

Possessing Your Inheritance By Force

"You never outgrow warfare, you must simply learn to fight" - (Mike Murdock)

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You have probably heard that "When the going gets tough, the tough ones keep going". This is true in physical and spiritual battles of life. The victorious Christian anthem resounds:

"It is not faint but fight.
It is not try, but trust.
It is not do right because I must,
But right because it is right.
I dare not trust my own, or I shall surely fall
But trust in Him who died for me,
And let Him do it all!"

More often than not, force is required to inherit provisions divinely made for mankind. God gave the Israelites the Promised Land, but they had to fight in order to possess it - "Rise ye up, take your journey, and pass over the river Arnon: behold, I have given into thine hand Sihon the Amorite, king of Heshbon, and his land: **begin to possess it, and contend with him in battle**" (Deuteronomy 2:24).

Some fail to inherit their divine provisions, because they do not understand the necessity of spiritual warfare or are not willing to take on the enemy in battle. Jesus pointed out that "When a strong man armed keepeth his palace, his goods are in peace. But when a stronger than he shall come upon him, and overcome him, he taketh from him all his armour wherein he trusted, and divideth his spoils" (Luke 11:21,22). The strongman in this parable is the devil, whom Prophet Isaiah described as he "that made the world as a wilderness, and destroyed the cities thereof; **that opened not the house of his prisoners?**" (Isaiah 14:17). Had Jesus not intervened at the man's 38th year of age, Satan

could have kept him in that bondage till death (John 5:5-14).

In view of Satan's wickedness, some things are not negotiable in life. As Moses could not negotiate agreeable terms of deliverance with Pharaoh, nor King Saul peaceful terms of co-existence with Goliath, neither can you negotiate with Satan favourable terms of possessing your possessions in Christ. You will either have to submit to his cruel-some terms of bondage or "take him down" so as to exist.

God's message to Jeremiah was unmistakable. Although called, anointed and commissioned by God, he first had to "**root out, pull down, destroy and throw down**" before he could "**build and plant**" (Jeremiah 1:10). Had he failed to enter the battle, he would have sown among thorns (Jeremiah 4:3) and woefully failed to fulfil his calling. "And such as do wickedly against the covenant shall he corrupt by flatteries: but **the people that do know their God shall be strong, and do exploits**" (Daniel 11:32).

Justifying failure, staying bogged down or blaming others is simply surrendering at the heat of the battle. Rather, it is time to draw the battle line, declare your destiny - that the best days of your life are beginning right now, then rise up and fight valiantly to make it a reality!



"And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force." (Matthew 11:12)