

The Potters House



THIS MEANS WAR

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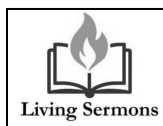
This Means War

Source: The Potters House

Preacher: Touré Roberts

Publisher: LivingSermons.com

Watch Live Video [Here](#)



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For Kingdom impact worldwide.



Foreword

There are messages that encourage us, messages that challenge us, and messages that awaken us to realities we can no longer ignore. This Means War by Touré Roberts is one of those awakening messages.

In this powerful teaching, Pastor Touré Roberts brings believers into a deeper understanding of spiritual warfare—not from a place of fear, anxiety, or defeat, but from the confidence of knowing that victory has already been secured through Jesus Christ.

Through the opening account of humanity's fall in Genesis, this message reveals a foundational truth: warfare did not begin when we recognized it. The battle was already present. The enemy's strategy has always been to distort God's Word, weaken our obedience, and disconnect us from the authority that comes through submission to God.

Yet this book does not leave the reader focused on the existence of conflict. It points us to the greater reality of victory.

One of the most profound truths presented in this message is that warfare is not merely an event we encounter in certain seasons—it is the environment in which we live. However, the believer does not enter this environment powerless. Through Christ, we have been equipped, empowered, and positioned to overcome every resistance against God's purpose.

Pastor Touré Roberts carefully dismantles the misconception that every battle is simply a demonic attack. He teaches that resistance can also arise from the flesh, unhealthy patterns, delayed obedience, and anything that opposes the will of God. This message calls every believer back to spiritual discipline, surrender, and alignment with God's Word.

At the heart of This Means War is a call to deeper submission. The authority of the believer is connected to the surrender of the believer. As Pastor Touré powerfully expresses, victory is not found in striving against darkness but in fully aligning ourselves with the God who has already conquered it.

This message is also a reminder that resistance does not mean defeat. In fact, resistance often reveals that we are advancing. The Gospel continued to move forward despite opposition. Jesus fulfilled His mission despite warfare. The Kingdom of God continues to advance despite resistance.

As you read this book, may your perspective shift. May fear be replaced with faith. May anxiety be replaced with awareness. May every reminder of warfare become an opportunity to remember the greater truth: The battle has already been fought, and the victory has already been won.

LivingSermons.com is honored to preserve this life-changing message in written form, making it available for generations of believers who desire to grow in wisdom, spiritual maturity, and Kingdom effectiveness.

Our prayer is that this book will not simply be read, but received. May it awaken your spirit, strengthen your faith, deepen your submission to God, and equip you to stand victorious in every battle. Because yes, this means war. But for those who are in Christ, it also means victory.

— Wisdom Epsi

Chief Editor, LivingSermons.com

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Publisher's Note

This book is a faithful transcript of a live sermon delivered by the preacher under the inspiration and unction of the Holy Spirit. Every effort has been made to preserve the preacher's exact words, tone, flow, and spiritual authority, while carefully proofreading and formatting the message into a clear and readable ebook format.

The message you are about to read was originally ministered in a live congregational setting. As such, it carries the weight, urgency, and atmosphere of that sacred gathering. Minor grammatical and structural adjustments have been made solely to enhance readability, without altering the substance, intent, or power of the original delivery.

Watch the live sermon from which this message was transcribed on YouTube, **at [the Potters House Official YouTube Channel](#)**

Livingsermons.com does not claim ownership of this message. All spiritual credit and ministerial authority belong to the preacher through whom the Word was delivered. Our role is that of stewards and editors—serving the Body of Christ by preserving and distributing life-giving messages in accessible digital formats.

Our commitment is excellence without dilution.

Our standard is reverence for the Word of God.

Our daily goal is to transform powerful live sermons into polished PDF and ebook editions for the edification of the Body of Christ.

It is our prayer that as you read, the same grace, conviction, clarity, and impartation present in the live service will minister to you afresh.

— Livingsermons.com

A Spirit-led Publishing Stewardship

Main Message

Begins Here



This Means War

Let's go to Genesis chapter 3.

We're going to start this conversation today. We will not finish it today.

Genesis chapter 3, and we'll read quickly the first 15 verses.

Here we go.

Genesis 3:1-15 (KJV)

Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made.

And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?

And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden:

But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.

And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die:

For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.

And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.

And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.

And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden.

And the LORD God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou?

And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.

And he said, Who told thee that thou wast naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat?

And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat.

And the LORD God said unto the woman, What is this that thou hast done? And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat.

And the LORD God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life:

And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

The serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made.

And he said to the woman, "Has God indeed said, you shall not eat of every tree of the garden?"

He did not say it to the woman because she was less. He did not say it to the woman because she was weak.

I believe that the serpent went to the woman because she got the revelation secondhand.

She was further away, come on, from the mouth of God.

Oh, I wish I had time to unpack that.

