). And they asked, “*Who is this King of glory?*” (Psa 24:8a); and they answered themselves, “*The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in battle! Lift up your heads, O gates! And lift them up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in*” (Psa 24:8b-9).

Secondly, it was ordered also, by those of Mansoul, that all the way from the town gates to those of the castle, His blessed Majesty should be entertained with song by them who had the best skill in music in all the town of Mansoul. Then the elders and the rest of the men of Mansoul answered one another as Emmanuel entered the town, until He came to the castle gates, with songs and the sound of trumpets, saying, “*Your procession is seen, O God, the procession of my God, my King, into the sanctuary*” (Psa 68:24). So, “*the singers in front, the musicians last, between them virgins playing tambourines*” (Psa 68:25).

Thirdly, then the captains— for I would speak a word of them— in their order, they waited on the Prince as He entered into the gates of

Mansoul. Captain Credence went before while Captain Good-Hope accompanied him. Captain Love came behind with his other companions. Captain Patience followed after all; and the rest of the captains— some on the right hand, and some on the left— accompanied Emmanuel into Mansoul. And all the while the colors were displayed, the trumpets sounded, and continual shoutings were among the soldiers. The Prince Himself was dressed in His armor, which was all of beaten gold. He rode into town in His chariot, the pillars of which were silver, its bottom of gold, its covering was purple, and its midst was covered with love for the daughters of the town of Mansoul.

Fourthly, when the Prince had come to the entrance of Mansoul, He found all the streets scattered with lilies and flowers, curiously decked with boughs and branches from the green trees that stood round about the town. Every door also was filled with persons, who had adorned the front doors of their houses, every one of them, with something of variety and singular excellence to please and entertain Him as He passed in the streets. As Emmanuel passed by, they also welcomed Him with shouts and acclamations of joy, saying, “Blessed be the Prince who comes in the name of His Father, Shaddai.”

Fifthly, the elders of Mansoul, namely, the Lord Mayor, the Lord Willbewill, the subordinate preacher, Mr. Knowledge, and Mr. Mind, with other of the gentry of the place, saluted Emmanuel again at the castle gates. They bowed before Him. They kissed the dust of His feet. They thanked, blessed, and praised His Highness for not taking advantage against them for their sins, but instead, had pity upon them in their misery, and returned to them with mercies in order to build up their Mansoul forever. Thus was He greeted immediately at the castle; for the castle was the royal palace and the place where His Honor was to dwell; which was already prepared for His Highness by the presence of the Lord Secretary and the work of Captain Credence. So He entered in.

Sixthly, then the people and commonalty of the town of Mansoul came to Him into the castle to mourn, and to weep, and to lament for their wickedness, by which they had forced Him out of the town. So when they had come, they bowed themselves to the ground seven times. They also wept, wept aloud asking forgiveness of the Prince, and prayed that He would again, as of old, confirm His love to Mansoul.

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