The Battle of Life and Darkness

9:1—Nevertheless

* What has the Lord done for the Righteous and with the righteous in days gone by?
* What does the Lord have for the Righteous in the last days?

Isaiah 8:22 And they shall look unto the earth; and behold trouble and darkness, dimness of anguish; and they shall be driven to darkness. 9:1—Nevertheless the dimness shall not be such as was in her vexation, when at the first he lightly afflicted the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, and afterward did more grievously afflict her by the way of the sea, beyond Jordan, in Galilee of the nations. Dimness – accumulated darkness - 04155. muw`aph, moo-awf' covered, obscurity, distress (darkness)Egyptian darkness

2Ki 10:32 In those days the LORD began to cut Israel short: and Hazael smote them in all the coasts of Israel;

(if light affliction doesn’t do its work to humble and reform us, we must expect to be afflicted more grievously; for when God judges he will overcome.)

Isaiah 9:2 The people that walked in darkness have **seen a great light**: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined. Isaiah 9:5—*For every battle of the warrior is with confused noise, and garments rolled in blood; but this shall be with burning and fuel of fire.* 19*—Through the wrath of the LORD of hosts is the land darkened, and the people shall be as the fuel of the fire: no man shall spare his brother.* 6*—For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.*

Jos 11:6 And the LORD said unto Joshua, Be not afraid because of them: for to morrow about this time will I deliver them up all slain before Israel: thou shalt hough their horses, and **burn** their chariots with fire.

7 So Joshua came, and all the people of war with him, against them by the waters of Merom suddenly; and they fell upon them.

8 And the LORD delivered them into the hand of Israel, who smote them, and chased them unto great Zidon, and unto Misrephothmaim, and unto the valley of Mizpeh eastward; and they smote them, until they left them none remaining

9 And Joshua did unto them as the LORD bade him: he houghed their horses, and **burnt** their chariots with fire.

10 And Joshua at that time turned back, and took Hazor, and smote the king thereof with the sword: for Hazor beforetime was the head of all those kingdoms.

11 And they smote all the souls that were therein with the edge of the sword, utterly destroying them: there was not any left to breathe: and he **burnt** Hazor with fire.

14 **And all the spoil of these cities**, and the cattle, the children of Israel took for a prey unto themselves; but every man they smote with the edge of the sword, until they had destroyed them, neither left they any to breathe.

Rolling in blood Jos 11:11 and rolling in treasure Jos 11:14

Jg 4:2 And the LORD sold them into the hand of Jabin king of Canaan, that reigned in Hazor; the captain of whose host was Sisera, which dwelt in Harosheth of the Gentiles.

1. The Battle of the Warrior
   1. The battles of life
      1. Every battle needs a warrior
      2. Every battle is with confused noise
      3. Every battle is won with care

a shaking, as of a spear; a concussion, tumult, noise, as of a battle. Noise the armor of the soldiers made - by the greaves, or war-shoes, worn on the feet and legs. “**Battle**” - 05430. c@'own, seh-own' a military boot - protection from mud, (the miry clay). “**Warrior**” - 05431. ca'an, saw-an' To be miry-mucky waters; to shoe, a soldier shod:--warrior.

“**Confused noise**” - 07494. ra`ash, rah'-ash vibration, bounding, uproar:--commotion, confused noise, earthquake, fierceness, quaking, rattling, rushing, shaking.

* + 1. Every battle with garments rolled in blood

“**Garments**” - 08071. hlms simlah, sim-law'

(through the idea of a cover assuming the shape of the object beneath); a dress, especially a mantle:--apparel, cloth(-es, -ing), garment, raiment.

called to the fiery trials to resist to blood; not to shed the blood of their enemies, but to seal their testimony with their own blood.

* + 1. Every battle is with Collateral damage
       1. Our Children are being effected
       2. The worst battles are when our children are severely wounded
  1. Battle Strong,

Jer 23:16 Thus saith the LORD of hosts, Hearken not unto the words of the prophets that prophesy unto you: they make you vain: they speak a vision of their own heart, and not out of the mouth of the LORD.

* 1. Battle Scarred,
     1. Begins with open wounds
        1. Visible scars
        2. Mental wounds
  2. Battle wounds
  3. Battle Scarred vs. Battle Scared
     1. What a difference that one “r” can make
        1. Righteousness
        2. You battle-Your battle - battling - wound
        3. You bring to birth and than your brought to battle
        4. **carrying wounds-(caring), carrying the wounded**

People who are battle scarred have an open wound that leaves a scar over time. People who are battle scared, have a open wound that never closes.

Physical wounds-Mental wounds

Physically the battle could be over. Mentally the battle is still going on.

