



Pursue, Overtake and Recover All

I Sam. 30:1-9,11, 15-19 (read)

Plumes of smoke still rose from what once were their homes.

They had been burned to the ground by the raiding thieves.

A lifetime of possessions were stolen, wives, children all kidnapped to where they would be violated and spend the rest of their life's as slaves.

David's troops had been on a dangerous mission and when they returned home to rest and enjoy their families, they discovered the enemy had taken all.

They had been gone for a couple of days but their families had been left alone and now they were gone.

We find these hardened soldiers, calloused by war and violence falling on their faces, crying out in gut wrenching agony and overwhelmed with grief.

As usual when someone finds themselves in personal pain, human nature causes us to blame ourselves and then blame others around us.

-David's loyal men that had stood besides him in battle after battle now "*turned on him*" and falsely blamed him for the loss of their families and possessions.

Removing himself from his heart broken and grumbling troops, David did what his men should have been doing, he prayed to God, he inquired at the Lord about what he should do!

The Lord immediately gave him an answer!!!

If you really want to get back your possessions,

“ “ “ “ “ your family, then you must immediately “Pursue the enemy, Overtake them and Recover all”

(Basically said)

Quit wasting time feeling sorry for yourselves, go after your family and rescue them!

Don't let the enemy violate them anymore, go after them now while there's still time.

Does anyone here have unsaved family members?

How many of you want to see them saved and in church w/ you?

IF so, how many of you are willing to do something about it?

The Lord is here tonight telling the **soldiers of the Lord based in Bourbon, IN**, that if you really want them saved from the enemy, its time, its high time, that we **“pursue after them, overtake them and rescue them from the devil”**.

David's men could have stayed in camp and wept, cried, felt bad and even prayed for their families but it would have accomplish little.

-they had to get to the place where they finally **“obeyed”**. (finally do something!)

Let's ask God to give us direction right now on how we can reach our unsaved families!

-really seek God, inquire of him what would be the best plan of search and rescue.

I heard a minister tell the story one time how he “wished he could play the piano”.

He mentioned to a visiting evangelist that was gifted at the piano, his desire!

Evangelist answered him: “No, you don’t” (shocked!)

Minister: “Yes, I really wish I could play just like you”

Evangelist: “No, you don’t” (thought, how does he know what I want or not, little angry))

Minister asked: “What do you mean, I don’t. I really wish I could play the piano like you do”

Evangelist replied “**The desire to do something is proved in the pursuit**”

“If you really want to play, you’d be taking lessons, you’d be practicing, you’d be doing something about it if you really desired it”

I can tell you what you want by what you’re chasing!

Some one doesn’t want to lose weight unless they go on a diet.

“ “ “ “ get a raise at work unless they are a good employee.

“ “ “ “ know the Word of God unless they study it often.

“ “ “ “ to be saved unless they come to an altar and seek after God.

“ “ “ “ their family saved unless you are asking God how to:

“Pursue, Overtake, and Recover” them and then doing it.

I’m not trying to make you upset, mad or be too harsh tonight but now is the time,

It’s high time that we begin to **go after what they the has stolen from** us.

-the proof of the desire is in the pursuit!!!!

Last week, I wrote my wife a note and asked “Do you remember what happened 30 yrs ago this month?”

-she answered “Do you mean next Monday, 30 yrs ago, 3 hrs and 16 minutes, at 9pm?”

She knew exactly the time of our **1st date and our 1st kiss!**

She was a popular girl in high school and she continued to be popular and well liked in Bible School.

-she won’t admit it but she had many boyfriends pursuing her.

-the 1st Valentines Day at ABI, she received a dozen roses from 3 diff. guys.

(I was one of them!)

Tell you what I did! I wanted her! She was the girl for me!

I was in love and nothing was going to stand in my way!

So I went to the one student that lived in my dorm and walked in, shut the door and said: “Leave her alone, she’s my girl” (he started to object and I stopped him and told him again) “You don’t understand, I said, leave her alone, she doesn’t like you!”

Other guy lived 2 states away and “out of sight” out of mind and he didn’t stand a chance!

