

perish under a cloud of reproach and of unjust suspicions, sedulously propagated by our enemies, which will be harder to bear than the loss of home and of goods. Such a fate never overtook any people before.

We are struggling for constitutional freedom. We are upholding the great principles which our fathers bequeathed us, and if we should succeed, and become, as we shall, the dominant nation of this continent, we shall perpetuate and diffuse the very liberty for which Washington bled, and which the heroes of the Revolution achieved. We are upholding the true doctrines of the Federal Constitution. We can never become aggressive; we may absorb, but we can never invade for conquest, any neighboring State.

We shall have a Government that acknowledges God, that reverences right, and that makes law supreme. It is a noble cause in which we are engaged. There is everything in it to rouse the heart and to nerve the arm of the freeman and the patriot; and though it may now seem to be under a cloud, it is too big with the future of our race to be suffered to fail. It cannot fail; it must not fail. Our people must not brook the infamy of betraying their sublime trust.

Our fields, our homes, our firesides and sepulchres, our cities and temples, our wives and daughters, we must protect at every hazard. The glorious inheritance which our fathers left us we must never betray. We must seize the torch from their hands, and transmit it with increasing brightness to distant generations. The word failure must not be pronounced among us. It is not a thing to be dreamed of. We must settle it that we must succeed. We must not sit down to count chances. There is too much at stake to think of discussing probabilities--we must make success a certainty, and that, by the blessing of God, we can do. If we are prepared to do our duty, and our whole duty, we have nothing to fear. But what is our duty?

It is here I must look within the sacred pages of the Holy Bible. I know men that many of you have been unable to secure a copy. Our Confederate States Bible Society has been hard at work trying to sow the seed of the Word of God. But today I want to impress upon you the words of God as revealed through the Apostle Paul in his First Epistle to the Corinthians, Chapter 16 and verse 13. It is here I see 4 duties, we as soldiers, ought to be aware of.

1. **Watch ye,** - The wording here implies being alert.
 - a. As a minister of the Gospel it is my own duty to be alert to

the attacks of the devil.

- b. As a soldier when I am on Picket duty, I am to be alert for attacks by the enemy.
- c. As a Christian soldier the words of Christ in Matthew's Gospel Chapter 26 Verses 40-41 And he cometh unto the disciples, and findeth them asleep, and saith unto Peter, What, could ye not watch with me one hour? 41 Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.
 - i. Indeed for many of us this has been the farthest and longest we've been away from home and the all-too nefarious vices of martial life have sprouted up around our armies – Gambling, Pop-skull, Swearing, Harlotry, Card-playing. God forbid any of us scummb to the temptations of the flesh during the idle moments we may find ourselves in! Is there any wonder our fledgling nation finds herself within the crucible and tumult of this crisis? Turn now soldier from your wicked way! Repent! Repent and watch and pray. May we pray that we may be found faithful, even unto death.

2. **Stand fast in the faith** – The wording implies we should be immovable and firm.

- a. We ought to be as resolute and firm as our late hero – our beloved Stonewall Jackson was some 4 years ago – in what seems a lifetime ago – when all the hosts of our armies were streaming back in defeat upon that hot July day upon the fields of Manassas. There indeed General Jackson stood – as our beloved late General Bee exclaimed – There stood Jackson like a stonewall. The men rallied and by the Gracious Hand of God the day was saved. Why? Because one not only stood fast against the foe, but also stood fast in his Faith.
- b. When all the other hosts of the Lord's army have flung down their swords of the Word of God or have Soured on God's Word; We ought to stand upon the faith once delivered to the Saints! When the heresey of National Selection as taught by Darwin came out about 2 years before the War and were told by men of so-called science that we descended from the ape; we ought to stand upon this word of God! Even if the any of the Yankee Fanatic-isms” such as Mormonism, Transcendentalism, Vegetarianism, Abolitionism, Republicanism, Industrialism or any other Yankee Devilism

creeps in and lays hold upon any section of our beloved Confederacy now or God forbid in the future in our posterity we ought to use the Word of God and resist it to the hilt! We Southerners don't take kindly to change, we ought never to allow the dictates of mere man to change what thus saith the Lord in regards to ANYTHING that He hath set forth in His Word!

