

Good Morning Arising Church,

Today is August 31, 2025 and the title of today's message today is UNKNOWN SOLDIER.



This morning is going to further our marching order in our service to the King of Kings. We have been enlisted into the Heavenly Entourage of Soldiers for Jesus Christ. We learned last Sunday that we need to be YOKED Brothers. Let's look at some of these sayings from the US armed forces.

(Read Slide)

"Men do not fight for flag or country, for the Marine Corps or glory or any other abstraction. They fight for one another."—
William Manchester

"Some people spend an entire lifetime wondering if they made a difference in the world. But, the Marines don't have that problem."

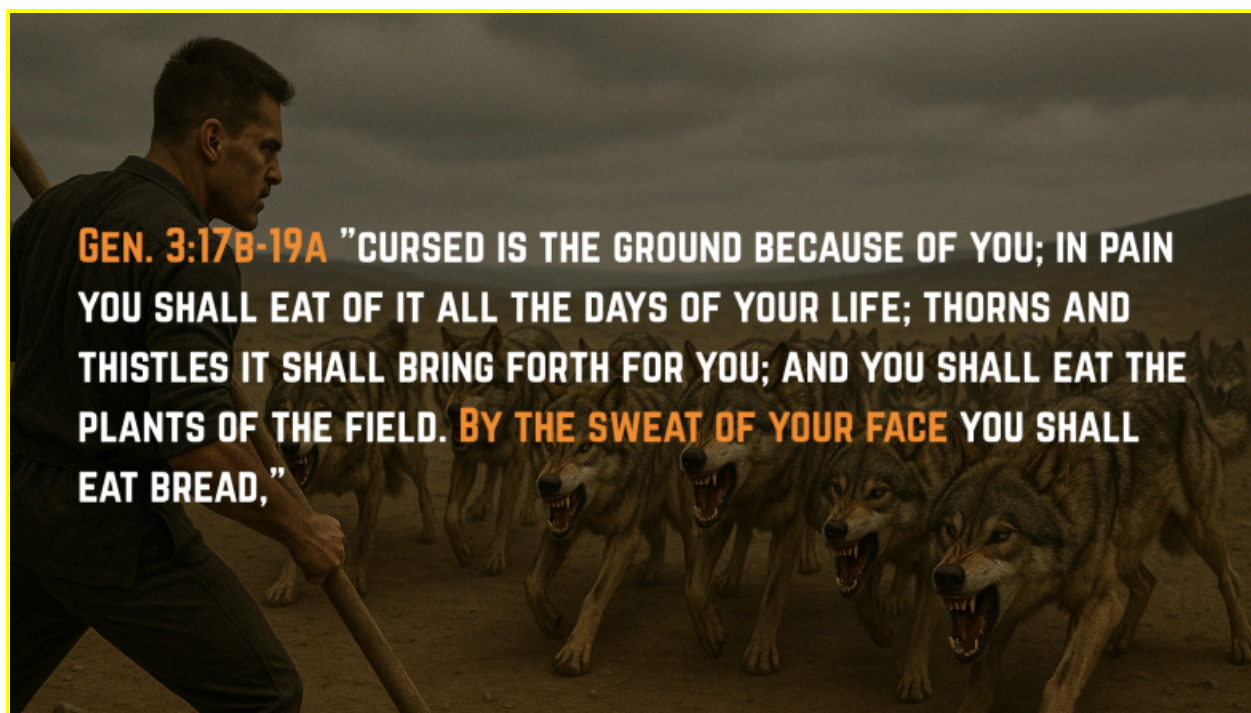
“No one ever drowned in sweat.” — **USMC**

#1: True soldiers of Christ do not fight for glory, or for themselves. They fight for their brothers and for the name of Adonai himself.

#2: True soldiers of Christ never have to worry about being useful or wonder if they are making a difference. They are consumed with the glorious purpose of giving glory to their commanding officer - Adonai himself.

#3: this reminded us of a verse from the powerful message 2 weeks ago.

(Read Slide)



For you to produce fruit in the Kingdom—you gotta sweat for it!

There are no lone wolf soldiers in the Armed Forces of Adonai. He has designed our faith and mission to require one another. The rock quarry of the OAC: Pastor Eric and Matt— took us to many places of personal impact and testimony and used the word to pierce our hearts to holiness.

We loved when they went to Genesis 14 to show us one of the greatest examples of a Godly Warrior in the Torah —Abraham!

- **Genesis 14:13–14 (NIV)**

¹³ A man who had escaped came and reported this to Abram the Hebrew. Now Abram was living near the great trees of Mamre the Amorite, a brother of Eshkol and Aner, all of whom were allied with Abram. ¹⁴ When Abram heard that his relative had been taken captive, he called out the 318 trained men born in his household and went in pursuit as far as Dan.

We love this story. We hope you remember that phrase "allied with Abram" is literally the phrase "possessors of a covenant". These were covenant brothers— Abraham and three gentiles who banded together to rescue Lot.

Perhaps in one of his best most mic-drop moments, Abraham, after he does rescue Lot and kill these giant-killing kings. Is presented with riches as a reward. Do you all remember how he responded?

- **Genesis 14:21–24 (NIV)**

²¹ The king of Sodom said to Abram, “Give me the people and keep the goods for yourself.”

²² But Abram said to the king of Sodom, “With raised hand I have sworn an oath to the Lord, God Most High, Creator of heaven and earth, ²³ that I will accept nothing belonging to you, not even a thread or the strap of a sandal, so that you will never be able to say, ‘I made Abram rich.’”

