

Proclaiming God's Word  
**Mid-Evil Times**

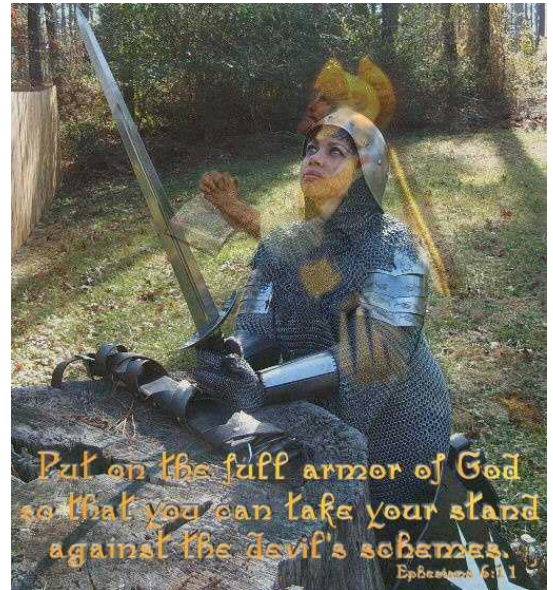
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## *From the desk of Philip Paul Sacco*

Hardly had I cleaned my armor upon the completion of the *Tri-State Crusade*, before I was off for a day of instruction with some faithful prayer Warriors. The day was arranged as the next in a series of 'Teas' hosted by Angela Davila at her home near Snellville, Georgia. Ms. Davila has been conducting Bible studies in her home for a number of years and last year, while she was foundering at sea (or as she calls it, "Having a Jonah moment"), God called her to the beach for another work.

As mentioned in the previous newsletter, I had the pleasure of meeting Ms. Davila at the Stone Mountain Highland Games, October 2005. We both found our meeting to be a 'divine appointment.' Angela mentioned she had been prepared by God for an important meeting and upon our paths crossing; she felt the "Awaken" message was exactly what she was being directed to by Him.

Shortly after our meeting, Angela began and completed an in-depth study of the Armor of God using my recently created workbook and the text of *Awaken the Warrior*. She decided this



was to be the topic for her next tea and invited me to be the guest speaker, an opportunity I accepted and greatly enjoyed.

The tea began with Ms. Davila giving a brief introduction of how she came to meet me and what the message I shared with her had meant for her. She then turned the presentation over to me. After invoking the Holy Spirit to give me words of instruction for those present, I opened the presentation fully donned in the armor though having it concealed beneath robes to

express how we often hide our true nature. For the first portion of the presentation, I took the women through an understanding of the protective nature of the armor, and how we fashion its wearing in our life through our expressed character.

After having described the basic character traits required of a Warrior for God, I then posed to the women how society tends to denude women of this protection by convincing them they are not warrior material. Being portrayed as ‘the weaker sex’ demeans women and robs them of their true nature. I posed to them that if we are not Courageous, we are fearful; if we are not Trustworthy, we are distrustful; if we are not Selfless, we are selfish and so on - all while undoing buckles and straps and allowing the armor to fall away from my body until I stood stripped of all armor and symbolically without protection against the wiles of the world. It was conveyed to them that this is what happens to us individually when we allow the world to define us. On this note we concluded the first part of the presentation and we took a break for a wonderful potluck lunch.



After lunch, the women were treated to a spiritual reconstruction. After showing them how the world tends to rip women down, the last part of the presentation symbolically built them back up again by coming to a fuller understanding of their true character make-up.



Each character trait was discussed and reflected upon; giving everyone an opportunity to reflect on how each represented character trait has or has not been represented in their life, and what this has meant to them personally. As each attribute of character was developed, I began strapping on the various pieces of armor, describing the many ways in which each attribute of character was likened to a piece of armor.

Each attendee was encouraged to envision how their individual set of armor was composed and if they had any weak defenses or holes in their armor.

The presentation concluded with me once again fully ensconced in the armor, representing a new way for them to envision themselves.

The enlightenment and blessing each woman received was evident in their beaming faces.

# *A Knight in the Garden* *by Angela Davila*



Annually, I hold a women's tea at my home over the course of an entire day. This year the theme was, "A Knight in The Garden." The Knight in the garden is Jesus and I envisioned him, in the garden of Gethsemane, dressed in full armor. That armor is found in Ephesians 6: 10-18. It was the Armor-of-God that was to be the main focus of the tea.