His whole strategy, watch this, was to dilute the word.

So, he doesn't start with the person who heard it directly. He starts with the one who heard it secondhand because he's trying to sever the connection to the word that was spoken.

That's for all the woman haters.

And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden, but the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God has said, you shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die."

Then the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die."

In other words, you heard wrong.

For God knows that in the day you eat of it, your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.

You heard wrong, and you have the wrong perspective about God.

So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate.

She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.

Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked, even though they were already naked.

So it wasn't that they knew what they already were. It's that they had a new perspective, a perverted perspective, about what it means to be naked in the presence of God.

Wish I had more time.

And they knew that they were naked, and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings.

When you don't see right, when you don't see God right, and when the word gets distorted, you start taking over and doing things that you were not called nor designed to do.

You kind of become your own god because your perspective of God now has been diminished.

And even a fool knows that they need some type of god.

And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day.

And Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden.

Then the Lord God called to Adam and said to him, "Where are you?"

And so he said, "I heard Your voice in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked."

Look at all of this drama.

And it went from:

"Be fruitful and multiply."

"You have all these things."

"Have dominion over the earth and subdue it."

All of it was wonderful.

And then it just goes downhill.

Perversion and lies and fear and covering and work and toil and craziness.

And now, "I'm afraid of God."

"So I heard Your voice in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked. And I hid myself."

And God said, "Who told you that you were naked? Who lied to you? Have you eaten from the tree which I commanded you that you should not eat?"

Wow, look at that real quick.

I have to teach it, but look at that.

God immediately is connecting his dysfunction to his disobedience.

He doesn't even litigate all of the confusion.

He's saying there is a one-stop shop for your confusion, and it's disobedience.

And your disobedience has opened now a Pandora's box.

And more specifically, not just your disobedience, but your disobedience to the word I spoke.

The Blame Game After Disconnecting From The Word

Then the man said, it gets even more dysfunctional. Then the man said, "The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I ate."

Now he's blaming the Lord. He's so dysfunctional, he is now accusing God of being dysfunctional. "It was a bad idea, God. You giving me that woman was a terrible idea."

God, you ought to be—Look at how crazy we get. Look at how insane we get when we disconnect from the word. Then the man said, "The woman whom You gave to me with me, she gave me of the tree, and I ate."

Your fault, God.

And the Lord said to the woman, "What is this you have done?"

The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

So the Lord God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, you are cursed more than any cattle, and more than every beast of the field."

"On your belly you shall go, and you shall eat dust all the days of your life."

"And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed."

"He shall bruise your head."

And that doesn't mean bruise like a cute little bruise. The Hebrew word literally means a gaping hole. Crush your head.

Gape.

And you shall bruise his heel. He won't leave unpierced, and you will not leave undefeated.

Message Title

I want to talk today. I want to kick this series off today from this subject: **This Means War.**

Father, without You, I am nothing. You are the vine. I am but a branch. So my commitment in this moment, God, is to do everything in my power to abide in You. And as I abide in You, I will bring forth fruit, and it will be fruit that remains. May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight.

Your children deserve wisdom, revelation, knowledge, and impartation. May heaven's love flow through me to them. And God, may Your words be my portion, and consequently, may it be their portion.

I thank You for the spirit of wisdom and revelation and insight and knowledge and prophecy and full access to heaven's resources.

You said, "The secret of the LORD is with them that fear Him."

God, I fear You. I revere You.

And God, may the end result be us coming to a new level of awakening as it relates to the environment that we're in.

May we begin to discover our tools.

And may things that were cloudy become clearer. May we be stronger, wiser, and bolder, that we might be effective agents of advancing Your Kingdom in the earth.

All to the glory of Your wonderful Son, Jesus. And if you agree with that prayer, say with me, "In Jesus' name."

Amen.

Warfare Did Not Begin When We Recognized It

On December 7th, 1941, America declared war after the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor.

The United States didn't declare war until after the attack.

The realization was: "We are at war."

And the reality is, by the time America said, "We are at war," war had already arrived.

The first strike had already happened.

The bombs were already falling.

The ships were already on fire.

The ships were burning.

And so this declaration of war that America made wasn't the beginning of the conflict.

The conflict had already begun.

It wasn't the beginning of the conflict; it was the awakening to the reality of conflict.

And I think that for believers, as it relates to spiritual warfare, we oftentimes are in the same situation.

We think that warfare starts the moment that we recognize it.

That ain't true.

The recognition is often the very last thing to arrive.

We often think that we declare, "This means war," after somebody has crossed the line.

After sickness shows up in our body.

After we have the argument with our spouse.

After our child does something crazy.

After the person at work insults you. After somebody physically attacks you or verbally attacks you. After somebody takes something from you.

And then we respond: "Okay. All right. This means war."

But here's the problem with that. The problem is, by the time you say it, you're already too late. The war has already begun. The strike has already happened. Are you tracking with me?