Abraham was not concerned with being rewarded for righteousness. He did not defeat Giant-killers just to get a trophy or riches. He did it for his brother!



He could see through the facade of generosity the King was presenting. Abraham did not want to have any affiliation with this wicked man. He had already developed a conviction with the Lord to accept nothing as a reward for saving his brother. To him, his reward was righteousness. His reward was pleasing the Lord with his actions.

Church, these are the commitments to brothers we need in this house! We need to be possessors of a covenant who are willing to attempt these great feats together.

The aim of doing the right thing is that whether or not the brother receives the rescue, you did the right thing regardless to please the Lord. If this is your aim, you will fight for your brothers with no concern for reward.

Keep in mind that when we went through Genesis 14—we discussed how Abram went to rescue Lot with Aner, Eschol, and Mamre. All these men who were in covenant together went to rescue Lot, not for reward but because it was the right thing to do.

- When you sacrifice for a brother are you waiting for a thank you? *pause
- When you sacrifice for your family are you waiting for love and praise from your family? *pause
- When you do anything righteous how much of your thoughts are consumed with the reward you "deserve"? *pause

We need to have the attitude of Abraham—who did the righteous action with no expectation of reward but simply having done it because it is what the Lord has said to do. **This attitude is exactly what will drive us to take great feats of faith, on behalf of our brothers, together for righteousness sake!**

What is so special about this season we are in, is seemingly every week, the DH lessons and Foundations are incredible supplements to everything we are learning on Sunday! Let's look at this slide from Wednesday as we contemplate yoking ourselves to brothers for righteousness sake.

(Read Slide)

VIGIL

Exodus 12:42 describes a "night of vigil" or "night of watching" by the Lord, which has multiple interpretations. Some scholars suggest it refers to God vigilantly anticipating and watching over the night when He would bring the Israelites out of Egypt, fulfilling His promise to Abraham[1]. This night is seen as a time when God actively guarded and protected the Israelites during their exodus[2]. The verse also establishes this night as one to be observed by all Israelites throughout generations, dedicating it to the Lord as a remembrance of His actions[2]. The concept of a vigil in this context goes beyond merely staying awake; it represents an intentional behavior symbolizing defiance against superior forces and an attempt to exercise control over the transcendent[3]. This night of vigil is thus understood as a significant moment of divine intervention and protection, as well as a command for future observance by the Israelites[1][2].

[1] Carasik, M., ed. (2005). Exodus: Introduction and Commentary (M. Carasik, Trans.; First edition, p. 90). The Jewish Publication Society.

[2] Osborn, N. D., & Hatton, H. A. (1999). A handbook on Exodus (p. 302). United Bible Societies.

[3] Prosic, T. (2004). Development and Symbolism of Passover (p. 109). T&T Clark.

The Lord kept VIGIL for his people the night of Passover. The Septuagint translates it "advance guard". We learned that this concept of Vigil is meant to inspire us to keep vigil over the commands and desires of the Lord. Men of God are called to keep vigil over their families, over their brothers, over this house, and over the Will of God in our lives. Vigil by definition is meant to describe a time where YOU stay awake or alert while everyone else is asleep.

While the world sleeps on righteousness and rightly handling the word of God - we will be awake, alert, and use precise meticulous accuracy in how we handle the Word of God and administer it to our families and the world around us.

Speaking of Keeping Vigil - and of rightly handling, awake, alert, and precise meticulous accuracy. We want to show you a video...

[Tomb of the Unknown Soldier](#)



For 88 years this sacred spot has been guarded 24 hours a day. In April of 1948, something fascinating happened. Just days before Israel was reborn as a nation, America was stirred to a sacred act of remembrance. The 3rd US Infantry Regiment—known as *The Old Guard*—took over guarding the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. From that moment until now, they have never ceased their vigil.

As you watch this clip observing the seriousness with which a soldier views his rifle, we are going to reread the adapted Rifleman's creed refocused to reflect the seriousness with which a soldier of Christ views his Bible. (*read the full Yoked Warriors Creed – about 1:45 length*)

(Read Slide) (DO NOT SHOW SLIDE KEEP VIDEO UP!!!!!!!!!!)

Yoked Warriors Creed

1. This is my Bible. There are many like it, but this one is mine.
2. My Bible is my closest companion. It is my very life. I must master it as I must master my life.
3. My Bible, without action, is useless. Without my Bible, I am useless. I must apply my Bible in truth. I must aim straighter than my enemy who is trying to kill me. I must put him to death before he eliminates me.
4. My Bible has taught me what counts in this war is not the number of Scriptures we fire off, the noise of our bursts, nor the smoke we make. We know that it is the application that counts.
5. My Bible is living and active, even as I, because it is my life. Thus, I will learn it as a brother. I will learn its Pashat truths, its strength of Remez, its Darashic parts, its Sodical insights and its steely resolve. I will ever guard my Bible against the ravages of twisting its truth and damaging doctrines as I will ever guard my legs, my arms, my eyes and my heart against damage. I will keep my Bible well read, well lived, clean, and ready for application. We will become part of each other.
6. Before God, I swear this creed. My Bible and myself are the defenders of my marriage, my family and this church. We are the masters of our enemy. The Word of God is the Savior of my life.
7. So be it, until victory is God's and there is no enemy, but all that is left is right order with God and man!

