

How you Invite God to Fight for you

“1 And the men of Kirjathjearim came, and fetched up the ark of the LORD, and brought it into the house of Abinadab in the hill, and sanctified Eleazar his son to keep the ark of the LORD. 2 And it came to pass, while the ark abode in Kirjathjearim, that the time was long; for it was twenty years: and all the house of Israel lamented after the LORD. 3 And Samuel spake unto all the house of Israel, saying, If ye do return unto the LORD with all your hearts, then put away the strange gods and Ashtaroth from among you, and prepare your hearts unto the LORD, and serve him only: and he will deliver you out of the hand of the Philistines. 4 Then the children of Israel did put away Baalim and Ashtaroth, and served the LORD only. 5 And Samuel said, Gather all Israel to Mizpeh, and I will pray for you unto the LORD. 6 And they gathered together to Mizpeh, and drew water, and poured it out before the LORD, and fasted on that day, and said there, We have sinned against the LORD. And Samuel judged the children of Israel in Mizpeh. 7 And when the Philistines heard that the children of Israel were gathered together to Mizpeh, the lords of the Philistines went up against Israel. And when the children of Israel heard it, they were afraid of the Philistines. 8 And the children of Israel said to Samuel, Cease not to cry unto the LORD our God for us, that he will save us out of the hand of the Philistines. 9 And Samuel took a sucking lamb, and offered it for a burnt offering wholly unto the LORD: and Samuel cried unto the LORD for Israel; and the LORD heard him. 10 And as Samuel was offering up the burnt offering, the Philistines drew near to battle against Israel: but the LORD thundered with a great thunder on that day upon the Philistines, and discomfited them; and they were smitten before Israel. 11 And the men of Israel went out of Mizpeh, and pursued the Philistines, and smote them, until they came under Bethcar. 12 Then Samuel took a stone, and set it between Mizpeh and Shen, and called the name of it Ebenezer, saying, Hitherto hath the LORD helped us. 13 So the Philistines were subdued, and they came no more into the coast of Israel: and the hand of the LORD was against the Philistines all the days of Samuel. 14 And the cities which the Philistines had taken from Israel were restored to Israel, from Ekron even unto Gath; and the coasts thereof did Israel deliver out of the hands of the Philistines. And there was peace between Israel and the Amorites. 15 And Samuel judged Israel all the days of his life. 16 And he went from year to year in circuit to Bethel, and Gilgal, and Mizpeh, and judged Israel in all those places. 17 And his return was to Ramah; for there was his house; and there he judged Israel; and there he built an altar unto the LORD.” (1 Samuel 7:1-17 KJV)

Life is not easy, and at certain aspects it is becoming so hard and difficult to manage. And to live, there are in front of us two options. Either you live by your own ways, but you need to fight and struggle without the help of God, or you live according to God's ways and in such a manner you are inviting God to fight for you. It is so far better, more effective and more fruitful, the life is, when you trust God and obey Him that He is the Master, the Redeemer and the protector of your life. God had sent His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ who died on the cross for our sins, who was buried and rose from the dead on the third day to give us eternal life and life to full. *As Jesus is the Master over your life, then you can be assured and ensured person from what is surrounding you, both now and forever more. God's favor and His presence will be with you and Himself will fight the enemy as you obey Him and follow His Word, as in the following:-*

1. Giving your life and your heart in full trust in God: As we read in the above Scripture, the ark of God, that represent the presence of God was in a house and the people were going there to seek the Lord and His help and aid. Samuel was the judge that God appointed and directed the people in the way of the Lord. He put a clear proposal in front of the people: *“3 And Samuel spake unto all the house of Israel, saying, If ye do return unto the LORD with all your hearts, then put away the strange gods and Ashtaroth from among you, and prepare your hearts unto the LORD, and serve him only: and he will deliver you out of the hand of the Philistines.” (1 Samuel 7:3 KJV)* What he was telling them is this: If you really returning to the LORD, then show that by throwing all the idols in your life in whatever form. ** In the same way now, if you really returning to the LORD, then remove all the idols from your life; like the pictures of saints, human figures, animals, the statues, icons, etc. As well as is to remove idols from your heart like the idols of pride, greed, or lust; those all you may run after and become your gods. * By throwing all these idols you are dedicating your life to serve God wholeheartedly. * Various people or men figures that you are serving, as well as your labor and what you spend on your ambitions and plans are of no benefit to you. In the day of the battle when you have a problem all those they will not be the one to help you, but they will be the one to pull you down.* Indeed the people hearkened to what Samuel spoke to them and threw all their idols, *“4 Then the children of Israel did put away Baalim and Ashtaroth, and served the LORD only.” (1 Samuel 7:4 KJV)* Notice that they served God only, which means they stopped serving their idols. You must understand that there is no point in serving God while serving idols. Listen, in other word if you want to really serve God then you need to stop serving and worshipping idols, so your worship and service would be acceptable to God.