The strike has already happened. And so it is a mistake to believe as a believer that warfare starts the moment we notice it. It doesn't.

You Were Born Into A War

God, You—It would have been nice if You would have told me that there was going to be a liar in the midst. God, why didn't You break it down for me?

You told me to be fruitful and to multiply. You told me to have dominion. You even told me not to mess around with that tree. But You didn't tell me that I was in a war. And some might look at that and say, "God, that was unfair. You didn't prepare me."

No, it wasn't.

Here's why.

Here's at least two reasons why.

First of all, number one:

For every battle, God had already had a solution.

Jesus was the Lamb slain before the foundation of the world.

So if God has a solution for the problem, He's just.

Are you tracking with me?

Number two:

He did prepare them.

He said, "Do this. Don't do that."

And if you just do what I tell you to do—I feel the Holy Ghost right here.

If you just do what I tell you to do, and you don't need all the answers, and you get out of your questioning and your wondering—If you just obey, you're safe.

He would be unjust if He had not given them the instruction that would keep them safe.

Man, I feel that for somebody.

The Danger Of Delayed Obedience

We spend too much time, watch this, and we delay obedience because we don't have all of the particulars about how this act of obedience is going to work together for my good.

And what I've learned is, the further you get away from obedience, the word gets distant to you. And before you know it, you will look up and the enemy has completely severed you from that word.

But I wish I had some people who are swift obeyers. The moment that God gives you a word, and He gives it to you clearly, and He says, "Do it now," you don't procrastinate.

You lean in and get it done.

Yes, sir.

I hear this for somebody.

The longer you wait, the weaker you will be to perform it.

I got to say that better. I feel the Holy Ghost right here. The longer you wait, the cloudier the word. And the cloudier the word, the more hesitant you become.

Come on.

"Did God really say?"

He found the place that was the furthest away from the word.

Catch it.

Not in my notes, but it's for somebody's destiny.

And then we drift.

And that's why the Bible says things like:

"Return to your first love. Return to your first works."

Oh, how far we have drifted.

How do you drift?

You drift by delaying obedience.

And it is subtle.

Not in my notes, but very much in the Holy Ghost.

And it is subtle.

It's very subtle because it doesn't appear to be flat-out disobedience.

Because in your mind, you're thinking:

"I'm going to do it."

Woo!

Oh, I feel the Holy Ghost.

I want to come down and talk to you almost.

And in your mind, you're like:

"I'm going to do it."

And you have tricked yourself into believing that you're going to do it.

You wake up every morning and trick yourself again, saying:

"I'm going to do it tomorrow."

And then next Friday, you wake up in the morning and you trick yourself again until you run out of time, or the word is now so dull.

There Is A Connection Between Clarity And Action

There is a connection between clarity and action. That's why the Bible says:

Habakkuk 2:2 (KJV)

And the LORD answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it.

Who reads it?

So, we have to become runners when we have clarity. I'm not saying be irresponsible. I'm not saying don't qualify the word, right?

But once God gives you that confirmation, like He's doing right now, play with me this morning. Once God gives you that confirmation, go do it quickly. I'm going to say this and I have to move on because it's not simply that, but that is connected to that.

And that is connected to this.

So you begin to block and bottleneck the flow of God in your life and all He's trying to do because you're questioning. And I have to move on. I have to move on from this point.

I'm going to say this and then we move on. The Bible says:

Psalm 37:23 (KJV)

The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD: and he delighteth in his way.

They're ordered. There are steps to this thing. Real good.

And you can't see the staircase. All God gives you is the step. So you got the instruction, and you've got the promise. The promise is there. The instruction is there.

That's what somebody—I don't know. And I completely shifted, but I have to be obedient.

The First Act Of Warfare

So we see the first act of warfare right there in the garden because it is resistance against God's will. And before you start talking about warfare, you know, conflict is everywhere.

You don't have to search for conflict. It's everywhere. And so when we encounter resistance, let's name a few things:

- In marriage.
- In a family.
- In a mind.
- In a city.
- In a culture.
- Even in a church.

You're witnessing warfare. Conflict. Listen, there was harmony in the beginning. Shalom means whole. It means oneness. When you see conflict, that is the evidence of warfare. Are you tracking with me?

You ain't got to track it down. Just look. That's why when I see the city divided, the nation divided, the world divided, I'm like: "That's warfare."

Come on, somebody. That's warfare.

Warfare Is Not Always A Demon

And let me just—I want to really set this foundation, and we'll be on this for several weeks. And I'll tell you right now, this is really interesting.

Warfare is not always a demon. Remember the definition of warfare. Warfare is resistance against God's will. Demons are a given. But there are other things that can yield themselves to resistance against God's will. Sometimes your flesh.

Paul said:

Romans 7:18 (KJV)

For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing.