Day and night, in every season, they stand watch. Whether under blistering summer heat, bone-chilling winter storms, pouring rain, or heavy snow, these men endure it all without flinching. The post is never abandoned, never excused, never broken.

And their duty is not ceremonial only—it is deadly serious. These Sentinels are armed, and they are authorized to use lethal force. Anyone who dares to cross the line and approach the Tomb is met with the certainty that the guard will act. They stand between dishonor and remembrance, and they will protect that ground with their lives.

The soldiers of the Old Guard remind us what it means to keep vigil: unwavering, disciplined, and fully devoted. Since 1948, they have taken up this charge, and they are known by a sacred name—*Sentinels*. Each step they take is precise, each turn exact, each motion of the rifle measured and deliberate. It is not about show—it is about honor. Their every movement testifies that some things are worth guarding at any cost.

Their watch is a living parable for us. Just as the Sentinel's rifle is handled with the utmost respect, we too must handle the Word of God with reverence and readiness. Their vigilance in terrible weather, their authority to confront intruders, and their relentless devotion all point to a greater truth: that faithfulness and discipline are the call of those entrusted with sacred duty.

And like these Sentinels, we too must stand guard—until the day when victory is God's, and there is no enemy, only right order with God and man.

We are not your average soldiers.

- **2 Corinthians 10:3-4 (ESV)**

For though we walk in the flesh, we are not waging war according to the flesh. 4 For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds.

There is a very real war we hope you are waking up to. Our weapon is the word our God and our primary enemy? Not Satan—you're not that important. Our biggest enemy, the greatest threat to us missing the will of God: Our own sinfulness and selfish ambition keeping us from advancing his Kingdom.

As soldiers in the heavenly entourage there is a very present danger that is lurking in our hearts when we attempt righteous acts— making a name for ourselves.

MAKING A NAME FOR YOURSELF

- **Genesis 6:4 (NIVUK)**

4 The Nephilim were on the earth in those days—and also afterwards—when the sons of God went to the daughters of humans and had children by them. They were the heroes of old, men of renown. (Shem: Name)

- **Genesis 6:4 (YLT)**

4 The fallen ones were in the earth in those days, and even afterwards when sons of God come in unto daughters of men, and they have borne to them—they are the heroes, who, from of old, are the men of name.

Notice, the motive of these giants was to serve their own name! These are the giants that God destroyed the whole earth for!!! A mindset of seeking your own name and your own glory will bring destruction to you and to everyone around you.

Talking about how someone else was in difficulty and I really helped them. This brother really needed a word so I rebuked him. That is fighting for your own name at the expense of others AND IT WILL LEAD TO DESTRUCTION!

- **Genesis 11:3–4 (NIVUK)**

3 They said to each other, ‘Come, let’s make bricks and bake them thoroughly.’ They used brick instead of stone, and bitumen for mortar. 4 Then they said, ‘Come, let us build ourselves a city, with a tower that reaches to the heavens, so that we may make a name for ourselves; otherwise we will be scattered over the face of the whole earth.’

They said, *“Let us make a name for ourselves...”* At first glance this might sound noble—who doesn’t want to build something impressive for God? But their **hearts are exposed** in the next line: *“otherwise we will be scattered.”* **their Fear of being forgotten or unrecognized drove their ambition.**

It’s easy for us to distance ourselves from that language—we don’t usually say, *“I’m trying to make a name for myself.”* But the principle is the same: **when fear of insignificance or rejection creeps in, we try to cover it by building something big, public, or impressive.**

For example: you may fear you don’t have a place in the body, so you throw yourself into projects, ministries, or visible good works—not because of a love for God or His people, but because deep down **you’re afraid of being overlooked.** What starts as something that could be good (serving, working hard, doing “great things for the Lord”) **actually becomes about recognition and securing your own place.** Instead of resting in the fact that God Himself gives you a name, **you try to carve out your own.**

-or-

Maybe you just walk around publicly explaining how you don’t fit in here, just fishing for someone to tell you just how special you are and how you really do belong. You are looking to make a name for yourself and worse soliciting for flattery... btw, this is the heart of social media...you are making a name for yourself to get likes, followers, hearts, affirmation, praise, all of this if figuring out a way to get for yourself what you believe you deserve...

Lets go to the Prophets:

Context for 2 Kings 5

(Recap this story and remind them about One Association Conference 2020 Session 4 "cloak and Dagger")

- **2 Kings 5:19–20 (NIVUK)**

19 ‘Go in peace,’ Elisha said.

After Naaman had travelled some distance, 20 Gehazi, the servant of Elisha the man of God, said to himself, ‘My master was too easy

on Naaman, this Aramean, by not accepting from him what he brought. As surely as the LORD lives, I will run after him and get something from him.'

Gehazi was a servant to the man of God, but not in a position of authority to judge what was right in this interaction. When he saw Elisha refuse Naaman's gifts, he felt there was **still something more to be gained**. It's not that he didn't understand, he simply thought he knew better than Elisha. He let greed and pride distort his judgment.

He then chases after Naaman and proceeds to lie about the encounter to Elisha. In his deception, Gehazi even invoked the Lord's Name lightly: "*As surely as the Lord lives, I will run after him and get something from him*" (2 Kings 5:20). **He cloaked his ambition with religious language, but it was self-serving**. By grasping for wealth and honor through recognition of what another man did (Elisha), **he dishonored the Name he claimed to serve**.