In preparation for the tea my study on the Armor-of-God included the outline contained in Ephesians 6 and the book *Awaken the Warrior*, by Philip Paul Sacco. I had often wondered why faith is represented as a shield, why salvation is represented as a helmet and so on. *Awaken the Warrior* explains in detail why each piece of armor expresses the attribute that Paul designates to it. While Paul sums up each piece of armor with a quick turn of a phrase and in a fashion, I am sure, well understood in his day, *Awaken the Warrior* gives greater insight and provides an in depth understanding of the Armor-of-God for us in a time so far removed from when such descriptions were familiar. It is that greater insight and understanding that I wanted

to share with the women at the tea.

As I continued my study I came to realize that Jesus has all the characteristics that are contained in the Armor-of-God. Those attributes are: Devoted, Just, Compassionate, Merciful, Righteous, Noble, Courageous, Trustworthy, Selfless, Disciplined, Humble, Ready, Strong, Persistent and Wise. Jesus exemplifies all these characteristics. So, when we are told to then put on the Armor-of-God we are told to put on Jesus. When we put on Jesus we are then able to withstand the schemes of the enemy as Jesus did. Jesus overcame all that was placed before him so that he could fulfill the Father's will and give us eternal life.

I can tell you about all my trials and tribulations, losing a mother too soon, losing a much loved husband through divorce, financial devastation, almost losing my home, and losing a child at birth. Yet, I am certain you too have experienced many battles that may have left you weary and maybe even scarred. It is even possible that you may presently be going through the toughest battle of your life. I may not know your trial or tribulation but I do know the solution. Put on your armor. Allow Jesus to envelop you and you will overcome all that the enemy would scheme against you.

If you are still uncertain that the Armor is there for you I will leave you with this final thought. In Luke 17:20-21 it says, "Once, having been asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, Jesus replied, **"The kingdom of God does not come with your careful observation, nor will people say, 'Here it is,' or 'There it is,' because the kingdom of God is within you."** If the kingdom of God is within you wouldn't God provide you with the greatest weapon to protect His kingdom? Well he has and it is in the Armor-of-God and it has been tailored just for you.



## ***...and now for a teaching – straight from the front:***

Go get your Bible...you are going to want to look up these cites. Here's a quick 15 minute study for you...

In reading Paul's description of the armor of God, have you ever considered his describing the Sword as the Sword of the Spirit that is the Word of God? ***Eph. 6:17.***

I have, and I have come to discover some pretty amazing comparisons that breathe more life into this simple one-phrase definition. Consider this...a sword is two-edged, meaning it can cut both ways; it can be used for offense as well as defense. ***2 Cor. 6:7.*** The sword is acknowledged to be one of the quickest weapons to be employed in battle. ***Heb. 4:12.*** The devastating wounds caused by a sword are legendary. ***Heb. 4:12-13.*** It is also taken to mean that without proper care, it can cut the one wielding it. ***Ps. 37:15.*** Also consider it is described as the Word of God...now there is power in the spoken word, it was by His spoken word God created the heavens and the Earth. ***Gen. 1:3, 6, 9, 11, 14, 20, 24, 26.***

Simply uttering words of power can make others fall helpless to the ground, and force demons to comply. ***Jn. 18:6, Lk 4:36.*** Further, ***Rev. 19:15*** describes Christ in his return as issuing a sword from his mouth, and as the Word is also used to mean God himself, the sword is used to describe Him as well. ***Dt. 33:29.***

Now bear in mind this perhaps most eloquent and striking fact. If you simply remove the 'S' from the word 'sword'...what does that leave you with...WORD. That one letter 'S' can be taken to be the Holy Spirit we speak into our words, and thus invoke the power of the Sword...the Spirit of God! Just as a sword can be used to wreak destruction and mayhem, it can also be used to save lives and perform feats of heroism and justice as the sword is also the symbol of authority and justice. ***Rm. 13:4.*** So it is also with our spoken words. We can speak life into people with words of encouragement, support, and love, or we can destroy the spirit and will of others with criticism, lies, and words of blame that wither the soul.

For these reasons is it any wonder we are instructed to guard our mouths? ***Ps. 141:3.***

I *thought* you would enjoy that . . . (grin).

***~ Philip Sacco***

### ***...a note from the editor...***

***Victoria Walters***

Doors continue to open for Philip to present the message of ***Awaken the Warrior***, and he continues to walk through them. As a result of the events held subsequent to those reported here, we already have the material gathered for two more newsletters.

Traveling is costly, but the Lord continues to provide. Sometimes His provision is the result of His people listening to His prompting to get involved with the spreading of His message. If you feel the prompting of the Lord to support Philip's ministry efforts, please send your contribution to:

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...and remember: Christmas is coming soon. ***Awaken the Warrior*** and its accompanying study guide ***Training for God's Army*** would make a wonderful gift for family and friends whom you'd like to encourage "to live the ordinary life in the extra-ordinary way."

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