So I've got resistance in my own body, in my own members. This is why spiritual disciplines are so important. Because what you're doing is you are bringing your body under subjection to the Spirit.

Learning The Power Of The Spirit

I remember for the longest time—I got saved. I embraced Jesus when I was 9 years old. And at 9 years old, I believed that He died on the cross for my sins.

If I died, I had a place in heaven. And if I got in trouble, He would bail me out. And all those things were true.

I wasn't taught about the Holy Spirit in the context of the Holy Spirit being the One, watch this, who could empower me to live out the life that God would be pleased with.

I had no idea that was possible.

So the whole of my experience was to do whatever came natural.

And I was just really a prolific forgiver.

Ask her forgiveness.

Ask her, right?

Oh, I was the best of them.

It sounded like this:

"Oh God, if You get me out of this..."

Or:

"Oh God, I promise You this is my last time. You ain't got to worry about me no more. I'm telling You."

Oh, I was good at it.

Because we're good at tricking ourselves.

I knew nothing about the life of the Spirit.

I did not know that in my flesh dwelt no good thing.

So I'm already at a slight disadvantage.

Come on, somebody.

I'm already in need of my medicine. I didn't know I was sick like that. I also didn't know that the Holy Spirit could give me the power and the authority and the victory to put my flesh in check.

So then Scripture started teaching me like:

Galatians 5:16 (KJV)

This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.

I didn't even know.

And then I would read things like in the Beatitudes where it says:

Matthew 5:6 (KJV)

Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.

Meaning that if I would just get the right hunger, then God would fill me with the right things.

I didn't know that.

When Your System Gets Used To Junk

So, I had a Britney Spears anointing.

"Oops, I did it again."

That's her song.

Not her.

That's her song.

Britney's a wonderful person.

"Oops, I did it again."

Here I am, oh Lord, standing in the need of prayer for the same thing over and over and over and over again.

Because I didn't know.

Here's one more thing I'll say because I touched on the flesh, and I'm just scratching the surface.

We'll see where we land today.

I used to eat fast food.

I very rarely—probably less than one percent of my diet is fast food now.

One, I did a paper audit in college and found out what was really going on with that fast food, and I got delivered real quick.

But anyway, I stopped eating fast food for a long time.

When I would eat fast food—See, some of you just tuned off right now.

You're like, "See..."

When I used to eat fast food, fast food never made me visibly sick or noticeably sick.

When I stopped eating fast food, I would eat one greasy Big Mac and a large fry.

One meal.

And my stomach would start turning.

And I'm like:

"Wait, I don't understand."

When I ate it all the time, I felt fine.

When I cleansed my system, the truth emerged.

And the truth—

See, I got used to that bad bacteria in my stomach.

Bishop talked about once about pigs and sheep.

A pig don't have no problem being in the mud, in the slop.

But a sheep starts saying, "Something is wrong."

It is the same way with sin.

When we continue to eat the wrong stuff, our system gets used to junk.

And the problem with your system getting used to junk—is you lose your taste for righteousness.

Now righteousness tastes bitter, and sin tastes better.

And you've got it flipped around. So the point that I'm making in the context of this conversation that we're having is sometimes it ain't a demon that's at war with God's will for your life. Sometimes it's right there in your own members. In your own body.

In your own ways. And your own system. That's good. And we blame it on the devil, saying: "The devil made me do it."

No, he didn't. You just did it. Real good. I'm out there now.

Recognizing The Environment Of Warfare

Sometimes it is a demon. Sometimes it is a spiritual force. Sometimes it's not a spiritual force. Sometimes it's not flesh. Sometimes it's culture. Isn't it crazy how something that resists God can catch on so fast before you even get a chance to know that it is wrong?

It is ubiquitous everywhere.

All at once.

In this age and this generation. The world not realizing that we're in the middle of warfare. Not trying to scare you. I'm just trying to tell you the truth. Let me see what I want to do here. Here's what I want to do.

I have weeks on this. Here's what I want to do today. I want to establish in your mind, in your consciousness, in your spirit, and in your heart that you are at war. That you are in warfare. That warfare is not an event.

It is the environment.

In Genesis, warfare was the environment. In the wilderness, warfare was the environment. In the Promised Land, warfare was the environment.

In the ministry of Jesus, He couldn't even get here real good without weapons being formed against Him. In the early church, warfare was the environment.

Warfare And Victory Exist Together

And if warfare is the environment, I have to be postured appropriately for it.

But can I tell you really quickly some good news about this warfare?

The battle has already been fought—And won.

Right there in Genesis. We couldn't even get out of Genesis good, and God says: "Check this out, devil. There's something that is going to come out of the woman, and it's not just going to bruise you. It's going to put a gaping hole in your head.

Yeah, that heel is going to get pierced, but it's going to destroy you."

