

# **The pacifism of Jesus Christ**

*Erkki Kuisma*

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I strive to agree with Jesus Christ in all things, because He loved me and suffered the punishment of my sins. It is possible that I have been mistaken in some matters. However I trust that He will correct me, if I have misunderstood something. I love His reprimand and His comfort because without them I cannot remain in truth. Thus, if there is something wrong in these writings it is the fault of Erkki Kuisma. Jesus deserves the credit for everything that is right.

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# **The Pacifism of the Gospel**

**Only Jesus Christ is worthy to kill a man because He died for everyone.**

## **Jesus Christ is worthy**

God kills us when He sentences us to death. He is worthy to do so because He is our Creator. We get what we deserve due to our sins. He gives us life and He takes it away. The death is God's judgment to sin.

Before than Jesus died for everybody God allowed people to execute death penalties on His behalf. Now the shed blood of Jesus speaks forgiveness for all. Therefore no one else than Him is worthy to kill an evil doer. All executions of criminals are crimes against the gospel of God. A father is allowed to administer corporal punishment to his child and a police is allowed to use force against a criminal, but only and exclusively Jesus Christ is allowed to kill a human being.

God has never accepted killing for any other reason than some sins. He has never given a self-defender or a defender of his fatherland a right to kill. He Himself promised to defend His people, if they obey His commandments. Sometimes there were nations, all citizens of which deserved the death penalty according to the law of God. Because the sin debt of that nation reached the debt ceiling, God put another nation to destroy it. It is not so anymore, because God made peace with all the nations on Golgotha.

Now it is the time of grace when God proclaims peace to all peoples in the name and the blood of Jesus Christ. The Christian pacifism is based on the gospel of God. Christ is the Prince of Peace. The gospel of God is the gospel of peace. If someone remains in the faith of the gospel, he is free from the liability to military service, because it is a liability to kill.

The biblical Christianity has nothing to do with sword missions or crusades. They are power struggle of rulers who have stolen Christianity to be a tool of their lust for power. Forcing to be a Christian has disgraced God's love. The followers of Jesus kill no

one in any circumstances. If the life of one who belongs to Jesus is threatened, it is enough for him that he faces the same as Jesus.

The longsuffering of God will one day end. Then Jesus will come down on the earth and He alone will wage war against godless people and kill them. Although all the believers will then come with Him on the earth they will not participate in the battle. Only the Lamb of God is worthy to do it. Because we are not worthy to kill people even then when we are perfect in our new body, much less we are worthy to do it now.

Only Jesus is worthy to kill the godless because only He once received their judgment on the cross and suffered the wrath of God instead of them, so that whoever from any nation could be saved. The sacrifice of God has been given for every human being! Therefore the life of every human being is valuable, no matter how evil he is. The Sacrifice of God is holy! Do not desecrate the gospel by killing a human being, for whom God has given His sacrifice.

### **Jesus gives life to those who died in sins**

A physical death is not as terrible thing as a spiritual death. Adam and Eve died spiritually the same day when they ate the forbidden fruit, though after it they still lived physically for hundred years. By sinning we killed ourselves. By lying we murdered ourselves. By stealing we took our own life. By committing fornication we caused our own death. By committing adultery we run the sword through ourselves. By killing a person we killed ourselves.

If someone has never sinned he has survived. The others have died. In practice no one else than Jesus has survived, because He is the only sinless man. For that reason Jesus died for us so that we could become alive. If the dead hear the voice of the Son of God they are allowed to live. Those who died in their sins and crimes are allowed to hear the gospel about Jesus and to become alive - if they want.

Is it nice to be dead? Many consider death better than life. It seems to be so that the majority of people even love death, in other words sin. They don't repent their evilness and their crimes. Therefore the forgiveness is a worthless thing for them. They are not able to be afraid of the judgment of God because they are so dead. They are

calmly waiting for their physical death because they have resigned themselves to their lot as dead.

If only the dead received a testimony to the good being of the living. If only they saw the glory of Jesus Christ and would allow it to draw themselves to God. By coming to faith a dead becomes alive.

If you are alive, you don't participate in the wars of the dead, but you have the readiness to declare the gospel of peace to the dead. Whoever lives and believes in Jesus will never die.

## **Aliens and strangers**

**Jesus' own are strangers in the states where they live, because Jesus is their King. Therefore Christians have nothing to do with the patriotism of this world.**

### **Aliens looking for their fatherland**

It is said about the believers of the time of Abraham that *"they admitted that they are aliens and strangers on earth."* Heb.11:13 They were not patriots, because *"who say such things show that they are looking for a country of their own."* Heb.11:14 They felt stateless, because they couldn't consider the state, where they lived, their fatherland. Due to the call of God they had abandoned their earthly fatherland and *"they were longing for a better country - heavenly one."* Heb.11:16

Abraham didn't try to own the present land of Israel or to build Jerusalem, but he was looking for a better city, the heavenly one. The country, where he lived as a stranger, was promised by God to his descendants but to Abraham himself was promised a heavenly heritage.

Only heavenly Zion is worthy of seeking, and it is not taken with guns from the Arabs. The blessing promised to Abraham comes to us through Jesus, the Messiah, who is "the seed through that all nations on earth will be blessed" as it was promised to Abraham.