The irony is sharp: Naaman, **the foreign soldier, humbled himself and was cleansed**; Gehazi, **the insider servant of the prophet, exalted himself and was struck with leprosy**. One bowed to the word of the Lord and found life, the other used the Lord's Name to prop up his own and found judgment.

For example: Imagine you're serving in the church, laboring over the word for the sake of the body. You see a leader deflect praise and give glory to the Lord, but instead of learning that heart, you see opportunity. You think, "*I work hard too. I deserve recognition. I get valuable revelations! I deserve the chance to preach. I've been striving—why isn't my name being called out in church? Don't they know I have musical talent, why do they always have the same people up there, I'll never get the chance...*"

- ***A chance for what? A chance to worship the Lord? Or a chance to be seen by everybody else while you "worship the Lord...?"***

He wasn't content to simply serve and let God receive the honor. He wanted recognition, and **he wanted gifts, he was willing to leverage God's Name and Elisha's name to secure them.**

Naaman humbled himself and received cleansing. Gehazi **grasped for something in return for service and ended up cursed.**

Example: look... Gehazi withdraws quietly from Elisha and goes on his own to secure what he felt he was owed for another man's work. Pretty disgusting right? How much more to chase reward for the Lords work. **You do this. You Go chasing your rewards and pretty it up by acting like you are on a mission sent by your master.**

- **Daniel 4:28–32 (NIVUK)**

28 All this happened to King Nebuchadnezzar. 29 Twelve months later, as the king was walking on the roof of the royal palace of Babylon, 30 he said, 'Is not this the great Babylon I have built as the royal residence, by **my mighty power** and for **the glory of my majesty?**' 31 Even as the words were on his lips, a voice came from heaven, 'This is what is decreed for you, King Nebuchadnezzar: your royal authority has been taken from you. 32 You will be driven away from people and will live with the wild animals; you will eat grass like the ox. Seven times will pass by for you until you acknowledge that the Most High is sovereign over all kingdoms on earth and gives them to anyone he wishes.'

This is Nebuchadnezzar who has invested so much into his kingdom and wants to sit back and soak in how majestic he is. He asks the question :

'Is not this the great Babylon I have built as the royal residence, by my mighty power and for the glory of my majesty?'

He asks this—maybe just to himself—maybe so others hear him and praise him. Nonetheless, this is what was in his heart. The desire for praise and glory for what he has done.

Listen, here is the heart of what we want you to get today, the standard of God is higher than this church has previously realized, more is being required of you, more investment, more sacrifice, more selflessness, more holiness, more discipline, more self control, more study of the Word, more time with other believers more time doing righteousness and this is DEATH to your flesh!!!

We are all investing so much more and with that.... You want someone to notice!

You don't mind working overtime at work as long as you get time and a half pay...you're looking for the equivalent of that from men in this life and you have to learn how to receive what you need from your God and we as a body have got to learn how to defend this ideal for each others sake.

*Cashing in glory - horrible exchange rate

Do you notice how in all of these instances the consequence is seemingly immediate and very intense!

Nephilim - FLOOD

Tower of Babel - SCATTERED

Gehazi - IMMEDIATE LEPROCY

Nebuchadnezzar - BEFORE HE FINISHES SAYING IT - driving from his palace

Why? This propensity to desire a name for yourself is **deeply angering to God**. Because when you are fighting to make your name great, you diminish the name of the Lord.

We are not excluded from doing this as we just showed you several ways YOU do this.

We start to take from His glory as we start to glorify ourselves. Taking the Lord's glory is not a light matter. **The Lord is not shy in saying—He will not share His glory with anyone!**

- **Exodus 20:3 (NIV)**

³ “You shall have no other gods before me.

Some of the first words that Adonai speaks to the entire congregation of Israel. The Lord is extremely serious about complete and exclusive devotion from His people towards Him.

- **Isaiah 42:8 (NIV)**

⁸ “I am the Lord; that is my name!
I will not yield my glory to another
or my praise to idols.

Further in Isaiah the Lord states that HE WILL NOT YEILD HIS GLORY TO ANOTHER. The Lord is protective of His glory. He will NOT sit by and let others receive His glory.

- **Malachi 2:2 (NIV)**

² If you do not listen, and if you do not **resolve to honor my name**,” says the Lord Almighty, “I will send a curse on you, and I will curse your blessings. Yes, I have already cursed them, because you have not **resolved to honor me**.

There is a curse for the priests who will not give the honor due to the name of the Lord, who refuse to resolve themselves to give honor to Adonai.

The Lord takes His name and the glory due his name extremely seriously. If we had time we would have read all of this passages in full—but or now we will just show the highlights...

FOR THE SAKE OF HIS NAME

asa naselli

Isaiah 26:12-13 (NIV) "Lord, you establish peace for us; **all that we have accomplished you have done for us.** Lord our God, other lords besides you have ruled over us, but **your name alone do we honor.**"

Isaiah 42:8 (NIV) "I am the Lord; that is my name! I will not yield my glory to another or my praise to idols."

Ezekiel 20:9 (NIV) "But for the sake of **my name**, I brought them out of Egypt."

Ezekiel 20:14 (NIV) "But for the sake of **my name** I did what would keep it from being profaned"

Ezekiel 20:22 (NIV) "and for the sake of **my name** I did what would keep it from being profaned"

Ezekiel 36:22 (NIV) "It is not for your sake, people of Israel, that I am going to do these things, but for the sake of **my holy name**"

Psalms 25:11 (NIV) "For **the sake of your name**, Lord, forgive my iniquity, though it is great."