2. Unity in mind and thought: *“5 And Samuel said, Gather all Israel to Mizpeh, and I will pray for you unto the LORD.” (1 Samuel 7:5 KJV)* Samuel called the people to assemble and that he was going to pray for them. Indeed the people responded to his call and they gathered *“6 And they gathered together to Mizpeh,” (1 Samuel 7:6 KJV)* Unity is important and there is power when we come united with what God had said and promised in His Word. There is power in prayer when people come together united as Jesus said, *“19 Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven. 20 For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.” (Matthew 18:19-20)* ** Listen, I am not telling here that when we are together then that is unity. No, but what I mean when we agree upon and do what God's Word says then we are united with God and we are truly united with one another. * When churches come together and do their own, agreeing with one another, that is not unity, because they are not united with God as they are not united in living and obeying His Word, and submitting themselves to do His will; because to gather together in the name of Jesus means we are submitting ourselves to do His Word and to live His will.*

3. Pure heart and clean motive: *“and drew water, and poured it out before the LORD,” (1 Samuel 7:6 KJV)* The water is clear and transparent, and when it is poured out from its container there is nothing remain there nor any smell remain of it, not like when oil, honey or wine poured out from their containers that they leave a smell or taste. Such signifies that they thoroughly renounced their idolatry and that they had thoroughly thrown them and nothing left. God wants us to have pure hearts and in pure motive with Him. You need to thoroughly remove all your idols and cleanse your heart and mind from all your plans and wishes that contradict His Word and the will of God, then in this way you will find God acting mightily in your behalf. Purity in heart is essential for the mighty works of the Holy Spirit.

4. Confessions of sins: “and said there, We have sinned against the LORD.” (1 Samuel 7:6 KJV) “9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” (1 John 1:9 KJV) Before you expect God would work for your behalf you need to repent from your sins, and acknowledge that your suffering is due to your disobedience to His Word and commands. You need also to confess the Lordship of the Lord Jesus Christ over your life. As you confess your sins you need to make it clear with God that you will not go back to sin again. In confession of sins you need to tell God specifically about your sins, mentioning them to him one by one to show that you are repenting and aware about the wrong things that you did.

5. Fasting: “and fasted on that day,” (1 Samuel 7:6 KJV) They fasted to express to God their deep sorrows about the sins that they did. Such as was accompanied with confession of their sins, renouncing them and commitment not to go back to do them again, such means repentance, that would invite God to fight for them. Fasting when accompanied by repentance of your sins is a powerful tool to invite God to fight for you. In fasting you are hungry and you show that you are not depending on your own power but you are inviting God to fight for you and you are relying fully on Him and not on yourself, as well as it means you had surrendered your will fully to Him.

6. Judging the sin: “And Samuel judged the children of Israel in Mizpeh.” (1 Samuel 7:6 KJV) That day there in that meeting Samuel went ahead to judge and to deal with certain sins among them perhaps by explaining to them the laws of God to enlighten them how they needed to repent and to come back to God. As a church we need to deal with sin and those who are involved in it, so that God would be pleased with us as we endeavor to cleanse His church and in such He shall return and will pour out all His blessings on us.

7. Crying to God: “7 And when the Philistines heard that the children of Israel were gathered together to Mizpeh, the lords of the Philistines went up against Israel. And when the children of Israel heard it, they were afraid of the Philistines. 8 And the children of Israel said to Samuel, Cease not to cry unto the LORD our God for us, that he will save us out of the hand of the Philistines.” (1 Samuel 7:7-8 KJV) The Israelites when they saw the Philistines were coming against them they asked Samuel to pray and to cry to God for them. In the same way as the enemy coming near to us to attack us we should remember our Father who is in Heaven, He is waiting for us to pray and to cry to Him to rescue us. Crying to men will not bring good result, but crying to God will bring. He will come and help us. He is the only one who can help us.

Very interesting to know that you don’t need to fight but God can fight for you. There is two ways to fight, either you go and struggle and fight alone, or you bring God to the battle field. In such a way life will be easier and with fewer struggles. But this requires absolute obedience toward God and His Word. And it is worthy because God can deal with whatever enemy’s size, with whatever threat and in any time; God can reach and strike the enemy that we cannot reach. He can reach places that we cannot penetrate. He can change the equation; He is above mathematics and human calculations. God can turn tables, He can bring our enemies down and He can bring us up. It depend on us how we respond to Him. God is willing to fight the battle for us if we are willing to obey Him and walk in His ways. Let us continue to study how to invite God to fight for us.