Those who believe in the Jesus of the Bible have the same hope of the heavenly fatherland as Abraham had, because it is said to us: *"If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise."* Ga.3:29

Those who belong to Jesus declare: *"Our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Saviour from there, the Lord Jesus Christ."* Php.3:20 Nobody should think Christianity to be earthly Zionism, because about those who have come to Jesus is said: *"You have come to Mount Zion, to the heavenly Jerusalem, the city of the living God."* Heb.12:22

However a remarkable part of the present time Christians are patriots, and they do not admit that they are aliens and strangers in

the state where they now live. Thus they have a different mind and hope than the believers of the Bible. With their patriotism they show that they are not looking for a fatherland.

They think it would be shameful not to be patriots. Woe to them, for God is ashamed of them just for their patriotism, and He doesn't allow Himself to be called their God. Instead, God says to them who have abandoned their earthly fatherland in this way: "*God is not ashamed to be called their God.*" Heb.11:16

A Jesus loving person is longing for His presence. God's children want to live in the Kingdom of God. Therefore they feel foreigners in the present time states.

### **Submissive strangers**

Often patriotic believers defend their attitude with the word of the Bible which says that you must submit yourself to the governing authorities. It is obvious that a citizen of a foreign state must submit himself to the authorities of the country where he now lives. When in Rome do as the Romans do, as long as it doesn't conflict with the laws of the Kingdom of God.

*"Everyone must submit himself to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God."* Ro.13:1 This declaration is not an order always to obey your government as you would obey God. Actually it stresses accepting the government that exists. Paul is speaking here to the believers who lived under the control of the government of the Caesar Nero. A bad government is better than anarchy. A bad family is better than free sexual relationships.

Both government and family belong to the order established by God. He has established parents to be the authority for their children. Father and mother must be honoured, although they would be evil. Even so, it is wrong to love your parents or your fatherland more than Jesus. In the same way we must honour our government, though it would be evil. You know that Jesus gives His own people a clear order of the attitude we must adopt towards evilness: "*do not resist an evil person.*" Mt.5:39

From the view point of Jesus' own people all the governments of this world are under the control of evilness, more or less. *"We know that we are children of God, and that whole world is under the control of the evil one."* 1Jo.5:19

Fatherland under the control of evilness. It is a terrible thing for a patriot!

Fighting against evilness is the cause of all the wars. However it is not possible to win evilness by using human weapons. The world will not be set free from the control of evilness until Jesus comes on earth. Many Christians have not had patience to wait for Jesus, but they have tried to fight against evilness with human weapons. Oh, if only they had been content with being aliens and strangers in the world and fought against evilness only with prayers and good deeds in the Holy Spirit! Ah, how much shame their violent crusades have brought on the name of God!

A Christian submits himself to the governing authorities in similar things as Jesus did. For instance by paying taxes, "give to Caesar what is Caesar's". A Christian doesn't submit himself to the governing authorities when they require idolatry of the citizens, like sacrificing oneself in a war.

### **Religion of patriotism**

Everybody doesn't recognize that patriotism is a religion, although it bears all distinctive marks of a religion. Actually patriotism is the greatest religion of the world, because it is very popular among all nations. All wars have been fought due to this religion. As long as soldiers' graves are worshipped there will be wars. The flags of all the states are made red by the sacrificial blood as long as young men swear their oaths to them.

The state idol has cunningly managed to exploit other religions. By allying with different religions it has often succeeded in putting the blame of its wars on other religions. Therefore it willingly allows also Christians to ride on itself.

You, man of God, jump hastily down from the back of the beast!  
A true believer should understand that sacrificing blood to your fatherland is detestable in God's sight, although it is a highly valued heroic deed in the minds of many people!

A battle for national pride, property and selfishness is an abomination for God. In their patriotism they love the pride of their country, their possessions and families and they are ready to kill anyone whom they believe to threaten their welfare.

Some of them even believe they kill in a war on the behalf of God and sacrifice themselves for the sake of God. However God doesn't accept their sacrifice, because He has made peace with all people through the blood of Jesus, shed on the cross. Only Jesus is holy enough to kill godless people. Your sacrifice in a war can only be to the government of your state and not to God. Where there are sacrifices to idols there are being offered to evil spirits. *"The sacrifices of pagans are offered to demons, not to God, and I do not want you to be participants with demons."* 1Co.10:20

Some believers claim that God would have given governments a licence to kill in a war. They say that it is our duty to defend our country. They see nothing wrong in their patriotism. Jesus will fight against them with the sword of His mouth to demolish the strongholds of their thoughts, which idols have built up in their hearts so that they would not know God.

*"For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strong-holds. We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ."* 2Co.10:3-5

Who swears oaths to the flag of his country cannot know God. The war against evilness is fought with the spiritual weapons in the hearts of people and not with bombs and with guns in the battle fields. The war against terrorism is fought in your mind. If your fear caused you to take your gun, you have lost the war.

Look at the brave man, Jesus! He didn't resist evilness and He will rule on earth. Be His follower and fight only with spiritual weapons!