Psalms 143:11 (NIV) "For **your name's sake**, Lord, preserve my life; in your righteousness, bring me out of trouble."

Matthew 24:9 (ESV) "Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and put you to death, and you will be hated by all nations for **my name's sake.**"

We must recognize that His glory and honor is not a light matter to the Lord, He is incredibly serious about this—Are you?

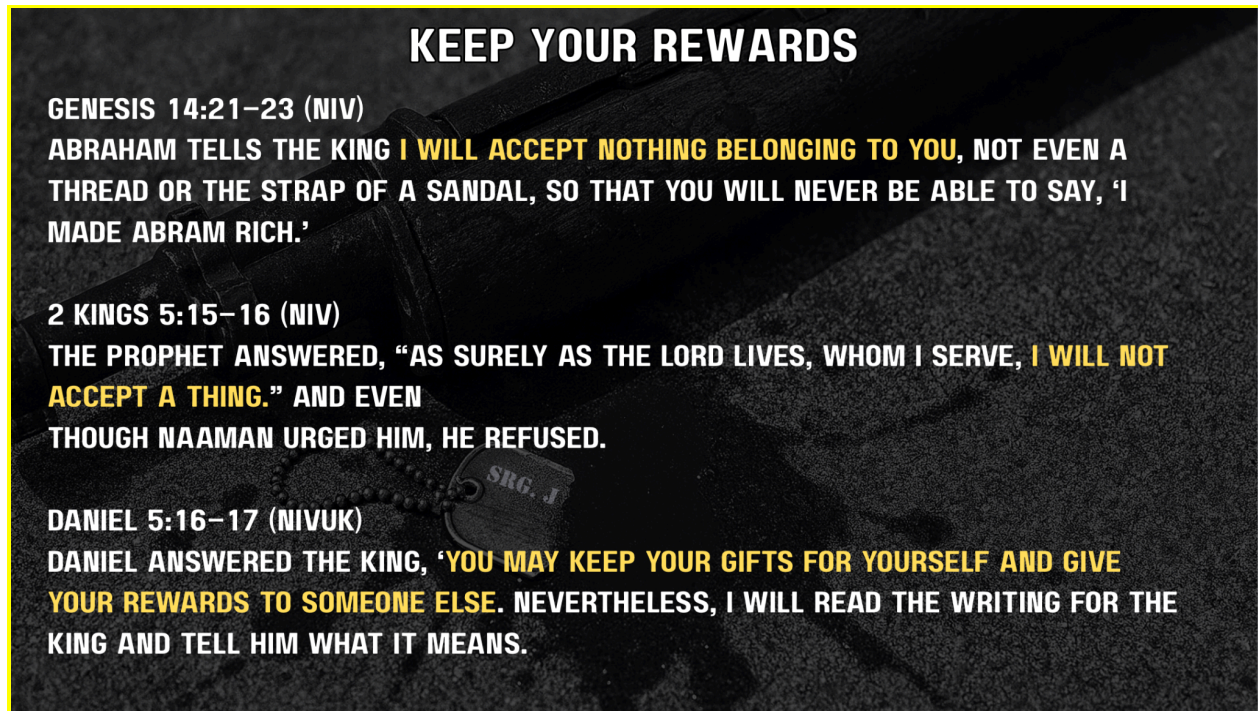
- **Insert Ike's testimony about business:**
 - **I'm the provider / I will not share my glory with another.**
 - **Homegroups and wrong motives**
 - **I just feel like the pastors don't care about people so I'll do it I'll be the guy.**

As we move into this next section take into consideration how important it is that we grasp this principle as a way of life and not only as intellectual understanding.

We want to bring Adonai maximum glory—the way this will be accomplished is through doing righteousness for Adonai's name and His glory alone!

Not that there is no reward included in doing righteousness, but you will often find you will be plunged further into obscurity as you continue to do righteousness for the name of Adonai. His name is magnified and your name is completely outshined.

(Read Slide)



KEEP YOUR REWARDS

GENESIS 14:21–23 (NIV)
ABRAHAM TELLS THE KING **I WILL ACCEPT NOTHING BELONGING TO YOU**, NOT EVEN A THREAD OR THE STRAP OF A SANDAL, SO THAT YOU WILL NEVER BE ABLE TO SAY, ‘I MADE ABRAM RICH.’

2 KINGS 5:15–16 (NIV)
THE PROPHET ANSWERED, “AS SURELY AS THE LORD LIVES, WHOM I SERVE, **I WILL NOT ACCEPT A THING.**” AND EVEN THOUGH NAAMAN URGED HIM, HE REFUSED.

DANIEL 5:16–17 (NIVUK)
DANIEL ANSWERED THE KING, ‘**YOU MAY KEEP YOUR GIFTS FOR YOURSELF AND GIVE YOUR REWARDS TO SOMEONE ELSE.** NEVERTHELESS, I WILL READ THE WRITING FOR THE KING AND TELL HIM WHAT IT MEANS.