3. **Quit you like men,** - The word quit you does not mean Give up! It means to Behave! To be like or as! This means we ought to Behave or act as men! I need not tell this to those who have survived some many hard fought battles against our foe. But this is STILL the time to stand as men! We must continue to be as men – not cowards or skirkers! We must act as men of God. We must never be found to Play Old Soldier so as to avoid the battle – no matter how dire the situation looks!

4. **Be strong** – Lastly, we must be strong. But beware of being strong in our own might. A Yankee Preacher a few years ago – I think 3 years before the War broke out – wrote a wonderful song which says: *Stand up, stand up for Jesus, stand in His strength alone; The arm of flesh will fail you, ye dare not trust your own. Put on the Gospel armor, each piece put on with prayer; Where duty calls or danger, be never wanting there.* In the last stanza, we are admonished not to be wanting – that means lacking – wherever duty calls or danger is. Therefore men, soldiers of our brave, embattled Confederacy, I urge you to stand up for Jesus to stand in His strength alone. Remember never to trust your own strength, we will fail ourselves. So put on the Gospel Armor – which we find mentioned in Ephesians 6, the one I wish to remind you of at this moment is the Helmet of Salvation – Men if you have not placed your trust in Jesus Christ please do so today! Scripture says TODAY IS THE DAY OF SALVATION! Do not wait! There is no telling if there is a contingent of Yankee soldiers from Sherman's Mob of Destroyers within range of our Campsite today!? Who knows if one of us will feel mighty poorly or peak-ed and wind up transferred to Company Q never to return from Sick Call. If you study on this, don't tarry long on this men! Be strong as Christians – run to the Strong Tower of the Lord and let us share our Christ with as many and all who will listen all the while we keep watch on these front lines in the defense of our Southern Rights and our Southern Nation. Let us pray!

Four Duties To Perform In Our Own American Crisis

By: Pastor Creighton Lovelace, Sgt./Chaplain 16th SC, Co. A

1 Corinthians 16:13 Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong.

I recall my Grandfather telling me about his service in our War for Independence. He said that he read a small pamphlet by one Thomas Paine that was called Common Sense. He told me everyone was reading it. One day he pulled out another pamphlet called The American Crisis. My Grandfather gave me that copy and I kept it and I've read it from time to time over the years since. It is true men that today in this year of our Lord 1865 we again are seeing an American Crisis. Recall Paine's words:

“THESE are the times that try men's souls. The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of their country; but he that stands by it now, deserves the love and thanks of man and woman. Tyranny, like hell, is not easily conquered; yet we have this consolation with us, that the harder the conflict, the more glorious the triumph. What we obtain too cheap, we esteem too lightly: it is dearness only that gives every thing its value. Heaven knows how to put a proper price upon its goods; and it would be strange indeed if so celestial an article as FREEDOM should not be highly rated”

So it is that at this time I also recall the words of a recently deceased Presbyterian – the Late Jame Henley Thornwell – buried some three years ago in Columbia. In a Phamplet entitled *Our Danger and Our Duty* he said the following:

And what have we to expect if our enemies prevail? Our homes, too, are to be pillaged, our cities our property confiscated, our true men hanged, and those who escape the gibbet, to be driven as vagabonds and wanderers in foreign climes. The boundaries which mark our States are, in some instances, to be effaced, and the States that remain are to be converted into subject provinces, governed by Northern rulers and by Northern laws. Our property is to be ruthlessly seized and turned over to mercenary strangers, in order to pay the enormous debt which our subjugation has cost, our wives and daughters are to become the prey of brutal lust.

There is not a single redeeming feature in the picture of ruin which stares us in the face, if we permit ourselves to be conquered. It is a night of thick darkness that will settle upon us. Even sympathy, the last solace of the afflicted, will be denied to us. The civilized world will look coldly upon us, or even jeer us with the taunt that we have deservedly lost our own freedom in seeking to perpetuate the slavery of others. We shall