### **God's country**

God owns all the universes. He does to them what He wants. Who can say to Him: "What do you think you are doing!" He also owns

the Earth and everything that is made on it. All nations are like a dust particle before Him. He became man in Jesus so that we could know Him. He has promised us a resurrection into a new body in which we can live near Him.

God is our Father through Jesus. So everything He owns is our fatherland. Also every square of the earth is land of my Father.

Fear of evil causes people to defend their country. They fear losing their independence and becoming slaves of a foreign nation. They fear wrong things. They should fear being enemies of God and slaves of sin.

What ever injustice I face in this world, it cannot make me unhappy, because my happiness is to be near God. He is with me if I become a refugee. He gives me what I need, if my property is taken away from me. A foreign state can force me to speak other language than my native language, but nobody can take away hearing of God's voice. Nobody can take away from me the freedom that Jesus has given me.

### **Jesus has all authority**

Worshippers of the state idol are pitiful. They live in the sphere of power of the devil. Jesus came to drive the master of this world out from his throne. Jesus said: *"Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out."* Joh.12:31

After Jesus had risen from the dead He said: *"All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me."* Mt.28:18

God's Son, Jesus was once on the cross for the sake of our sins, but now Man, Jesus Christ is on the throne of God. Soon He will come on clouds to the earth and rule the whole world.

All present governments and parliaments will lose their power - to Him!

Will the president of Finland, the government and parliament give their power to Jesus voluntarily? A government of any country will not give up its power without a battle. The Bible tells that they try to make war against Jesus, when He comes.

It is miserable, isn't it! Urged by evil spirits all nations will be gathered to make war against the Almighty. *"The spirits of demons go out to the kings of the whole world, to gather them for the battle on the great day of God Almighty."* Re.16:14

You, a patriotic believer, you are in danger of ending up in the war against the Almighty to Armageddon! Be on your guard against serving the state idol. Be cleansed from your share with idols. Jesus, the Messiah is the true God and eternal life.

### **Persecuted strangers**

Jesus is a threat to the governments of this world, because He is coming to take power on earth. Therefore it is natural that governments persecute Jesus' own. Politicians don't always realize why they detest persons who believe in Jesus. Although they themselves don't believe that Jesus is coming, the evil spirits who live in them know it. They cause in them actions against believers.

A state offers freedom of religion, but it is a trap for the believers of Jesus. It is not possible to offer freedom to those who are free. If you ask for yourself freedom of religion, you confess receiving your freedom from the state. If you confessed that then the state says that you must defend the state with guns so that you could keep your freedom of religion.

The word has come out from the mouth of God: "Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation." There is no need to ask any government for a permission to preach. If a government tries to prevent God's deeds, He is powerful to remove obstacles. Persecution has never succeeded in stopping the gospel of God. Instead alliances of believers with a state have often done it.

The closer we are to the coming of Jesus the greater grows the tension between the Jesus' own and the governments of the world. Now are the last moments for two minded believers to choose their side. Every bond of your heart that ties you to this world is dangerous to your soul. When Jesus speaks about the times of the end He says: *"Remember Lot's wife! Whoever tries to keep his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life will preserve it."* Lu.17:32-33

Nothing happens to us without God's permission, neither good nor evil. Lot's wife looked back, because she didn't want to lose what God had decided to take away from her. If she had completely trusted God, she would have eagerly looked forward to see what new God had prepared for her.

The Bible version used in references is NIV

# **Violent world**

**Pride, greed and selfishness are reasons for violence as well in the life of individuals as between nations.**

## **Pride and violence**

Pride is the cause of violence. *"Pride is their necklace; they clothe themselves with violence."* Ps.73:6 A soldier in his uniform with a badge of honour symbolises godlessness. National pride causes many wars.

There are wars in the world, because wounded honour wants to revenge. Church and state as false gods uphold violence. In their proud defiance war makers even claim that God is with them against their enemy. Thus they prove against themselves that they don't believe in God of the Bible.

*"Do not take revenge, my friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: 'It is mine to avenge; I will repay,' says the Lord. On the contrary: 'If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head'. Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good "* Rom.12:19-20 However the leaders of states have decided to heap cruise missiles on the heads of their enemies, not coals of love.

Because they live in proud spirit, they don't want to give room for God's wrath, but they have decided to do it themselves. Only God is the Lord, who has the right to kill a man and to avenge victims of violence. Because He has created man, He also has the right to destroy His creature. Men also have the right to destroy buildings and machines, because they are created by men.

In a war men want to carry out judgements which belong only to God. They, who attack a country, do wrongly, but the revenge is God's. A government, who oppresses its citizens, does wrongly, but the revenge is God's.

## **Humbleness and non-violence**

Killing in a war is a crime against God's gospel, because Jesus died on the cross for all people. God revenged on Him our evil deeds. The

blood of Jesus doesn't cry out revenge, but forgiveness. (Heb.12:24)  
How do you dare to kill even in a war a man for whom the Son of God has died?

