



“Built for Battle”
“Part One!”

June 29, 2008
Sermon Notes

#1: Conflict is what we are made for.

Genesis 1:27-28 (New International Version)

27 So God created man in his own image,
in the image of God he created him;
male and female he created them.

28 God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground."

The Lord's Image

Exodus 15:3, 6-7 (New International Version)

3 The LORD is a warrior;
the LORD is his name.

6 "Your right hand, O LORD,
was majestic in power.
Your right hand, O LORD,
shattered the enemy.

7 In the greatness of your majesty
you threw down those who opposed you.
You unleashed your burning anger;
it consumed them like stubble.

#2: Conflict provides the Opportunity for Transformation.

Matthew 11:12 (New American Standard Bible)

12"From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and violent men take it by force.

Judges 16:28-30 (New International Version)

28 Then Samson prayed to the LORD, "O Sovereign LORD, remember me. O God, please strengthen me just once more, and let me with one blow get revenge on the Philistines for my two eyes." **29** Then Samson reached toward the two central pillars on which the temple stood. Bracing himself against them, his right hand on the one and his left hand on the other, **30** Samson said, "Let me die with the Philistines!" Then he pushed with all his might, and down came the temple on the rulers and all the people in it. Thus he killed many more when he died than while he lived.

#3: Conflict is the means by which we embrace the Promise.

James 1:12 (New International Version)

12 Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him.

2 Thessalonians 3:6-10 (New International Version)

6 In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, we command you, brothers, to keep away from every brother who is idle and does not live according to the teaching^[a] you received from us. **7** For you yourselves know how you ought to follow our example. We were not idle when we were with you, **8** nor did we eat anyone's food without paying for it. On the contrary, we worked night and day, laboring and toiling so that we would not be a burden to any of you. **9** We did this, not because we do not have the right to such help, but in order to make ourselves a model for you to follow. **10** For even when we were with you, we gave you this rule: "If a man will not work, he shall not eat."

Conclusion

Exodus 14:13 (New International Version)

13 Moses answered the people, "Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the LORD will bring you today. The Egyptians you see today you will never see again.

- 1. Conflict is what we are made for.**
- 2. Conflict provides the opportunity to transform into the likeness of Christ.**
- 3. Conflict is the only means to receive our freedom.**

The Challenge: Join the battle for life. Stand firm—"Bare His Heart, Share His Word and Care for His People.