Some are not able to engage Physically into battle because Mentally they are wounded and torn, the battle is still fresh in their mind. So they’re unable to fight again today. Two people can engage in the same battle and experience the same thing. One pushes on to fight another day (the battle scarred) while the other can’t live with the memories of the battle (the battle scared).

* 1. This battle
     1. *“shall be with burning and fuel of fire”* No more darkness, No more battle after the flesh,

The burning of all the implements of war , carnal weapons

**Friendly Fire**

* + 1. Collateral damage (unexpected, Unintended)
       1. Innocent and young Carrying wounds
       2. Who do you have in your sights - victims – the wounds from within

Warrior! The Saviour doesn’t leave us, The Saviour never makes a mistake or misses His mark. He doesn’t leave us in the dark He doesn’t leave us in battle without help. He doesn’t leave us in confusion, “confused noise” (The noise that takes place in the heat of the battle) There comes a time when the last round of fire is shot. When the dust clears the Saviour is there.

1. The Birth of Jesus
   1. The Birth of the Saviour
      1. Everybody needs a Saviour
      2. Everybody is with confusion
         1. Power and Authority
         2. Nurse and Nurture

Motive I Cor. 4:1-2;

Mat.7:3-5; Luke 6:41-42; Acts 13:18; I Thes. 2:7

* + 1. Everybody needs the Power of God

2Co 6:7 By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armour of righteousness on the right hand and on the left,

2Co 13:4 For though he was crucified through weakness, yet he liveth by the power of God. For we also are weak in him, but we shall live with him by the power of God toward you. {in him: or, with him}

2Ti 1:8 Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me his prisoner: but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of God;

1Pe 1:5 Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

* + 1. Everybody needs the fountain of the Blood of Jesus

Zec 13:1-9; Psalm 55:9-23

Isaiah 1:4—*Ah sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, a seed of evildoers, children that are corrupters: they have forsaken the LORD, they have provoked the Holy One of Israel unto anger, they are gone away backward.*

**5 Why should ye be stricken any more?** *ye will revolt more and more: the whole head is sick, and the whole heart faint.*

*6 From the sole of the foot even unto the head there is no soundness in it; but wounds, and bruises, and putrifying sores: they have not been closed, neither bound up, neither mollified with ointment.*

*Hot and fiery to embers-(a dying fire)*

*Hot and fiery to embryos –(new birth)*

The Prince of Peace

New armor

Put off the old and put on the new

Eph 4:22 That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts;

Col 3:8 ¶ But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth.

9 Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds;

**2Ki 16:17** ¶ And king Ahaz cut off the borders of the bases, and removed the laver from off them; and took down the sea from off the brasen oxen that were under it, and put it upon a pavement of stones.

1Pe 1:22 Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently:

Eph 5:26 That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,

Joh 15:3 Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you.

Isa 5:25 Therefore is the anger of the LORD kindled against his people, and he hath stretched forth his hand against them, and hath smitten them: and the hills did tremble, and their carcases were torn in the midst of the streets. For all this his anger is not turned away, but his hand is stretched out still.

Isa 5:30 And in that day they shall roar against them like the roaring of the sea: and if one look unto the land, behold darkness and sorrow, and the light is darkened in the heavens thereof.

Isa 8:22 And they shall look unto the earth; and behold trouble and darkness, dimness of anguish; and they shall be driven to darkness.

Ge 1:2 And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.

3 And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.

Isa 9:12 The Syrians before, and the Philistines behind; and they shall devour Israel with open mouth. For all this his anger is not turned away, but his hand is stretched out still.

17 Therefore the Lord shall have no joy in their young men, neither shall have mercy on their fatherless and widows: for every one is an hypocrite and an evildoer, and every mouth speaketh folly. For all this his anger is not turned away, but his hand is stretched out still.

21 Manasseh, Ephraim; and Ephraim, Manasseh: and they together shall be against Judah. For all this his anger is not turned away, but his hand is stretched out still.

Isa 10:4 Without me they shall bow down under the prisoners, and they shall fall under the slain. For all this his anger is not turned away, but his hand is stretched out still.

16 Therefore shall the Lord, the Lord of hosts, send among his fat ones leanness; and under his glory he shall kindle a burning like the burning of a fire.

17 And the light of Israel shall be for a fire, and his Holy One for a flame: and it shall burn and devour his thorns and his briers in one day;

20 ¶ And it shall come to pass in that day, that the remnant of Israel, and such as are escaped of the house of Jacob, shall no more again stay upon him that smote them; but shall stay upon the LORD, the Holy One of Israel, in truth.

27 And it shall come to pass in that day, that his burden shall be taken away from off thy shoulder, and his yoke from off thy neck, and the yoke shall be destroyed because of the anointing.

