

# What Battle?

by Ray Comfort

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*The modern Church has become spiritually dead and passive, losing sight of its mission to spread the Gospel and needs to be revived through bold and mission-driven Christianity.*

**Scripture:** Matthew 9:37, Mark 16:15, Acts 1:8, Romans 5:10, Romans 8:7, 1 Corinthians 9:16, Colossians 1:21, 2 Timothy 4:2, James 4:4

**Topics:** "Spiritual Warfare", "Evangelism"

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## Description

Ray Comfort preaches about the importance of true Christianity being like a battleship stationed at the gates of Hell, emphasizing the need for believers to actively engage in spiritual warfare and evangelism. He highlights the spiritual deadness of those who are not born again, contrasting them with the call for believers to be bold witnesses for Christ. Comfort challenges the modern Church to move from a passive, divided state to a zealous, unified body that actively shares the Gospel and fulfills the Great Commission.

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## Transcript

Some years ago a traditional church dropped "Onward Christian Soldiers" from their song index because it made reference to war. That's understandable for people who have never been born again. War is the last thing on their minds. They are "peacemakers" meeting in a building which they think is the "church." They are not born of the Spirit, so they live in a natural world. They are spiritually insensitive because they are spiritually dead. The world may think there is peace between man and God, but the Bible makes it clear that unregenerate man is an enemy of God in his mind through wicked works, that anyone who is a friend of the world is an enemy of God (see Colossians 1:21, Romans 5:10, Romans 8:7, James 4:4). Many within the Church have lost sight of this important truth, something evident by their passive lifestyle. We have become like the Dead Sea. It is dead because it has water flowing into it, but no outlet. The water has become so salty, a human being can't sink into it. Nothing lives in it, no one can penetrate it . . . just like the contemporary Church. If the average church made as much noise about God on Monday, as it makes to God on Sunday, we would certainly see revival.

Useless though it seems, the Dead Sea contains very valuable minerals, which are waiting to be harvested. So does the modern Church. It is a field which is white unto harvest, both for souls and for laborers.

Perhaps much of the Church needs to consider dropping "Onward Christian Soldiers" and replacing it with something more appropriate:

Backward Christian soldiers, fleeing from the fight  
With the Cross of Jesus nearly out of sight.  
Christ our rightful master, stands against the foe  
But forward into battle, we are loathe to go.  
Like a might tortoise moves the Church of God  
Brothers we are treading where we've always trod.  
We are much divided, many bodies we  
Having many doctrines, not much charity.  
Crowns and thorns may perish, kingdoms rise and wane,  
But the Church of Jesus hidden does remain.  
Gates of Hell should never 'gainst the Church prevail  
We have Christ's own promise, but think that it will fail.  
Sit here then ye people, join our useless throng  
Blend with ours your voices in a feeble song  
Blessings, ease and comfort, ask from Christ the King  
With our modern thinking, we don't do a thing.

(Anonymous)

Are we hot for God? Can we say that we have witnessed to more than 12 people in the last 12 months? Do we have the testimony "to live means opportunities for Christ?" Is there a zeal to witness burning in our bones? It doesn't matter how much we pray, tithe, and sacrifice. Sure, those things are basics of the Christian faith, but if we are not sharing that faith we are not fulfilling our commission. We are like survivors of the Titanic singing songs as we polish brass in the lifeboat, when there is room for many who are drowning around us. There is nothing wrong with polishing brass . . . but not while people are drowning around us. We are commissioned soldiers. True Christianity is not a pleasure-cruiser on its way to Heaven, but a battleship stationed at the very gates of Hell.

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