If you have not "humbled yourselves under God's mighty hand", killing in a war is to you a natural thing. A war hero and one who has battled for one's country says to me: If somebody comes and tries to kill your wife and children, don't you defend them and kill the enemy? I don't, because thus I would send him into hell! I would try to go between him and my dear ones and overcome him with words. If he would kill me, he is pitiful and I am happy, *"for to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain."* Phil.1:21

I want him to get more time to receive God's mercy. Maybe he will repent and later receives Jesus as his Saviour. I trust that God is able to protect my dear ones and without His acceptance nobody takes their lives. On the other hand if God has decided that somebody must now die, he cannot be saved by doctors or soldiers.

He, who has gained his country in a war, needs to hear the next words of Jesus: *"What good will it be for a man if he gains the whole world, yet forfeits his soul?"* Matth.16:26 What good will it do you in hell if your fatherland is independent? On the other hand through Jesus all universes are my fatherland. Wouldn't you rather like to enjoy the fatherland of the heavenly Father?

Soldiers in a war are deceived and poor fellows, who have given their lives to the false god. Their pride has prevented them from gaining the real state that is the Kingdom of God. Their priests have lied to them that their war is blessed by God. The sign of cross is made to them after they were born and after they had died, but during their life they *"lived as enemies of the cross of Christ"*. Phil.3:18 In this matter the next word of Jesus comes true: *"For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will find it."* Matt.16:25

### **The world order**

Pride, greed and selfishness are the main things that have arranged the world where we live. Only some individuals do not obey this world order. The Bible says about this thing: *"Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the*

*Father is not in him. For everything in the world - the cravings (=selfishness) of sinful man, the lust of his eyes (=greed) and the boasting (=pride) of what he has and does - comes not from the Father but from the world. The world and its desires pass away, but the man who does the will of God lives for ever."* 1John.2:15-17

Jesus was humble when He did not search his own honour but his Father's glory. He did not gather the stores for his needs, but He trusted God to take care of him. He did not live for his lusts, but He sacrificed himself to be able to save your soul.

What do you get in place of the world order, when you give up your love for the world and join to Jesus? In the place of the satisfaction that honour gives, you will get grace and comfort from The Holy Spirit.

In the place of the satisfaction that wealth gives, you will get God's faith from Jesus. In the place of the satisfaction that sinful craving gives, you will be sharing love from God, the Father.

The good self-esteem doesn't come from the satisfaction of honour, but from the knowledge that God accepts you.

The economic safety doesn't come from money, but from the experience of God's maintenance. The satisfaction doesn't come from plenty of food and sex-life, but you get real satisfaction, when you do God's will in your practical life.

Jesus has won the lusts of this world. He gives you the rich and plentiful life! Enter to the God's world.

The Bible version used in references is NIV

## **Bad or good enemy?**

**Good is bad's enemy, because goodness hates evil. Bad is good's enemy, because evil hates goodness. God is a good enemy of a bad person and a person is a bad enemy of the good God. God demonstrated His love for His bad enemy allowing His Only Son to suffer the punishment deserved by a bad person. Wickedness that doesn't break down and humble itself before this great love, will be crushed suddenly.**

### **Who is your enemy?**

He who hates you, is your enemy. Has he got any right to be angry? If you have done wrong to him, he also has a reason to hate you. On the other hand somebody can hate you, although you have done no wrong to him. Usually the word "enemy" gives the image of something evil, but as a matter of fact your enemy can be good and you are bad.

If you are hated because of your evil, you can seek reconciliation with your enemy by confessing your injustice, by regretting your deed and asking for forgiveness. If you are hated without any reason, you have the right to be angry because of it. In this way you can become someone's enemy.

### **Whose enemy are you?**

You are the enemy of the one you hate. Have you any right to be angry? If he has done wrong to you, you also have a reason to hate him. On the other hand if you hate him without a real reason, you have to change your attitude to him. Rarely we consider ourselves anybody's enemy, because we do not consider ourselves bad and we are not able to think that an enemy can also be good.

If the object of your anger is guilty, you can seek atonement to your anger to be able to forgive him and be conciliated. If he is not guilty, you hate him without a reason and he has a good reason to become your enemy.

### **Guilty one deserves his enemy**

A guilty one can regret his deed or become a liar. If you regret your wrongdoing, you seek reconciliation with your enemy. If you don't

confess your guilt, you seek excuses for your deed, which leads you to turn to lies. If you reject your guilt with lies, you will finally believe your own lies as the truth and consider yourself not guilty. Your feeling of innocence makes you reply to anger with anger. In this way people become enemies of good.

If you done wrong you cannot demand, to be treated without anger. If a guilty one demands a kind reprimand, he demonstrates the hardness and impenitence of his heart. It is wrong that a guilty one is angry with his rebuker, because a wrongdoer has deserved anger. Justifiable anger is right. Anger against evil is a good thing. It is good to listen to a good enemy.

Love and anger are not opposites. Sin is the opposite of love. Love hates lovelessness. In other words it hates sin. He who forbids hating evil, deserves himself to be hated.