Isa 14:26 This is the purpose that is purposed upon the whole earth: and this is the hand that is stretched out upon all the nations. 27 For the LORD of hosts hath purposed, and who shall disannul it? and his hand is stretched out, and who shall turn it back? Isa.23:9; Eph.1:6, 8,12,14

Isa 24:23 Then the moon shall be confounded, and the sun ashamed, when the LORD of hosts shall reign in mount Zion, and in Jerusalem, and before his ancients gloriously.

Isa 60:19 The sun shall be no more thy light by day; neither for brightness shall the moon give light unto thee: but the LORD shall be unto thee an everlasting light, and thy God thy glory.

Joh 11:36 Then said the Jews, Behold how he loved him!

Joh 11:37 And some of them said, Could not this man, which opened the eyes of the blind, have caused that even this man should not have died?

When he wept over Lazarus, they said, See how he loved him! Much more reason have we to say, for whom he hath laid down his life: See how he loved us! Greater love has no man than this

Joh 11:40 Jesus saith unto her, Said I not unto thee, that, if thou wouldest believe, thou shouldest see the glory of God?

Re 3:18 I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.

not prescribe but subscribe

Heb 12:15 Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled;

Le 8:11 And he sprinkled thereof upon the altar seven times, and anointed the altar and all his vessels, both the laver and his foot, to sanctify them.

**Accidental**

**Treat every gun as it was loaded**

**Fighting to close to air support is not going to help you**

**Words seasoned with wisdom and grace Isa. 9:4; 10:26; Jud 7:25; Ex 14:26**

**Wiser in battle,**

**Carrying wounds? carrying the wounded**

**Caring for wounds? caring for the wounded**

**A New Physcian**

**Jer 8:22 Is there no balm in Gilead; is there no physician there? why then is not the health of the daughter of my people recovered?**

Acts 17:5 But the Jews which believed not, moved with envy, took unto them certain lewd fellows of the baser sort, and gathered a company, and set all the city on an uproar, and assaulted the house of Jason, and sought to bring them out to the people.

John 1:4 In him was life; and the life was the light of men. 9 That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.

8:12 Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life. 9:5 As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.

Fuel for the fire Ready, aim, fire Open fire In the line of fire Fire at will **War craft**

Isa 9:1 Nevertheless the dimness shall not be such as was in her vexation, when at the first he lightly afflicted the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, and afterward did more grievously afflict her by the way of the sea, beyond Jordan, in Galilee of the nations.

2 The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.

3 Thou hast multiplied the nation, and not increased the joy: they joy before thee according to the joy in harvest, and as men rejoice when they divide the spoil. {not: or, to him}

4 For thou hast broken the yoke of his burden, and the staff of his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, as in the day of Midian.

5 For every battle of the warrior is with confused noise, and garments rolled in blood; but this shall be with burning and fuel of fire.

6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

7 Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

8 The Lord sent a word into Jacob, and it hath lighted upon Israel.

9 And all the people shall know, even Ephraim and the inhabitant of Samaria, that say in the pride and stoutness of heart,

10 The bricks are fallen down, but we will build with hewn stones: the sycomores are cut down, but we will change them into cedars.

11 Therefore the LORD shall set up the adversaries of Rezin against him, and join his enemies together; {join: Heb. mingle}

12 The Syrians before, and the Philistines behind; and they shall devour Israel with open mouth. For all this his anger is not turned away, but his hand is stretched out still.

13 For the people turneth not unto him that smiteth them, neither do they seek the LORD of hosts.

14 Therefore the LORD will cut off from Israel head and tail, branch and rush, in one day.

15 The ancient and honourable, he is the head; and the prophet that teacheth lies, he is the tail.

16 For the leaders of this people cause them to err; and they that are led of them are destroyed.

17 Therefore the Lord shall have no joy in their young men, neither shall have mercy on their fatherless and widows: for every one is an hypocrite and an evildoer, and every mouth speaketh folly. For all this his anger is not turned away, but his hand is stretched out still.

18 For wickedness burneth as the fire: it shall devour the briers and thorns, and shall kindle in the thickets of the forest, and they shall mount up like the lifting up of smoke.

19 Through the wrath of the LORD of hosts is the land darkened, and the people shall be as the fuel of the fire: no man shall spare his brother.

20 And he shall snatch on the right hand, and be hungry; and he shall eat on the left hand, and they shall not be satisfied: they shall eat every man the flesh of his own arm: {snatch: Heb cut}

21 Manasseh, Ephraim; and Ephraim, Manasseh: and they together shall be against Judah. For all this his anger is not turned away, but his hand is stretched out still.