8. Obeying the spiritual leader that gives you God’s instructions using the Word of God with the direction of the Holy Spirit: God was speaking to the Israelites through Samuel that He placed over them. Samuel was speaking to the people the Word of God and God’s instructions of how they fight the battle and have the victory. It is right what you may say that I am under God, but God Himself had put people over us to instruct us with the Word of God and we need to listen to them. God’s Word teaches us the following: “7 Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation. 17 Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.” (Hebrews 13:7, 17 KJV) The leader who is chosen by God is the mouth piece of God to the people to direct them to what God wants them to know, to do and to be. We can also tell the following: To invite God to fight the battle for us, this will come true when we ask the council of the Lord from those whom God called to instruct us with His Word. That is why God’s Word teaches us the following: “12 And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you; 13 And to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. And be at peace among yourselves.” (1 Thessalonians 5:12-13 KJV) Samuel was moving all around the year so he can teach and instruct people of what to do. “15 And Samuel judged Israel all the days of his life. 16 And he went from year to year in circuit to Bethel, and Gilgal, and Mizpeh, and judged Israel in all those places. 17 And his return was to Ramah; for there was his house; and there he judged Israel; and there he built an altar unto the LORD.” (1 Samuel 7:15-17 KJV) We who are called to lead others we need to do the same, moving around to pasture the flock, the people that God entrusts to us to nurture and to lead them in the way of righteousness until Jesus would come and take us together with Him to Heaven.

9. Full surrender to God: The suckling lamb that Samuel offered to God was a burn offering; the whole animal after slaughter was burned on the altar for God. The burn offering in the Old Covenant it means to fully surrender to God. If you want God to fight for you, take over the battle and give you the victory then you need to surrender fully to Him, to obey His Word and to do His will.

Jesus Christ won the battle for us. He died on the cross for our sins, He was buried and rose from the dead on the third day to give us eternal life, we who believe in Him and follow His steps in our lives. If you want the victory over your enemies then you need to surrender your life fully to God. If that is your decision then be assured that before your enemies reaching you they will be crushed by the Lord. God will fight the battle for you and you will have the victory and you will collect the plunder.

10. Be grateful to God: Let us proclaim all the good things that the Lord had given us. Let us do what Samuel did, “12 Then Samuel took a stone, and set it between Mizpeh and Shen, and called the name of it Ebenezer, saying, Hitherto hath the LORD helped us.” (1 Samuel 7:12 KJV) We should always mention with a grateful heart what the Lord did for us, “Hitherto hath the LORD helped us”, and we should give Him thanks and the praise for that. “18 In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.” (1 Thessalonians 5:18 KJV)

My Dear and Beloved: Have faith in God and trust Him wholeheartedly. Commit your life, body, soul and spirit to Him and walk in His ways. Do not put your trust on people or on any figure; truly they cannot help you. If you have kept anything, like a man figure or material capital as an alliance to help you in times of trouble, then be assured that the thing that you trust in, it will be the very same thing that it will pull you down. Therefore be earnest and repent.

As you surrender you life to God, He will not only fight the battle for you but He also will not allow the enemy to come to you and invade your territory. And God our God will be going to restore to you all what the enemy have taken from you. Let us pray ...

My Prayer: Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins, who was buried but rose from the dead on the third day to give me eternal life. Lord thank you for your Word that taught me how to invite you to come and fight the battle for me. Lord thank you for your Word that showed me my sins and all what I need to repent from. Lord thank you for all the teachings, the corrections, the rebukes and the admonishments we received in this message.

Repent and renounce all your sins. Renounce all your idols, the pictures, statues, icons, human figures, worshipping saints and angels, greed for money and material things. Repent of envy and jealousy. Repent of your lies, cheating, stealing, fraud, lust, adultery, immoralities and the rest of the works of the flesh. Repent and renounce your going along the ways of the wicked, doing your own ways and not the ways of God. Repent of doing your own will and plan. Repent of your pride, anger, revenge and fights. Renounce your yoke with non believers and wasting your time on the Media, games and News. Repent of your worldliness and your love for material things. Repent of your lack of prayer and reading God's Word. Repent of your non willingness to serve God and suffer for Him. Lord I repent, forgive me, I renounce the following sins _____.

Lord I pour out my life to you with clean and pure heart and motive in your presence. Lord I cry out to you, save me and deliver me from my troubles and from the following enemies _____. Lord I surrender my life into your hand and I am willing to obey your Word and commands. Lord fight my enemies and subdue them. Lord, don't allow them to invade my territory and restore to me what the enemy had taken from me in the past. This is my prayer in Jesus name Amen.

Lord thank you for my Brothers and Sisters who repented of their sins, threw their idols and cleansed their hearts and minds, and committed their lives and ways to walk in the truth of your Word. Lord protect them, fight for them and deal with their enemies. Lord restore to them all what the enemy had taken away from them. Lord sustain them and provide for them to continue to serve you and be good example to others to follow you.

Lord bless us as your church, fight the battles for us, deliver us from our troubles, and deal with all our enemies. Lord restore back to us all what the devil had taken away from us. Lord refill us once again with your Holy Spirit, and lead us to evangelize and reach new people and serve them, to make new disciples and train new workers, planting new Bible studies and congregations for the church. Lord prepare us for your coming to go with you when you come. Lord we pray for more people to get water baptized and receive the Holy Spirit baptism. Lord

fulfill the vision of the church, 'Multiplication in peace with implementing the whole will of God', Lord bless us, enlarge our territory, let your hand be with us and free us from harm so we will not feel pain. May the grace of the Lord Jesus, and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all in Jesus name, Amen.

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