

The Holy War



Week 16

Diabolus calls a council of war

to

Defeat and burial of the army of Doubters

Goals

- To gain a greater understanding of the **spiritual warfare** in which we are engaged.
- To develop a greater awareness of the **methods employed by Satan**.
- To deepen our appreciation for the **grace of God** in saving sinners.
- To learn more about ourselves through empathizing with Mansoul (**Mansoul = me**)

Synopsis

Diabolus decides to move his army out of the town and into the field. There the Mansoulians completely destroy the doubters with zeal and energy that is infused by the return of Emmanuel.

Council of War

- **Why did Diabolus feel the need to call a council of war?**
 - His army of Doubters could not take the castle.
 - “For doubters at a distance are but like objections refelled [refuted or disproved] with arguments.”
- **At the conclusion of the council what 2 strategies were agreed upon?**
 - Withdraw from the town into the field
 - This would cause the town to be remiss and lose their vigilance.
 - It would draw the captains out after them.
 - It would allow them to set an ambush behind the town.
 - Cause the town to sin

Self-Destruction

- **In what way did they intend to entice the town to sin?**
 - By sending some Diabolonians to trade and sell their wares in the town
 - Mr. Penny-wise-pound-foolish
 - Mr. Get-i'the-hundred-and-lose-i'the-shire
 - Mr. Sweet-world
 - Mr. Present-good
- **This would cause them to:**
 - Grow rich and cumber them with abundance
 - Turn the castle into a warehouse instead of a garrison
 - Take some of the Diabolonians into their houses as retainers
 - Mr. Profuse
 - Mr. Prodigality
 - Mr. Voluptuous
 - Mr. Pragmatical
 - Mr. Ostentation

Deceitfulness of Riches

Luke 21:34 And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares.

Mark 4:18-19

And these are they which are sown among thorns; such as hear the word, and the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful.

I Timothy 6:6-10

6 But godliness with contentment is great gain.

7 For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out.

8 And having food and raiment let us be therewith content.

9 But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition.

10 For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

11 But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness.

Revelation 3:17

. . . thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked:

Providence

- **What Providential event happened just as the Diabolonian council broke up?**
 - Captain Credence received a letter from Emmanuel.
- **What were the contents of his letter?**
 - Upon the third day, Emmanuel would meet him in the field in the plains about Mansoul.
- **What was Captain Credence's initial response?**
 - He did not understand what the letter meant.
 - He took the letter to the Lord High Secretary for interpretation.

More Providence

- What did Captain Credence command immediately after understanding the news from Emmanuel?
 - He had the King's trumpeters ascend to the battlements of the castle and "make the best music that heart could invent."
- What did this cause the Diabolonians to do and why?
 - To hastily leave the town and move to the field
 - Because they would be in better position to defend against Emmanuel's coming army
 - Because they would be in a better position to flee if things went badly for them

In the Field

- The news of Emmanuel's coming was "like oil to a flaming fire" and made the townsmen eager to engage the enemy. What was their battle cry?
 - "The sword of Prince Emmanuel and the shield of Captain Credence"
 - Or "The word of God and faith"
- The townsmen left Captain Experience back in the town due to his wounds. Describe his part in the battle and its effect on the armies of Diabolus?
 - When he saw the battle had begun, he left the town and went out to face the enemy on his crutches.
 - This had a daunting effect as the enemy thought "what spirit has possessed these Mansouliaus, that they fight us upon their crutches?"

The Battle

- Describe the work of the town leaders in the battle:
 - Lord Willbewill's blows were like the blows of a giant.
 - He and Captain Credence fell upon the election doubters and put them to great disorder.
 - Captains Good-Hope and Experience engaged the vocation doubters and caused them to retreat.
 - The Lord High Secretary played the slings upon Diabolus' men from the battlements of the castle.
- At one point the Mansouliaus began to grow faint as Diabolus pressed them from behind. What 3 things caused them to take courage "like men raised from the dead"?
 - They remembered that they would see their Prince by-and-by.
 - Captain Credence made a speech telling them that they would see Emmanuel after this second engagement.
 - A post named Mr. Speedy arrived with a message that Emmanuel was at hand.

Final Engagement

- In this final engagement, the Diabolonians “lost their courage, and many of the doubters fell down dead to the ground . . . and, behold, Emmanuel came.” Describe His coming:
 - He came with colors flying, trumpets sounding, and with the feet of His men scarcely touching the ground.
 - Captain Credence moved his men to the townward side.
 - Diabolus’ army was caught between them.
 - Finally Emmanuel and Captain Credence met “trampling down the slain as they came.”
- Describe Diabolus’ actions at the end of the battle:
 - He and the other lords of the pit made their escape and forsook their army to die at the hands of Emmanuel and Cpt. Credence.
 - At the end of the battle “there was not left so much as one doubter alive; they lay spread upon the ground . . . as one would spread dung upon the land.”

Entrance

- After the battle was over, what were Emmanuel's first words to the captains and elders as they saluted Him?
 - "Peace be to you"
- Describe Emmanuel's entrance into the town and any Scripture passages that are referenced:

| Action | Reference |
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Mercy

- How did Emmanuel answer the mourning townsmen?
 - Nehemiah 8:10
“Weep not, but go your way, eat the fat, and drink the sweet, and send portions to them for whom nought is prepared; for the joy of your Lord is your strength.”
- Emmanuel gives ornamental gifts to the town officers, their wives, and their children
- He then tells the townsmen to do what and then come back to see him in the castle?
 - Wash their garments and put on their ornaments (Zech. 13:1)

Cleanup

- Describe the cleanup that happened inside and outside the town:
 - Inside:
 - Lord Willbewill became a great terror to the remaining Diabolonians.
 - “He pursued them night and day, and did put them now to sore distress.”
 - Outside:
 - They appointed workmen to go out into the plains and bury the dead bodies (Ezekiel 39:12-15).
 - Mr. Godly-Fear and Mr. Upright were put in charge of this task.
- At this point, who “took up his commission, and acted again as in former days”?
 - Mr. God’s-Peace

Escape

“But the princes and the captains, with old Incredulity, their general, did all of them make their escape . . .”

Parallels

The Holy War

The Christian Life

Withdrawal from the town into the field

Mr. Penny-wise-pound-foolish
 Mr. Get-i'the-hundred-and-lose-i'the-shire
 Mr. Sweet-world
 Mr. Present-good

Turning the castle into a warehouse instead of a garrison

Captain Credence taking his letter to the Lord High Secretary for interpretation.

Mansoulia's battle cry

Death of the army of doubters

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