### **Hated groundlessly**

If you are not guilty, you have a reason to become angry when you were hated without any reason. It is natural that an innocent person doesn't ask for forgiveness, but can lift up his head before his enemy. People have hated God without any reason. Jesus does only good and never evil. However many hate Him. Jesus says: *"They hated me without reason!"* John 15:25

A guilty person, who doesn't confess his guilt, often secretly hates the person, who does right where he did wrong. It is their lot who love God to suffer anger of the people who are irritated by their good deeds. Jesus says to those who belong to Him: *"If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first."* Joh.15:18

All evil in this world gains power and strength from the lies of the guilty ones who consider themselves innocent. When the guilty ones don't accept the anger they deserve, they put forward a flow of lies, which causes many to feel that they are hated without reason. This brings up suspicions and fears which generate wars.

### **Nation as an enemy**

An angry man is frightening and God's anger is much greater. The fear of enemy produces armaments. Fear even sometimes causes preventive attack against an enemy.

One person can succeed in selling his own enemy to the others, and a group can move their fears even to a whole nation. In this way a whole nation can be made to believe that another nation is our enemy. The propaganda blows up threats and fears of losing the current benefits. They are afraid of losing their freedom. A peaceful nation can be made into enemies of another nation only by blowing up fears and hate against the other nation.

How vain are the reasons which cause the wars! In most cases they hated each other without reason, or killed each other when trying to convince the innocence of guilty people. A tiny fear can turn into a war as a grown-up. A lie uses fear for violence, but the truth uses fear for wisdom.

God has nowhere said that you must give your life for your fatherland. He doesn't need to be afraid of His enemies. Therefore fear doesn't direct the actions of His friends.

A Christian fallen to defend one's fatherland with violence has fallen into fear, because he has not got the conscience washed by the blood of Jesus. He has fallen away from the grace of God, because he has abandoned the gospel of God.

True freedom is freedom from the power of sin. The sovereignty of a nation gives freedom only for a group of people to put their power into practice. It is a great injustice that to secure their power many are ready to sacrifice human blood onto the godless altar of war.

### **Jesus overcame His enemy**

The devil understood that Jesus is the prophesied Messiah, who will rule over the whole world. He hated Jesus and was afraid of losing his own position as the prince of this world. After the Fall this world had been given to him. The devil knows that he can rule people only, if they live under the anger of God. Therefore he still does whatever he can to deceive people so that they would sin against God. To defend his power he mounted an attack against Jesus.

Under the influence of the devil Herod tried to kill Jesus already as a baby. Many times he tempted Jesus to abandon the mission given by God the Father and to lead Him to sin and under the anger of God and so under his own influence.

A temptation is a trap of an enemy. Under his influence Peter tried to advise Jesus to abandon the road of sacrifice. Under his influence Judas betrayed Jesus so that He would abandon the will of God and would make war with the angels of God. Jesus overcame all temptations and nobody could provoke Him to violence. Also you can overcome, if you follow Jesus in the prayers of your Gethsemane.

As his last provocation Satan tried to tempt Jesus to step down from the cross. Under his influence onlookers near the cross hurled insults at Jesus: "*Come down from the cross, if you are the Son of God.*" Matth.27:40 Thanks to God, Jesus was not overcome by evil! Before His death Jesus cried out: "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" Then the devil believed that he had succeeded in destroying the relationship of Jesus to His Father. He was very happy that God had forsaken Jesus.

Because of his great joy Satan bowed down before the cross of Jesus to mock His kingship. Just then Jesus shouted: "It is finished" and "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit". Then "the earth shook and the rocks split" on Golgotha, which word means The Place of the Skull.

This event crushed not only the rock of Golgotha, but also the head of the devil, because Jesus is the offspring of the woman, about whom it has been said to the devil: "*He will crush your head, and you will strike His heel.*" Genesis 3.15 On the Place of the Skull Jesus trod down the head of the devil. The scornful bowing before dying Jesus was the stroke of the serpent to the heel of Jesus.

Rebelling against God is the effect of the poison of the serpent. However that poison didn't succeed in influencing in Jesus' relationship with God. The poison of the devil lost completely its power, when Jesus didn't lose His love to God although He suffered God's anger without any reason.

### **Crushed head**

The concept of a head means a centre of power not only a head of a body. "*The husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church.*" Eph.5:23 Nowadays feminist movements try to remove the husband as the head of the wife. Thus they happen to crush their

own head. It happens to them just as it happened to the devil. They don't understand that they are fighting against themselves, because they have believed lies concerning God.

Just when the devil rejoiced at his victory, he realised that he had lost everything. When he then saw that Jesus didn't become bitter against God, but died in faith in God, he realised that Jesus had entered the centre of his kingdom. *"By His death He might destroy him who holds the power of death - that is, the devil - and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death."*

Heb.2:14-15

Although God's wrath struck Jesus because of our sins, He didn't lose His loving attitude to His Father. He experienced on the cross the wrath of God. However He said: "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit". In this way He destroyed the devil by His death.

Now Man, Jesus Messiah sits on the throne of God and *"waits for His enemies to be made His footstool."* Heb.10:13 Finally the death will be removed totally, for *"the last enemy to be destroyed is death."*

1Cor.15:26

But already now God puts into practice the following promise to those who obey Jesus: *"The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet."* Rom.16:20

The Bible version used in references is NIV

# Fears

**We easily escape fears into lies, but only truth gives peace. A bad conscience produces fears but forgiveness removes them. Some fears are the reverse side of dreams. The fellowship of God gives perfect safety.**

## **Well-grounded fear**

Basically fear is uncertainty of our own existence. Because everything exists through the power of God's word only a word of God can remove our fear.

