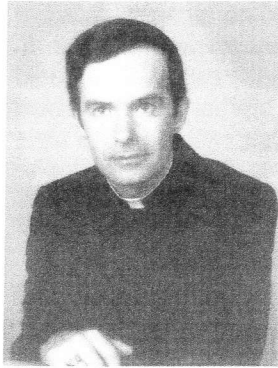




Chaplain's Corner, Hughes Camp Chaplain Richard W Rudd



Last month's article enumerated various members of a formidable opposition arrayed against us within our own land. They include the mass media, big government, the movie industry, wealthy elites, the banking system, large corporations, prestigious educational institutions, the expanding

network of technology, the judicial system, and the encampment of a growing horde of Moslem barbarians.

When the Israelites followed Moses out of Egypt, they failed to repossess the land that belonged to them. Spies returned to report that "...the people who dwell in the land are strong, and the cities are fortified and very large; and besides, we saw the descendants of Anak there." (Num. 13:28) They continued, "And there we saw the Nephilim (the sons of Anak, who came from the Nephilim); and we seemed to ourselves like grasshoppers, and so we seemed to them." (13:33) Rendering their assessment of the situation, they concluded, "We are not able to go up against the people; for they are stronger than we." (13:31) Also called the Rephaim, the population occupying the Israelites' land was composed of giants of demonic origins reputed to be ten to thirteen feet tall.

A generation later, under the leadership of Joshua, the Israelites finally mustered sufficient confidence to cross the Jordan River at Jericho, battle the giants, and reclaim their land. Moses, a great leader, had died and the period of mourning had come to an end. The good work he had begun now devolved to Joshua and a new generation. The passing of revered ancestors becomes a call to duty for their successors to take up and continue the cause so that they did not strive and die in vain. God told Joshua, "Only be strong and very courageous, being careful to do according to all the law..." "This book of the law...you shall meditate on it day and night..." (Jos. 1:7,8) The Israelites were not just expected to believe in their cause, honor their ancestors, and resist the intimidation of a threatening enemy. They were also expected to take the time to become well versed in God's word and preserve the faith, their only reliable and constant source of inspiration and

strength. "The Lord is the strength of His people..." (Ps. 28:8) A soldier who has not well armed his spirit within, regardless of how well armed he is without, is dangerously vulnerable.

The battle against the giants in their land was long and difficult before they were eradicated. The Philistines, an appellation of derision for the ungodly to this day, were descendants of the Nephilim. Goliath, their most infamous warrior who stood ten feet tall, boasted, "I defy the ranks of Israel this day..." When Saul and all Israel heard these words of the Philistine, they were dismayed and greatly afraid." (I Sam. 17:10,11) On behalf of Israel, David accepted Goliath's challenge. "And the Philistine cursed David by his gods." "Then David said to the Philistine, '...I come to you in the name of the Lord of hosts.'" "So David...with a stone...struck the Philistine, and killed him..." (17:43,45,50) God chose not to strike down miraculously Goliath and send the Philistines fleeing in retreat, but to work through His servant David. As Goliath fell and died by being struck with a rock, so we, knowledgeable of and obedient to God's word as Joshua was and possessing the courage and faith of David, can be servants of Christ, our Rock (Ps. 18:2, I Cor. 10:4) of inspiration, strength, and defense against the giants threatening us today.

As the period of remembering Moses' heroic deeds and mourning his death came to an end, it is imperative that we cease to dwell on and academically debate the logistics of past battles and concentrate more on vigorously planning with all urgency the strategy for the continuation and success of our cause. A basic rule of warfare, one too many Americans are eluding, is to know your enemy. The most dangerous enemies are the ones within our walls. Like cancerous cells that attack other cells within the body, so the enemy within ourselves and America attacks, weakens, and seeks to destroy our will and society. Our internal adversaries are as much our own silence and indolence as they are arrogant and irrational liberals, violent and lawless urban racists, and demonic Moslems, all of whom exist in an environment with a distorted perspective where only brute force, whether applied through the misuse of law or weapons or muscle, is respected. To seek to reason with or appease them is to be afflicted with the same delusion that blinds them. It is as crucial to keep our

resolve uncompromised and our ranks undefiled as it is to keep our powder dry.

The internal exile within the US, by means of marginalization and disenfranchisement, of those who espouse Christian and traditional American values is already being discussed as inevitable. Referring to Christian America, Peter Leithard states that "...it's past time to issue a death certificate." David asked, "If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?" (Ps. 11:3) If we do not appreciate the freedom we have and trust in the faith we profess enough to defend them, it is unrealistic to expect others to share our values. There is no neutral ground. We serve, directly or indirectly, either the forces of light or darkness, of freedom or tyranny. Edmund Burke observed, "All that is...necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing." It is not enough to know what is right; we must do what is right. St. James wrote that we are to "...be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves." (Jas. 1:22) *Our Declaration of Independence* proclaims, "That whenever a form of government becomes destructive

of these ends (our God-given rights), it is the right of the people to alter...it..." Truly loyal Americans do not seek to subvert the *Constitution*; they seek to overthrow the perverters of it. Truly loyal Americans are willing to stand with Patrick Henry and declare, "If we wish to be free... we must fight!" It is a fine line that divides rebels and vigilantes from patriots and heroes. It is becoming an equally fragile line that separates liberty as we have known it from imperious socialism. Cynics fail to distinguish the difference. Because they disobeyed God and allowed their nation to deviate from its course, the exiled Israelites lamented, "By the water of Babylon, there we sat down and wept, when we remembered Zion." (Ps. 137:1) Of all Americans, we in the SCV know that internal exile is not an option and that we cannot just sit down by the water of the Mississippi and weep when we remember Dixie. As Joshua crossed the Jordan, so we must cross the Rubicon, not looking back so that we might be found fit for the kingdom of God. (Lk. 9:62)

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