And then we see Jesus born into the context of warfare. And the enemy thought that he had wiped Him out. But the devil is a liar. The Bible says on the third day, after snatching the keys of death and hell, He was raised up victorious and has given to us the keys to the kingdom of heaven.

And whatever we bind and whatever we loose—Watch this.

Watch this. See, I said that all those things were happening in the context of warfare.

But I didn't say any battle was lost. I never said that.

Yes, this means war. But it also means victory. You can't have warfare as a believer and not simultaneously have victory.

He Led Captivity Captive

Let me show you two Scriptures, and we'll pick it up next week.

Ephesians 4:8 (KJV)

Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men.

What does it mean to lead captivity captive?

The enemy of your soul.

The enemy of your life.

The enemy that was trying to keep you captive, that had you captive.

God says:

"You know what? I'm about to lead captivity captive."

"I'm about to set a trap for the one who set a trap against you."

Yeah.

Go ahead.

Kill My Son.

I've got a strategy.

Even when you thought you were winning, I had already won.

I'm a strategic God.

Why am I just—Because before the battle even began, I procured victory.

Oh, I feel the Holy Ghost.

Somebody is in the fight of their life.

And God is saying:

"You're not in the fight of your life. You are in the process of victory being manifested."

If that's your word, give God a thunderous shout.

I'm leading you captivity captive.

He thinks He's defeating you.

He's falling into My plan.

You think you hurt—What?

And the same is true for you.

You have to say:

"Bring it, devil."

Because when God has tried me, I'm coming forth stronger, wiser, purer, holier, healthier.

He's leading captivity captive.

What You Thought Would Break You Will Reveal You

Here's what I hear for you. You think that the enemy is in charge of your dilemma?

He's not in charge.

Are you?

You're a child of God.

God is using—He's using what the enemy thinks he's doing because He's leading the enemy into a trap. What you thought was going to break you or kill you is getting ready to make you and reveal you. But our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working a far greater weight of eternal glory.

You're getting weighty. You're getting weighty.

Yeah.

Two things can be true: Warfare and victory.

You have to understand this. This is why we're grateful no matter where life finds us. I'm not saying it feels good. I'm saying in God, it is good. The enemy meant it for evil, but God meant it for good.

Look at that.

Look at that.

Look at all that pain.

When God Dreams Meet Nightmare Seasons

Rejected by his brothers. Come on, Joseph. Thrown into a pit and left for dead. Come on. Forget the danger. Think about the emotional devastation of that. The potential of being confused. Your dreams. I feel the Holy Ghost. You and God have been dreaming about your life ever since you were young. You've carried the dream of God. It wasn't your dream.

It was God's dream. And then nightmares show up in your life. What do you do when you have a God dream and a nightmare season?

Let me say that better. What do you do when you have a God dream and a nightmare reality?

That's confusing. Left rejected. Left for dead. Yes, sir. Then he had promising moments. He rose to the top in every circumstance. Promising moments. "Oh, my dream is coming into fruition."

And then another letdown. Several times, thinking about him in the prison. The butler and the baker.

"Surely they are going to remember me."

Watch this. Because deliverance would never come from a person.

It will never come from a person. Not when you're chosen.

Say, did you hear that?

When you are chosen, deliverance will never come from a person on purpose.

God Protects The Testimony Of His Deliverance

That's why Abraham said, when they tried to give him some money after the battle and everything, he said:

Genesis 14:23 (KJV)

That I will not take from a thread even to a shoelatchet, and that I will not take any thing that is thine, lest thou shouldest say, I have made Abram rich.

Watch this.

And maybe even in his own heart:

"Lest I say that you made me rich."

There is a protection that God puts over you by allowing it to sometimes take longer and be lonelier.

To preserve your testimony of it being nobody but Jesus.

And it looks like delay.

It looks like it takes longer.

And sometimes it is flat-out lonely.

That's the cost of the gift of salvation not coming from man, nor man's system, but from God and God alone.

That's for somebody.

And I want—If you have felt like the season has been elongated, if it feels like the promise and maybe hope deferred is beginning to in some way make your heart sick:

Be not weary in your well doing.

For in due season you will reap.

Notice it says, He doesn't say:

"In due season, God is going to send a person to be your savior."

He says:

"In due season, you will reap."

Look at this.

That is a God function.

You will reap.

He's the God of the harvest.

The Lord of the harvest.

According to Matthew 9, pray to the Lord of the harvest.

The Lord of the harvest is going to reward you.

It will spring up from God on your behalf.

A harvest.

Harvest for the sowing in tears.

Because it took long.

Because it was lonely.

I haven't even scratched the surface of where we're going.

The Word Already Secured Victory

Here's where I would like to close this moment. Warfare is resistance against the will of God. Watch this.

That's how you know that we have victory. Did you catch it?

Warfare is resistance against the will of God.

- How could that ever succeed?
- How could that ever succeed?

His will—Even free will is not stronger than God's will.