Fear trespassing against God! It is a healthful fear, because only a good relationship with God can guarantee our existence. So we can afford to lose everything else, but the friendship of God.

Jesus says to His own: *"I tell you, my friends, do not be afraid of those who kill the body and after that can do no more. But I will show you whom you should fear: Fear Him who, after the killing of the body, has power to throw you into hell. Yes, I tell you, fear Him."* Luke 12:4

Only God has power to throw you into hell. Notice that Jesus doesn't command you to fear hell, but God who has power to judge you.

God wants that we are ready to give up everything else but His friendship. God's gospel aims at achieving this in us.

After you have experienced God's love in the sacrifice of Jesus your fear of punishment disappears. *"There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love."* 1John 4:18

However the perfect love doesn't drive out the fear of God but on the contrary. If you love God you honour and fear Him more than people.

## **Groundless fears**

Sometimes we are afraid of something without any known reason. These fears overwhelm us like a surge. We feel that we cannot do

anything to stop them. They pull about our life as a gale. Where do they come from? Is it not natural that an untruthful fear of a loss comes from an untruthful ownership? Yes, you have dreamed of being something that you are not of owning, something that you have not? Is it then a wonder, if you also "dream" of losing something that you have? Lusts produce fears.

A lust of ownership and a fear of losing are the other sides of the same coin. Dreaming is an action of your spirit. Be aware! If your imagination loads into your heart strong fancies, it also loads fears!

Lovely dreams are deceitful because they give satisfaction to your spirit, but they don't warn you of fears that come later. Sooner or later the moment of truth will come and you will wake up and be dropped down from your dreams. You will realize your real state and notice what you really have. Then fears can overwhelm you as a hangover overwhelms a drunken.

Instead of dreaming be grateful to God for what you have and ask God for what you need. The difference between dreaming and praying is remarkable. A dreamer takes and a prayer receives. Concrete answers from God encourage the faith and they don't leave room for fears. Removing bad lusts from thoughts also removes groundless fears.

### **Reasons for fears**

Reasons for fears can be many. We have fears for our necessities of life. We are afraid of starvation, illnesses, violence and death. Actually these fears represent to us our fear of God's punishment. Because a bad conscience is the real source of fear, the reconciliation with God removes the base of fear.

Although a believer has peace with God, he can still have fears. Loving this life maintains fear. If we want to live this life we naturally have the fear of losing it. If we have died to this world together with Jesus, we don't hold on to it anymore.

Among sufferings and losses our body rests in the hope of resurrection. The resurrection faith is a medicine against fear. Real life of a Jesus believer is not in this world. *"Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. For you died, and your life*

*is now hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory."* Col.3:2-4

Trusting in God's maintenance comes up from a heart that worships God. Admiration of idols leads first to mistrusting in God and finally it leads under His wrath. Therefore idolaters have no peace.

Who loves his property has fears of losing it. Love of money willingly appears in an armour. The rich are often more patriotic than the poor because they have more to lose. Wars are battles between idols. Nations really have slaved each other, but be not afraid of such slavery. Instead you must be afraid of becoming a slave of sin. If your fear caused you take up arms, you have already lost your fight for freedom. Only God can make you free.

### **Do not fear people**

If you are a messenger of God, it is a part of your ministry that you don't flee. God's men have spoken God's word boldly and have run into difficulties because of it.

Jeremiah spoke to his people God's word. Because of this message people demanded a death penalty to him. He didn't flee away, but said: *"As for me, I am in your hands; do with me whatever you think is good and right. Be assured, however, that if you put me to death, you will bring the guilt of innocent blood on yourselves."* Jer.26:14-15

You can be sure that before this event also he had gone through his own Gethsemane, where he had left his life to the hands of God and not to the hands of people. He believed that God has power also among evil events. Therefore he didn't flee away.

How often have I not said a word of God because I feared people! Often I have regretted this sin. As a fruit of this repentance you can now read these my quite straightforward writings of God's word.

Whom you honour in his favour you want to be. If you fear people you want to agree with them. Do you honour people more than God? Do you rather share the same opinion with people than with God?

If people don't like God's word then praises from men or fear of men cause you to be ashamed of the words of Jesus. He says: *"If*

*anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of him when He comes in His Father's glory with the holy angels."* Mark 8:38

Which fear do you select? I think that it would be more fearful, if Jesus will not acknowledge me than if people hate me and push me away from their fellowship.

Apostle Peter sets the bold attitude of Jesus as an example for Christians: *"If you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God. To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in His steps."* 1Peter 2:20-21 *"So then, those who suffer according to God's will should commit themselves to their faithful Creator and continue to do good."* 1Peter 4:19

Peter had had hard times with this thing. He had roughly disowned Jesus because he was afraid for his life. Although he had badly fallen, he later got strength to overcome his fear. When a persecution against Christians broke out in Jerusalem many believers escaped, but Peter didn't. *"All except the apostles were scattered throughout Judea and Samaria."* Acts 8:1

### **Fears of the last days**

I am worried about many fellow believers. Especially martial speeches of many American Christians prove that they have slept through their own Gethsemane. Peter became a disowner, because he took a sword. If he had gone through his own Gethsemane, he would have disowned a sword.