*elaborate

Peter's testimony

This is a soldier's mentality

(Read Slide Highlights)

THE ARISING WARRIOR ETHOS

I am The Arising Church from the Fraternal and Eternal order of the DCD Matt. 12:48-50, Eph. 3:14-15

The die has been cast. I have stepped over the line. Ps. 116:14-15

The decision has been made. I am on the offensive for Jesus Christ. Matt. 11:12

I won't look back, let up, slow down, back away, or be still. Lk. 9:62, Phil. 3:14, Heb. 10:39, 12:1-2, Dan. 11:32

My losses are redeemed, my present is to make war, my victory secure. Joel 2:25, Eph. 6:13-17, 1 Cor. 15:57

I am finished and done with low living, sight walking, small planning, smooth knees,

cowardly ambitions, faint-hearted faith, and feckless objectives. 1 Cor. 9:24-27, 2 Cor. 5:7, 2 Kg. 13:18-19, Heb. 12:12-13, Matt. 19:21-22, 2 Tim. 1:7, Neh. 6:2-4

I no longer need pre-eminence, prosperity, position, promotions, plaudits, or popularity. Matt. 10:39

I now live by presence, lean by faith, love by patience, lift by prayer,

and labor by power unto the Ultimate Sovereignty of God. Ex. 33:13-14, Heb. 11:21, 1 Cor. 13:4, Phil. 4:6, Col. 1:29

My pace is set, my gait is fast, my goal is Heaven, my road is narrow, my way is rough,

my companions few, my Guide reliable, my mission paramount. Ps. 37:23-24, 1 Kg. 18:46, Phil. 3:20-21, Matt. 7:14, 2 Cor. 4:8-10, Jn. 16:13, Acts 20:22-24

I cannot be bought, compromised, deterred, intimidated, turned back, diluted, or delayed. Lk. 13:32-33

I will not flinch in the face of sacrifice, hesitate in the presence of adversity, negotiate at the table of the enemy,

ponder at the pool of popularity,

or meander in the maze of mediocrity. Ro. 12:1, Deut. 20:3-4, Ps. 1:1-2, Lk. 6:22-23, Rev. 3:15

I am on the War Path for the cause of Christ. Jer. 48:10

I must give until I drop, preach until all know and proclaim until all are empowered. 2 Tim. 4:6-7, Col. 1:28-29

And when my time is up, He will have no problem recognizing me. Matt. 25:23

I am The Arising Church from the Fraternal and Eternal order of the DCD.

I am not ashamed to fight for the gospel of Christ... Ro. 1:16

(READ SLIDE)

JOHN 5:41-44 NIVUK

NS

41 'I DO NOT ACCEPT GLORY FROM HUMAN BEINGS, 42 BUT I KNOW YOU. I KNOW THAT YOU DO NOT HAVE THE LOVE OF GOD IN YOUR HEARTS. 43 I HAVE COME IN MY FATHER'S NAME, AND YOU DO NOT ACCEPT ME; BUT IF SOMEONE ELSE COMES IN HIS OWN NAME, YOU WILL ACCEPT HIM. 44 HOW CAN YOU BELIEVE SINCE YOU ACCEPT GLORY FROM ONE ANOTHER BUT DO NOT SEEK THE GLORY THAT COMES FROM THE ONLY GOD?

*elaborate

- **Isaiah 56:5-7 (NIV)**

4 For this is what the LORD says:
“To **the eunuchs (those unable to leave a legacy, and are usually regarded as servants)** who keep my Sabbaths,
who choose what pleases me
and hold fast to my covenant,
5 **to them I will give** within my temple and its walls
a memorial and a name
better than sons and daughters;
I will give them an everlasting name
that will endure forever.
6 And foreigners who **bind themselves to the Lord**
to minister to him,
to love the name of the Lord,
and to be his servants,
all who keep the Sabbath without desecrating it
and who hold fast to my covenant—
7 **these I will bring to my holy mountain**
and give them joy in my house of prayer.
Their burnt offerings and **sacrifices**
will be accepted on my altar;
for my house will be called
a house of prayer for all nations.”

For those who live only for the Glory of Adonai and refuse the rewards of being glorified themselves - will actually be honored by the Lord - who gives a much better return.

This takes us back to the tomb of the unknown soldier.

While it is impressive the sentinels who guard it —the true heroes lie in the ground.

(Peter took this in 2013)



The tomb of the unknown soldier has remains from three wars.



All that lies in these crypts - a few bones left on the battlefield.

There was no trace of the man who gave his life for his country.

Nothing in what remained that you could identify him by

- No dog-tag
- No uniform
- No weapon

Just his broken bones and flesh which he spent for his commanding officer.

Do you see how this is the opposite of our stories from earlier?

- Nephilim
- Babel
- Gehazi
- Nebuchadnezzar

Think in contrast of our heroes that we just spoke about

- Abraham - I will accept nothing from you
- Elisha - as the lord lives, I will not accept a thing from you
- Daniel - keep your gifts, give them to someone else

In a sense - they are the most undecorated soldiers in history—no name to attach an award to. No uniform to pin a badge.

And yet in another sense - is there any soldier more honored than these?

88 years of continual honor, world leaders and presidents standing in respect.

There are other Tombs of unknown soldiers globally - none of them have guards like this.



Our invitation to you this morning: join the tomb of the unknown soldier. Leave the rewards for someone else - be content being known and honored by God alone.

In fact, have you showed you yet what is written on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier?