Okay.

And that's why, as it relates to victory, God says:

James 4:7 (KJV)

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Look at the sequence. Submit yourself to God. Then resist the devil. And he will flee because he's defeated. But the power is in us submitting to the system that has defeated him. Why did the serpent attack the word and ultimately aim to get them to disobey or disconnect from the word?

It is because the word had him subdued. The word had him subdued. That's good, sir. So of course, in the desire—Watch this. See, Satan was trying to get free because he was subdued under the crushing weight of the Word of God.

Jesus, the Lamb slain before the foundation of the world.

John 1:1-3 (KJV)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

The same was in the beginning with God.

All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

So if the Lamb was slain before the foundation of the world, then that means that by the Word, the enemy was already crushed. Maybe this is why God doesn't take time to explain. I already gave you the keys.

Hear My Word.

Obeys My Word.

Victory is yours.

Have dominion.

Have dominion.

The Posture Of Surrender

So the enemy was trying to get delivered from the authority of God's Word.

And even today:

Same devil.

Same tricks.

And therefore, more obedience and submission is the first instruction of warring the good warfare. So here's what I want to do.

If you're here—No, no, no. Let me tell you something. I was in the hospital on Tuesday. My wife had gone in. It wasn't an uncommon surgery, but it was a very serious and complex surgery.

Very serious.

And I had to wait.

I had to wait.

I prayed.

I kissed her.

I looked her in the eyes before they rolled her back there.

And I had to wait.

I had to wait, and I couldn't keep still.

I walked around.

I was with our family.

We were praying.

And I had to walk and go be by myself for a minute because I wanted God to speak to me.

Sometimes God puts you in a situation to open your ears a little wider than they would be open otherwise.

And I felt like there was—I had already prayed.

I was already fasting.

But I felt like there was something more that I could give to God.

I didn't have it in mind.

I couldn't think about any area where I was holding back or anything like that.

But in my spirit, I felt like:

"God, I want to give You more."

"Give You more."

And that was my posture.

Mother Nick, that was my posture.

I said:

"God, in this place of waiting, sometimes in the toughest moments..."

They had her on that table, and they had her stretched in a particular way, locked down outside of her control, so that they could do the work.

God had me the same way.

In a position that I would not have chosen for myself. Waiting to see how God was going to do what He was going to do. We got the victory.

But we still got to process. God has me in this unusual position of dependency. And in that unusual position of dependency, I began to ask God: "What more?"

Because I felt like more.

God Creates A Desire For His Purpose

See, God will put a question in your heart that He wants to give you the answer to. Sometimes God doesn't say it. There's something in the cooperation.

Yeah.

Him causing you to desire what will ultimately bring Him pleasure.

Philippians 2:13 (KJV)

For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.

The Posture Of Submission

So, He puts the question in me. The question for me was: "God, I feel like there's more. I want to give You more."

And I wouldn't have been there had I not been there. What I felt rise in me is—and I wouldn't have known to do this—but what I felt He wanted me to do, or what I felt I wanted to give Him in that moment of dependency, is the most accurate way to say it:

I wanted to rededicate.

That's right.

The whole level of my ministry to Him.

I wish I could articulate that.

No known sin.

Not doing none of that.

But to go deeper.

I said:

"God, I want to go deeper, and I want to take Your people deeper."

See, He put that desire there because, in essence, that's what He wanted.

And He had to put me in a position to find out what God wanted.

And there might be somebody here in this room.

So here's what I did right there in the hospital room.

Nobody's around.

I rededicated my whole ministry to Jesus.

Yeah.

I've been pastoring for over two decades, walking with the Lord slightly longer.

And if I can rededicate myself at this juncture of my life to God, so can some of you.

Yes, sir.

War A Good Warfare Through Surrender

So here is the invitation. I want us to war a good warfare. We can't war a good warfare without living a good submitted life.

I want to say this right:

Submit yourself unto the Lord.

Then resist the devil, and he will flee.

So my authority is tied into my submission.

If I submit a little, I have a little authority.

If I submit it all, then I'll receive it all.

So if you're here, forget about who's looking.

Forget about who's watching.

This is for an audience of One.

Hallelujah.

If you're going to be powerful, if you're going to experience the power that's assigned to your life, we must submit every time that the Lord upgrades me.

Yes, sir.

Every single time He requires from me.

Every single time.

Here's the thing:

We never arrive.

If you're here and you say: "God, I'm submitting.

- I'm submitting.
- I'm surrendering.

I recognize that I'm in a war." There ain't no season of warfare. The whole experience is warfare with victory. That's why Paul said:

2 Corinthians 2:11 (KJV)

Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices.

"I've really been going through some warfare."

I understand the sentiment. But that shouldn't shock you. This means war.

But it also means victory.