Jesus asked his disciples to get swords, because He knew that His disciples were transgressors, whose hearts were not yet changed. Therefore it is written about Jesus: *"He was numbered with the transgressors."* Luke 22:37 I get rid of the transgressor living in me only by dying together with Jesus.

People have been filled with fear of terrorists. Indeed, governments feed their people with fears to push them supporting their war. The fear of terrorism serves the coming of the world wide dictatorship. If they are so much afraid of Bin Laden how much are they afraid of the Beast of the Revelation!

Nobody can use weapons of mass destruction without the permission of God. Therefore do not fear politicians but God. If your conscience witnesses that you are guilty, it is natural that you fearfully wait for something terrible to happen. If your conscience has been washed clean with the blood of Jesus, you wait for the judgement of God to wash away godless people from this world.

Do not fear the Beast and do not fight against it! God has sent him and He has given him authority over every nation, tribe and language. You, man of God, take it easy. Remain at your post. Don't flee away! Don't build a hiding place! Worship only God, for He has full control in all your situations.

Without hiding anything be open, be bright, for Jesus Christ, the Winner is with you.

The Bible version used in references is NIV

## Peace or war

**Rebelling against God is the mother of all wars. Actually every weapon made by man has been turned on God. However He offers peace to all in Jesus Christ. Before He will attack, He offers peace for His enemies. Jesus will come soon and judge the world! When He returns on the earth, every gun will be burnt. If people would worship only God, they would live in peace together. The sacrifice of Jesus on Calvary is the only way to peace, because only through it we are able to get a reconciliation with God.**

### **Sacrifices for a fatherland**

Why would the independence of fatherland be such a valuable thing that you should die for it?

Many are terrified if one gives away all of his money for charity or to a congregation. They say disapprovingly that the congregation robbed that man although he would have done it voluntarily. The same people don't disapprove if someone sacrifices his life for his fatherland. Should not they disapprove it when the government robbed the life of a young man?

People sacrifice to their gods. Worshippers of different gods don't understand the sacrifices of each other, but they consider foolishness the sacrifices to gods strange to themselves.

War is foolishness caused by a state-god. He who alone is the real God doesn't accept blood sacrifices for a fatherland. All the armies of the world are altars of false gods and nests of wickedness. Obligatory military service is against religious freedom, because it forces one to be a worshipper of a state-god. Army has no use for the person who confesses Jesus to be his God. Therefore I recommend all armies to be suppressed.

A Christian, who has committed himself to defending his fatherland with a gun, has dishonoured Jesus and tries to serve a false god and God at the same time. *"The sacrifices of pagans are offered to demons, not to God, and I do not want you to be participants with demons. You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of*

*demons. You cannot have a part in both the Lord table and the table of demons. Are we trying to arouse the Lord's jealousy? Are we stronger than He?"* 1Cor.10:19-22

Because many Christians have a part in idols, their every day Christianity is so weak. If you turn to using a gun, you have become an enemy of God. Do you believe that you will beat Him?

### **Mother of all wars**

When man fell in sin he fell into war against God. Therefore sin is "the mother of all wars". When people couldn't injure God they started to wage war against the image of God in each other.

The first war was not for a fatherland but for a religion. Wars arose from the event when Cain killed Abel. He did it because he was envious of Abel who got favour of God. He felt anger against God and carried it out in Abel. He decided to revenge on God by killing His friend.

Abel shed the blood of a lamb on the altar of God. God accepted this sacrifice but He rejected the sacrifice of Cain that consisted of fruits. The sacrifice of Abel was a peace treaty with God. He said with his sacrifice to God: "I deserve death because of my sins. To show that I repent my rebellion against You, when I sacrifice this lamb to You."

After Cain had killed Abel God said to him: "*What have you done? Listen! Your brother's blood cries out to me from the ground.*" Genesis 4:10 Whose blood is today crying out from the ground to God? Do you believe that the blood of those who were killed in wars would be an exception so that it would not cry out to God? It is remarkable to notice what God's punishment that Cain got is: "*You will be a restless wanderer on the earth.*" Genesis 4:12 God took away his right to live in the land where he shed the blood of his brother.

Cain also understood the meaning of the judgement he got because he said: "Today you are driving me from the land." The consequence of killing was landlessness. A killer has no fatherland. This started the wars for lost fatherlands. Notice that the fact is just the other way around than it is commonly claimed.

By killing the one who tries to get your country you lose your right to live there and do not deserve to own it at all. God is owner of the whole land and gives it to one He wants. Therefore they are fighting in vain who are fighting for their fatherland.

The spiritual descendants of Cain rebel against God's judgement when they try to conquer their lost land back. After succeeding in getting a fatherland they are afraid of losing it because they know in their heart that God has forbidden them to own it. This is the background of sacrifices for fatherlands.