One month later, we had our **1st date and 30 yrs later = here we are!!!**

“I pursued her, I overtook her, and rescued her from those other guys”

You have to pursue something if you really want it!

If you want to recover everything the devil has stolen from you, you're going to have to pursue him, overtake him and let him **know who's boss!!!**

-you can't take NO for an answer!

-you can't give up easy!

-the proof of the desire is in the pursuit!!!

Eph. 6:10-17 (read) I have stood face to face with the Devil before in demon possession and guess what, he backs down every time when you come in Jesus name!

Most Christians are afraid to come against Satan and have conflicts with evil spirits of darkness but We Win!!! Read the back of the Book = We Win!!!

-evil sprits influence the carnal and ungodly

-evil spirits oppose Gods will

-they attack saints and the church all the time

"Because greater is he that is in you than he that is in the world" I Jn. 4:4

In Africa, I've had them walk around trying to cast spells on me, they were afraid, not me

In Hungary and Turkey, we ran face to face into each other and their eyes got big and they side stepped us, they didn't want to come against a HG filled, Jesus Name saint of God.

Don't let the Devil "buffalo" you!!

Bible says: "For God hath not given us the spirit of fear but of power and of love and of a sound mind" II Tim. 1:7
-fear comes from our flesh

-fear to witness comes from the devil

There is a term in the military when you are advancing in enemy territory and you need support from your fellow soldiers. -called **"you're covered"**

When you step out by faith and advance on the enemies territory, its easy for the enemy to fire on you and hurt you. -but your buddies have "you covered"

-they start shooting at the enemy and the enemy has to duck down and he can't shoot at you if he's hiding!

We're in a battle around here! How many of you know that! Don't ever forget it!

Turn to one next to you and say "Don't worry, I have you covered"

-pray for one another, defend one another, love one another, help one another

The devil may shoot all kinds of rumors and false accusations against the church but the saints just stand up and say "Take this Devil" -worship, magnify, forgive one another

You say "Devil, you can't say that against my brother or sister and get away w/ it"

-live godly, keep coming to church and hug each others necks.

Everyone say "I've got you covered"

" shout: "I've got you covered"

Some Christians get hunkered down under enemy fire, going thru a battle in homes, marriages, finances.

Some Christians get trapped and feel like they are POW's, trapped and no way to get out.

This is when the **church needs to come to their rescue** and **recover all!**

Some saints are on the front lines earning their stripes on the front lines wk after wk but there are other saints earning their stripes in prayer, in fasting and in worship.

Jesus died on Calvary 2,000 yrs ago and His blood is still flowing tonight!

As the song says it; "I'm covered, I'm covered, covered by his blood,

walking by faith, living in love...

...Jesus has rescued me...."

God is about to **take you out of your foxhole** that you've been hiding in because he wants you to get up, pursue, overtake, and take back everything your adversary, the devil has stolen from you.

-you're covered by the blood of Calvary

-you're covered by the prayers and support of the church

-you're shielded by the armor of God in Eph. 5

Nothing can stop you if **you just obey!** Just get up and go after it!!

When you're sitting in your foxhole and you're ready to take more ground, you say to your buddy sitting next to you "Cover me, I'm going in"

Good news, you can step out by faith because Gods got your covered.

-the Devil is no match for the Lord in battle!

One of my favorite psalms is Ps. 24 (read) vs. 7,8

This song was sung in faith that God Almighty, the King of Glory would come in and recover the saints in times of warfare.

-a song and prayer of protection and security!!

When you decide you've had enough and your family has been raped and blundered by sin long enough and you get a little HG boldness and decide to do something about it:

God's got your covered! You don't have someone questionable behind you!

“ “ “ “ going to run when it gets tough!

*You've got someone that took on the sins of the world and won at Calvary!

*You've got someone that took on death and the grave and got the victory!

I Cor. 15:26 says the last enemy that we have to destroy as saints of God is Death!

Jesus took on our last enemy for us and won!

-He fought the battle for us and purchased us by His own precious blood!

That's how Paul could write the words in I Cor. 15: (read) vs.51-58

This ought to be doing something to you tonight!

