

**Devotional Thoughts :: THE SWORD OF GOLLIATH: WRAPPED BEHIND THE EPHOD...PT VI****THE SWORD OF GOLLIATH: WRAPPED BEHIND THE EPHOD...PT VI - posted by endlessjoe (), on: 2015/7/24 11:39**

TEXT: 1SAMUEL 21:8; MATTHEW 5:14-15

"And the priest said, The sword of Goliath the Philistine, whom thou slewest in the valley of Elah, behold, it is here wrapped in a cloth behind the ephod: if thou wilt take that, take it: for there is no other save that here. And David said, There is none like that; give it me."

"Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house."

Previously, we agreed that the sword of Goliath foreshadows the cross of Christ. We also saw that David went into the tabernacle and ate the shew bread also known as the bread of His presence, meant to be eaten by the priests alone. Moreover, we equally discovered that the sword was meant to be displayed for the purpose of evoking faith in the ability of God's power to save and grant victory. The same sword was, however, wrapped away in a cloth and kept behind the EPHOD. We said this act defeated the purpose of the sword.

Moreover, Sword is meant for battle...it is used to fight the good fight of faith. Being wrapped in a cloth makes it useless. It should be dangled before every inquirer in the temple. Whatever provokes faith in God, should not be hidden from humanity. A hidden and hurried truth is as useless as a rag. A covered grace is of no moment. Anything useful to humanity as it relates to her eternal destiny, should be set on a hill, like a city set on a hill, which cannot be hidden.

Useful things to man's relationship with God, should be made accessible and free. It should be like the cities of refuge in the Bible. The cities of refuge are accessible, close to the people and open to all. Even when Jesus wanted to give His sermon on the mount, the Bible says, "And seeing the multitudes, he went up into a mountain: and when he was set, his disciples came unto him..." (Mathew5:1) The message Bible puts it this way: "When Jesus saw his ministry drawing huge crowds, he climbed a hillside..." This is how useful things or men are supposed to be positioned. Jesus went up to the mountain when He saw multitude and from there gave out eternal truth about the kingdom of God.

Thereby, Every could see Him and read His lips. No man lit a candle and put it under a bushel! A candle put under a bushel leaves the room dark and inaccessible. The Bible says, "And the word became flesh and dwelled amongst us..." He lives, not under us; not above us; not behind us; not beside us but AMONG us, where all of us can see Him. Of what use is a thing if few or no man can access?

A lot of servants of God are like this sword of Goliath: they are wrapped in clean cloth and kept away from the people. Yes, through them Goliath was beheaded. They are sharp, anointed and they evoke zeal in others: just seeing them a man would just know God. But unfortunately, wall of popularity has been built around them...security around them has become tight unnecessarily.

They are far from the people. To see them, you must cue and complete some forms. If we must actually affect lives and annihilate the race of Goliath (for his kinsman and kinwomen are still out there) then we should become unwrapped! How useless is a doctor in the midst of vibrant and healthy people! And how instrumental and functional is a nurse in the midst of the hurting and ailing!

Fellow yoke bearers, we are of no use if we remain distant and removed away from humanity! There is nothing wrong in placing ourselves at the disposal of man! Our Lord came because of man: and it is enough if we are like Him! To be less than Him is a failure and to be more than He is equally a worse failing. For he that posits that abides in Him, must live as He lived! We are servants of God serving men! He came to serve and not to be served! He is even a ransom sum! Some of us deem yourselves too handsome and awesome to be a ransom: not our Lord.

If therefore, we fail to be available to man for his eternal good, we also fail to be available to God; because He wants to reach men through us. A man is useless, even though popular, when humanity cannot reach him. The woman with the issue of blood should be able to touch the hem of our garments; the woman of Samaria should be able to see us at the well where she regularly come; Nichodimus should be able to interrupt our sleep! Prostitute should not find it difficult to sit it under our feet for an instruction.

This wrapping of ourselves in a linen of titles and entourage is making us useless to the body of Christ. When a metal is covered with thick cloth, rusting would set in...a metal is supposed to be exposed to the air for it to remain shining! Some of this unnecessary evasiveness of servants of God is making many of them to rust away. The cross represents every thing that is requisite for life and godliness: it should not be wrapped but left open to man in order to be tapped! Exposure brings refreshments! To be continued!