Your Victory Is Resistance Proof

Look at how powerful the Gospel is. The Gospel is so powerful that even though Jesus came preaching the Gospel and experienced immense warfare, the Gospel still advanced. Oh, I felt that. I want to articulate this properly. Your victory is resistance proof. Are you hearing me?

Thank you. You were built. Your anointing was built to weather, to persevere, and to overcome resistance. Resistance cannot stop you.

Are you hearing me?

And that's what irritates and frustrates the enemy. And that's why he wants you to quit when you feel a little bit of resistance. When you feel a little bit of resistance, that means you're making your mark. You're making your mark.

You Were Equipped Before The Battle Began

I woke up this morning getting ready to begin this series on *This Means War*, and it was thundering and all kinds of rain.

I said: "Yeah, devil, if I was you, I would try to keep as many people away from this."

I said, "I can't even knock you." And then I started praying for y'all in the name of Jesus: "Make it where they have to be here. If they're not afraid of no rain or to log in, start praying for them."

Thank you, Jesus. This is not deep or profound, but let me just say it: You got this.

Before it even showed up, you had it. Jesus, You got this.

Thank You, Jesus.

We got this.

Remember Who Is Standing With You

I remember—I'm going to say this.

You're going to pray when we get out of here?

Yes.

I remember Elisha's servant was all afraid because he recognized that he was in a war, but he didn't realize he had the victory.

And the battle was fierce to the naked eye.

You know the story.

To the naked eye, he was surrounded.

And then the prophet said:

2 Kings 6:17 (KJV)

And Elisha prayed, and said, LORD, I pray thee, open his eyes, that he may see. And the LORD opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw: and, behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha.

He opened his eyes.

It was almost like he was standing here, and the enemy was up close talking stuff.

And there were all in the balcony, right?

Warring angels.

Chariots.

Swords.

And I want you to remember that every time you feel surrounded.

Yes, sir.

Thank You, Jesus.

Remember that the host of heaven—If you're a servant of the Most High God, committed to not resisting the will of God, but to perpetuate it, to be a Kingdom advancer—Remember:

You're never by yourself. Surrounding what's surrounding you is an indomitable force because you're on the right team.

And the angelic is always present where God's purpose is present.

You Have Backup In The Place Of Obedience

One more story.

Joshua is leading the children of Israel over into the contested Promised Land.

He gets in there.

He's moving about, and he walks and stumbles upon what was an angel—a captain, a high-ranking angel—with a sword in his hand.

And Joshua said:

"Are you with us or against us?"

And the angel said:

"Neither."

Neither.

That's right.

"I've got one assignment."

Yes, sir.

He says:

"I'm the captain."

Yes, sir.

"Of the host of the armies of the living God."

In other words:

In the land that your obedience is sending you into, you got backup already.

High-level backup.

And as long as you lean in and surrender and submit—Yes.

The reason why he said neither, he said:

"No."

"Are you for me?"

He said:

"No."

"You're asking the wrong question."

The real question is:

"Are you aligning with God's purposes?"

And if the answer is yes, you got backup like you wouldn't believe.

Amen.

The Invitation To Surrender

If you're here and you've never opened up your heart to the Lord, and you want to give your heart to Christ, if you're here and God is touching you, you're at a stage in a moment in your life where you realize—Here's how you feel.

This is the best way to describe it:

You feel uncovered.

Come on, let's all stand.

We're just about done.

The best way to describe it is you feel uncovered.

God knows how to make you recognize that you need a Savior.

That you need a covering.

If that's you and you're here, I want you to come and meet me here at the altar.

Here's what it feels like:

You just feel God drawing you.

You feel like:

"Man, I really have to get my relationship with God together."

If that's you, I want you to come meet me at this altar.

The last point, the invitation is:

If you're here and you want to rededicate, that's kind of what this is about.

But I'll say it again:

You want to rededicate your life to God.

I rededicated my whole ministry like I was getting saved all over again.

Amen.

No trickery.

No sin.

Nothing.

I saw nothing.

It didn't matter.

Amen.

I just know I haven't arrived.

Amen.

Humility says:

"I haven't arrived."

Amen.

Thank You, Father.

God Needs Your Submission

God needs you.

He needs you.

But He can't use you if you're not submitted.

If you're not surrendered, that's called being on the wrong side of the war.

If warfare is resistance to God's will, and you are resisting God's will, you're on the wrong side of it.

Oh, come on.

Come on.

Come on.

Meet me here at the altar.

Come on.

If you're watching via livestream and you're accepting Christ, just say:

"I receive Christ." If you're submitting, if you're rededicating your life, just put it right there:

"I'm rededicating my life."

"I'm rededicating my marriage."

"I'm rededicating my children."

"I'm rededicating my business."

"I'm rededicating my men."

Whatever it is, just put it right there in the chat.

Yes.

Thank You, Lord. And we got you. And if you don't have a church home, now you do.

Now you do.

We love you.

We got you.