The Word of God ought to be **stirring the HG** in you right now and you're getting so upset at the devil and this carnal world that you're saying "Let me at him, let me at him"!

Moses told the Ch. of Israel in his final message before he disappeared and Joshua took over: Duet. 31:6 "Be strong

and of good courage, fear not, nor be afraid of them for the Lord thy God, he it is that doth go with thee, he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.”

We have the assurance that if we love God more than anything else and we trust him more than any man made or material security, the Lord will never **desert or forsake us**.

-he'll be our General in battle, our Commander in the war and our Chief in our conflicts

Today all across the world and especially in Israel, you'll see orthodox Jewish men wearing a skullcap called “ya-ma-ka”. (Show it!)

They wear it as a constant reminder of the Lords presence in their life.

Some wear it only when they are worshipping in their synagogues but others wear it from the moment they wake up to it's the last thing they take off at night.

To them, this Ya-Ma-Ka is their covering!!!

We know that **God is our covering** and we can **pursue, overtake, and recover all!**

He covers us all!

He is known in the OT as Jehovah Tsidkenu (our righteousness)

Jehovah Makaddesh (our holiness)

Jehovah Shalom (our peace)

Jehovah Rohi (our shepherd)

Jehovah Rapha (the Lord God that heals)

And finally he is Jehovah Nissi (the God who is our banner)

The banner was an item held high in the air during the battle to give them a place of reference. -they would gather there and regroup together (**wave flag around!**)

A **trumpet** would sound, the **banner would be held high** and the soldiers would come rushing to the banner!!! -get new battle plans and encourage one another

Then the banner was held high and the trumpets would sound again, the soldiers would follow the banner **back into the battle**.

-as long as the banner was out front, they would go forward

-this banner symbolized the presence God who had them covered going against the enemy.

The only thing that **would stop the** army from going forward,

“ “ “ “ **stop the advance**, from gaining ground and recovering, was if the one carrying the banner fell down and was wounded

or if they personally became afraid and retreated

-this would cause the army to start hiding in their foxholes afraid and then wait again for someone else to blow the trumpet and pick up the banner and start all over again.

Tonight, **this pastor is blowing the trumpet** and I need the **church lift up the banner** high once again because it's high time we **pursue, overtake and recover** what the devil has stolen from us.

You don't have to wander around in the darkness of this world w/o direction, God is our banner!

-Jesus is our infallible leader and he will not run or retreat!

-just follow his leading

Its Gods will for you to **recover your joy** if its been stolen.

“ “ “ “ “ yourholiness, your faithfulness if its been taken away.

“ “ “ “ “ your family, friends and lost loved ones before its too late

I'm not trying to work you up into a fearless faith, I'm just trying to get us out of our fox holes and “look towards the banner”

-get out of our fox holes and start fighting back

Ps. 119:105 “Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path”

Prov.4:25-27 “Let thine eyes look right on, and let thine eyelids look straight before thee.

Ponder the path of thy feet, and let all thy ways be established. Turn not to the right hand nor to the left: remove thy foot from evil...”

Prov.3:5,6 “Trust in the Lord w/ all thine heart and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him and he shall direct thy paths”

Matt. 16:18 (Jesus said himself) “I will build my church and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it”

You and I have the right and the responsibility to drive out the enemy!

Ps.91:1 “He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most high shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty...

Deut. 26:1 “And it shall be, when thou art come into the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee for an inheritance, and possess it, and dwellest therein”

Both verses share the same Heb. Word for “dwelleth/dwellest”

Those willing to **pray, fast, and develop** an intimate close relationship with the Lord can find that secret place to dwell in.

And if someone in your family needs God for healing, salvation, for encouragement, then you have the right by dwelling w/ God to drive the enemy out from them.

We have the God given **responsibility to possess** the land, possess their souls and to keep them from a Devil's Hell.

We have the right to inherit what rightfully belongs to us!

“ “ “ drive off the enemy back and win them to the Lords side.

War is winners take all! The spoils go to the victors!

It's time to Pursue, Overtake, and Rescue our loved ones!!!

Song: I'm going to the enemies camp and I'm going to take back what he stole from me