(Read Slide)



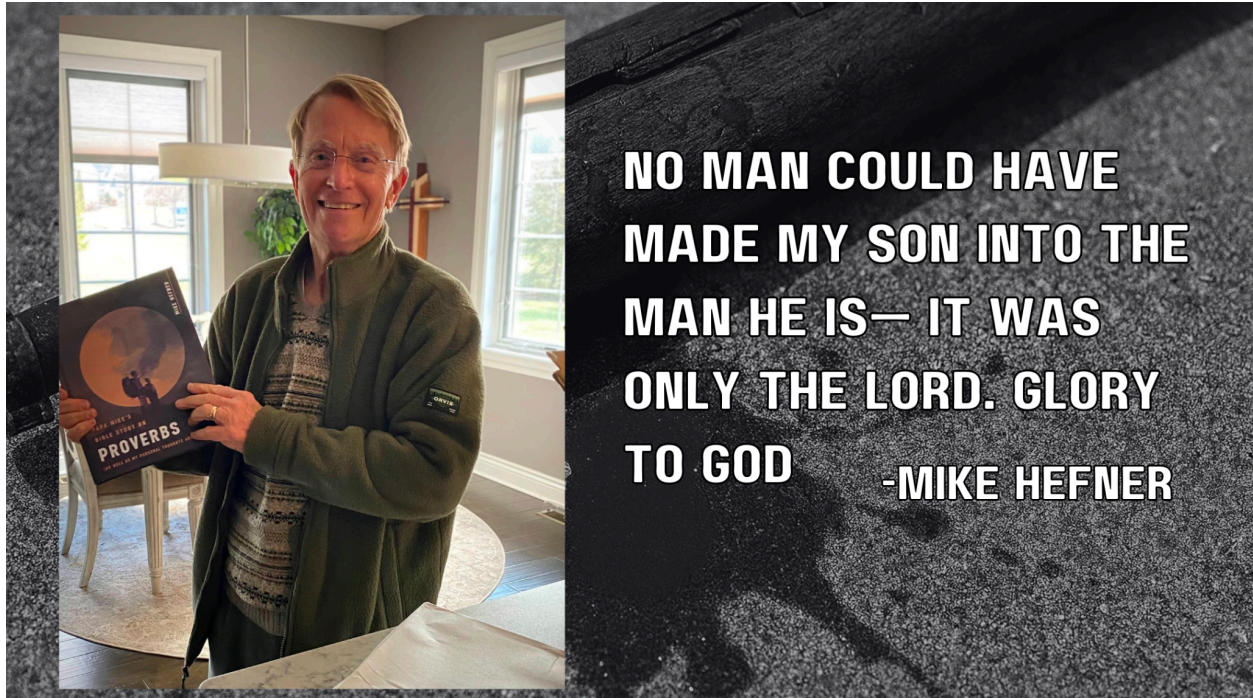
The most undecorated soldiers are actually those shown the greatest honor.

- **James 1:9–10 (NIVUK)**

9 Believers in humble circumstances ought to take pride in their high position. 10 But the rich should take pride in their humiliation—since they will pass away like a wild flower.

*elaborate

*Mike Hefner story...



- **Revelation 3:11–12 (NIV)**

¹¹ I am coming soon. Hold on to what you have, so that no one will take your crown. ¹² The one who is victorious I will make a pillar in the temple of my God. Never again will they leave it. I will write on them the name of my God and the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem, which is coming down out of heaven from my God; and I will also write on them my new name.

-or-

- **Isaiah 62:1–3 (NIV)**

62 For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
for Jerusalem's sake I will not remain quiet,
till her vindication shines out like the dawn,
her salvation like a blazing torch.

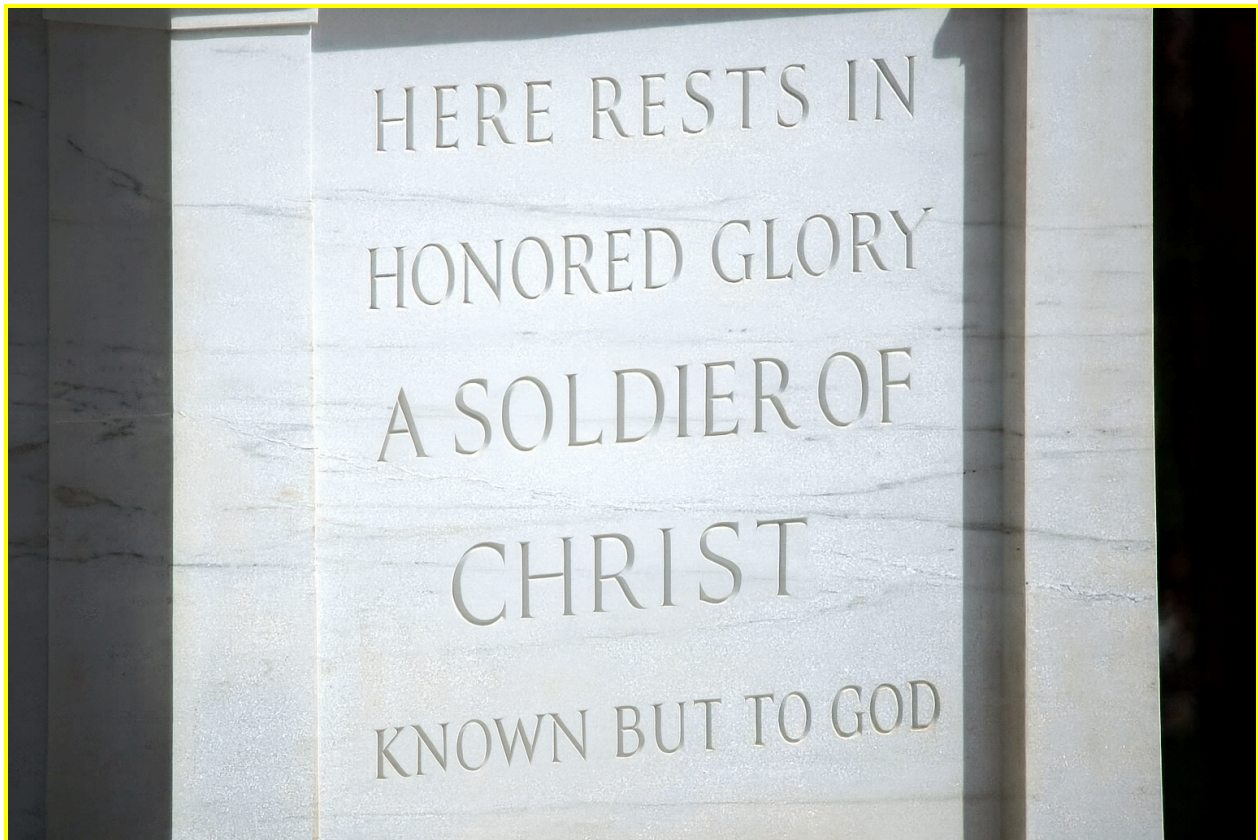
² The nations will see your vindication,

