



MARCH FORTH!

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Perhaps you have heard the old joke about tomorrow's date – March 4th – that it is the only date that commands us to do something (“march forth”). It is no joke that this is an important command for the Christian. As soldiers of the cross, we have the responsibility and obligation to “march forth” as the army of Jesus Christ. Marching is the means of advancement. When we march together in Christ, we are advancing in the cause of truth. This spiritual army is not to march in circles, or just for the fun of it, but to spread the truth and meet the enemy in battle.

A GOOD SOLDIER OF JESUS CHRIST IS TOTALLY COMMITTED TO THE CAUSE FOR WHICH HE ENLISTED. *“No one engaged in warfare entangles himself with the affairs of this life, that he may please him who enlisted him as a soldier”* (2 Timothy 2:4). The army of the Lord has one high Commander that we are to follow – Jesus Christ. We must listen to His will and carry it out without question.

A GOOD SOLDIER PREPARES HIMSELF FOR MARCHING INTO THE HEAT OF BATTLE. *“Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil”* (Ephesians 6:11). Preparing ourselves with the armor of God includes the girding of truth, breastplate of righteousness, feet shod with the gospel of peace, shield of faith, helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit. Each piece of this armor is vital to survival in our spiritual warfare against Satan. Don't march without having the whole armor of God!

A GOOD SOLDIER KNOWS WHO THE ENEMY IS. *“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Resist him, steadfast in the faith...”* (1 Peter 5:9). Evil, wickedness, error, and false doctrine must be fought against in every place it is encountered. Compromise with the enemy is rebellion against our Lord and King. Let us *“fight the good fight of faith”* as faithful and victorious soldiers in the cause of truth (1 Timothy 1:18; 6:12).