Thank You, Lord. Once I finish this prayer, there are staff to my left who will pray for you.

Our pastors are over there.

There'll be a QR code on the screen.

A Prayer Of Rededication

Father, thank You so much. Yes.

For this opportunity to come here with You, to hear from You, to receive from You, to be with You. I thank You, God, for the way that You know how to draw us, align us, teach us, and feed us. I thank You for Your love, Lord.

Even as I reflect upon the garden when Adam and Eve went astray, You were yet covering them, and You were yet fighting for them. And You're not like man.

You have a deep love and vested interest in all of us, as is evidenced by Your Word. And so we thank You. We love You so much. And God, many are coming here in their own way, for their own reasons of rededication.

Hallelujah.

And I thank You that this is not just some religious symbolic act. But as we submit, as we surrender, we are going to be endowed with strength and power and clarity.

And a new dimension of victory.

Hallelujah.

And things that were held back and held up are going to begin to flow in our lives. And You are going to restore the years that the locusts have eaten.

Yes, You are.

You are going to redeem the time and restore the years. We haven't missed our calling. We haven't missed our opportunity. The bets are still on.

You're not finished with us.

We love You, and we thank You.

So we rededicate ourselves:

Our hearts.

Our lives.

Our ministries.

Our families.

Our marriages.

Our responsibilities.

We are laying it before You, saying: "God, it's Yours.

Not our will, but Your will." And Father, forgive us and expose any area in our lives that is in resistance to Your will.

We lay it at the altar. We present our bodies a living sacrifice.

Hallelujah.

And we trust You, God. As we submit to You, we will be empowered to resist the enemy, and he will flee. Help us to be sober and vigilant.

Hallelujah.

That we won't be unnecessarily devoured.

Prayer Of Salvation And Victory

I want you to repeat after me: Heavenly Father, I thank You for Your love. I feel it.

Heavenly Father, Thank You for Your Word. I receive it.

Thank You for Jesus. Thank You for making Him who had no sin all of mine: All of my weakness.

All of my stubbornness.

All of my resistance.

All of my brokenness.

All of my flesh tendencies.

You placed in His body.

In His body, nailed it to the cross.

And put it to death.

And just as He was raised up—Free and victorious—Because I receive Him.

Because I believe Him. Because I confess Him. I am raised up too.

And God, I thank You. God, I thank You that Jesus Christ led captivity captive and gave gifts unto men. Thank You for the Holy Spirit. Thank You for the divine resource. Thank You for the person of Jesus. Jesus, I receive Him.

Fill me to the overflow. The overflow that I might crucify my flesh. Walk in holiness.

Victory.

Submission.

Power.

Wisdom.

And revelation.

God, I thank You.

I thank You.

I receive it.

And God, I thank You for victory. Yes, there is warfare. Yes, there is war.

But there is also victory. So I declare today: Victory today is mine.

I told Satan:

Get thee behind.

Victory today is mine.

In Jesus' name.

Amen.

Benediction

May the Lord bless and keep you. May He make His face to shine upon you and be gracious toward you. May He lift up His countenance over you and grant you shalom. Shalom in Jesus' name.

God bless you.

Love you very much.

See you Wednesday night and on Sunday.

God bless you.

Love you.

Living In Community And Partnership

At the Potter's House, we are invested in you. Not just what you do, but who you're becoming. We believe that in this house, we are better together. We need one another to be holy, to hold each other accountable, and to keep growing. As God positions us to serve every soul, we believe that an act of sowing is an act of faith and agreement right where God is speeding up.

And we're honored that we get to partner with you in reaching lives near and far. This is your official invitation to not just be a spectator, but to be a partner. Be a member of our family that seeks Kingdom solutions during the challenges of every season.

Amen.

Your giving, your service, and your love to this house isn't just generosity. It's ministry.

If this message spoke to you and you believe what God is doing in this house, we invite you to become a member today. We want to do life with you and share this message with someone you care about, someone who needs it the most. I believe that it could be the catalyst for the breakthrough they're seeking. No matter where you are, remember:

God sees you.

He loves you.

And so do we.



About The Potter's House

The Potter's House is an intergenerational church passionately committed to uplifting humanity by embodying Christ's call to salvation while addressing the most pressing challenges facing our world—both locally and globally.

At its core, The Potter's House believes that true transformation requires more than spiritual growth alone. In an ever-changing world, thriving demands a holistic approach to human development—one that nurtures spiritual depth, emotional resilience, meaningful community, intellectual growth, and economic empowerment.

With a mission rooted in faith and innovation, The Potter's House meets people at every stage of life, providing practical solutions, spiritual guidance, and empowering opportunities designed to help individuals and families evolve with purpose, strength, and power.

As a global voice of hope and restoration, The Potter's House remains dedicated to building lives, strengthening communities, and advancing the Kingdom of God through transformative ministry.

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