and all kings your glory;
you will be called by a new name
that the mouth of the Lord will bestow.

³ You will be a crown of splendor in the Lord's hand,
a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

Saints—we must begin to celebrate and seek to have our names replaced with Christ's. Not just a decrease in who we are but a complete removal. Pushing away the rewards and gifts for the privilege of being known but to God. So that when we die it can be said of us:

(READ SLIDE)

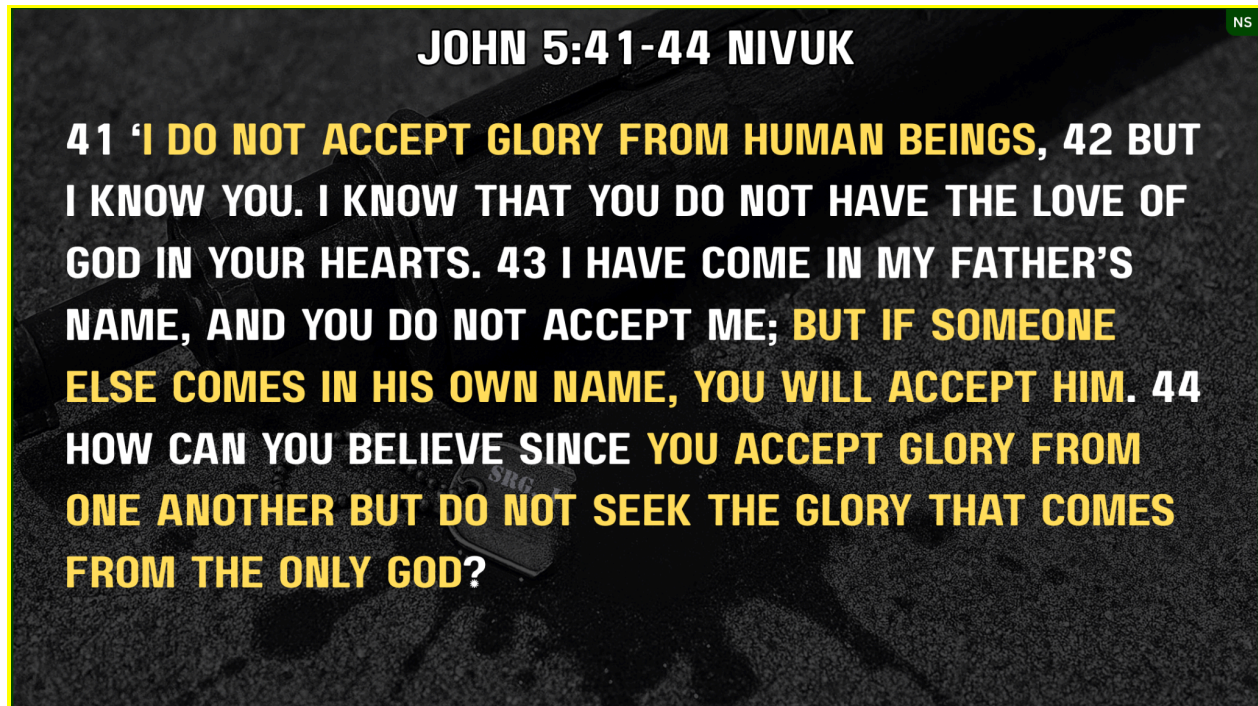


- **Luke 17:10 (NIV)**

¹⁰ So you also, when you have done everything you were told to do, should say, 'We are unworthy servants; **we have only done our duty.**' ”

ALTER CALL:

(Read Slide)



If you have been seeking glory for yourself that comes from men and not seeking the glory that comes from the only God you:

If you have been disguising your bribe to the Lord with "noble aspirations" you do not have the love of God in your heart.

1. do not have the love of God in your heart.
2. how can you believe? How can you be saved, if you are seeking glory from men and not from the only God?

The call is that our appetite for rewards would be starved out and that we would be transformed in what we hunger for... a new name known only by the father. That he would be pleased with us and that, that would be enough.