

Let Us Behave Ourselves Valiantly for Our People,

by F.B. Meyer

Believers must take responsibility for their actions and make careful preparations for the fight, while trusting in God's ultimate decision.

Scripture: 1 Chronicles 19:13, Proverbs 21:31, Acts 1:8, Romans 12:11, 1 Corinthians 3:9, Ephesians 2:10, Philippians 2:12-13, Colossians 3:23-24, 2 Timothy 2:15, James 2:17

Topics: "Faith in Action", "Divine Sovereignty and Human Responsibility"

Description

F.B. Meyer emphasizes the importance of behaving valiantly for our people and cities, drawing inspiration from Joab's commitment to God amidst battle. He critiques the societal reluctance to mention God, advocating for a balance between divine reliance and personal responsibility. Meyer asserts that while ultimate victory belongs to God, we must actively engage in our efforts, reflecting a partnership with the Divine. He highlights that true faith involves diligent preparation and action, as seen in the early church's conquests through the Holy Spirit's guidance. The sermon calls believers to be proactive in their faith while trusting in God's sovereignty.

Transcript

Let us behave ourselves valiantly for our people,

and for the cities of our God. 1 Chron. xix. 13.

THOSE were days in which rough soldiers, like Joab, did not hesitate to speak freely of God to their companions in arms. It is a sorry thing that it is considered a breach of etiquette to mention God's name in polite society. "It is not good form! "

We are reminded in these words of Joab of Cromwell's memorable advice to trust in God and keep the powder dry. David's General felt that the ultimate issue of the battle must be left to God; but that nothing could absolve him and his soldier from doing their best. They, at least, must make careful dispositions for the fight, and show themselves valiant.

This balance of statement and thought between God's work and ours is an evidence of fine Christian sanity. We must believe that God is the ultimate arbiter, but we must ever speak and act as though the responsibility were entirely on ourselves. To believe that God will do all, and therefore to do nothing, is as

bad as to believe that God leaves us to our unaided endeavours. We believe in the strength and sufficiency of God's purpose; but we know that there is link in the chain of causation which we must supply.

The servant of God who counts most absolutely on the communion and co-operation of the Divine Spirit will be most careful in making all needful dispositions for the fight. He will leave no stone unturned to secure the victory, though he knows that the ultimate decision rests with God. The conquests of the cross recorded in the Acts of the Apostles were the result of the united action of the Holy Spirit and the men who were sent forth with the message of the gospel "We are labourers together with God."

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/fb-meyer/let-us-behave-ourselves-valiantly-for-our-people/>

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