In this way armament is equipping against the judgement of God. Because of their bad conscience people are afraid of their country being taken away from them.

### **Who has the right to kill?**

World history is full of wars. Is there any difference if disputes between individuals or disputes between states are resolved with violence? Governments are trying to make us to believe that killing is allowed only by their permission. They say that killing on an individual's own initiative is a murder but killing ordered by a state is a heroic deed. How is this possible?

The previous attitude comes from the knowledge that only God has the right to kill a man. The commandment "you shall not murder" has been given only for man not for God. Kings took this right of God to themselves. Therefore they considered they had the right to order their soldiers to kill. Presidents and parliaments have possessed the same power. Their deeds have exalted a state or its ruler to the position of a false god. When governments send their soldiers to kill soldiers of another government they are playing God.

God has ordered a death penalty for some crimes in His law. A murderer had to be murdered, a killer had to be killed. *"Bloodshed pollutes the land, and atonement cannot be made for the land on which blood has been shed, except by the blood of the one who shed it."* Numbers 35:33 This penal authority was not given to the king but to the witnesses of the crime. The witnesses had to throw the first stone.

On the days of the Old Testament God made men to kill on His behalf. The sentences of God's commandments had to be put into effect by man. Note carefully that just this right is misused by men. They say that God has commanded them to kill, though He has not any more given them the permission to execute His sentences.

Jesus removed our duty to kill on God's behalf. When He died on the cross on behalf of sinners, He atoned all the death penalties. Therefore only He is now worthy to execute God's sentences.

The blood of Jesus doesn't cry out revenge as the blood of Abel did, but it cries out forgiveness. Therefore Jesus' own doesn't recommend execution of any criminal. An execution is against the gospel of God. Only Jesus has the right to execute people, because He has been executed as innocent for all of us. If one doesn't receive the atoning work of Jesus he himself must suffer his judgement. In this way God has postponed executions of death penalties while waiting for replies of men to His offer of atonement.

### **Police doesn't bear the gun for nothing**

God has given the penal authority to judges, who co-operate with witnesses. *"For he is God's servant to do you good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword for nothing. He is God's servant, an agent of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer."* Rom.13:4

Police needs a gun to arrest a criminal, not for killing. Authority of police is limited to individuals. If a government considers another government a criminal and therefore begins to wage war against it, that government has exceeded its authority. No state can be a police for another state. Only God is the Lord of lords and the King of kings. Nowadays the authority of UN is considered to give the right to wage war against "a pirate state". In this way UN has been set to be like God.

That it could be possible to get the real police forces of the whole world, first every army should be suppressed. Army comes from the evil one because it is the defender and conqueror of the land. It must be discontinued, because it brings punishment on the rightdoers and wrongdoers. Police doesn't come from the evil one because it is a keeper of order. It brings punishment only on the wrongdoers. A

soldier can sometimes do the job of a police, as it was with all those roman soldiers that are mentioned in the New Testament.

### **God's war**

God is at war against sin. He is waging war with His words against our evil thoughts to break down our wrong attitudes. He rebukes and warns against sin so that we need not to face the consequences of our wickedness.

If sermons have no effect He punishes some persons immediately because of their sins to turn them to the right way. Some He punishes later but finally everyone will get the punishment one deserves.

He also puts limits to the power of sin by producing catastrophes for those who have gone too far in their godless life. He sends plagues which are closely scheduled and measured strategic strokes. His target is to weaken the influence of idols in the world.

Every nation has its own sin-account in a book of God. Common sins of the nation are accumulated to that account. For example Finnish parliament deposited something to that account when it made a law that accepts homosexuality and lesbianism. When the sin of a nation reaches its full measure God's judgement invades the country.

At the time of the Old Testament God gave to Israel the command to attack some nations, because their sins had reached the full measure. When Israel's own sin reached its full measure, God used the king of Babel in His war against Israel. When God allows wars He does it because thus nations punish each other for their sins. Whatever it happens everything is always under God's control.

When God becomes very angry against godless life in a country, He Himself stands up and makes war against that nation. He carried out His judgement without human middlemen when He destroyed Sodom with fire. Soon the same will happen again. Then all nations will gather for the battle against God, Almighty on Armageddon. (Rev.16:14-16, 19:11-21). There all the armies will be destroyed. Those events will be a little bit like in the movie "Independence Day", but that day will be the Great "Dependence Day", because

then mankind again becomes fully dependent on God. It will not be evil aliens but the good God attacking from space. Jesus will be the King of the whole earth. Then earth will have peace! Let the Kingdom of God come!

### **God's peace**

Before God will attack He offers peace. When Jesus died on the cross, God made the peace treaty for all nations. Everybody has the possibility to reach peace with God through the gospel. The battle of Jesus on Calvary removed the original reason of all the wars, because it brings about the reconciliation between man and God. God made the peace treaty with you on Calvary. However you must personally sign it if you want to reach peace with Him.

The Bible version used in references is NIV

## Jesus Christ and war

**Jesus Christ, well known from the Bible, is not very well known in the world as a pacifist. The reason is obvious. The big Christian churches do not follow Bible's Jesus, but are blessing weapons. Any service in an army is against the Gospel of Jesus Christ.**

### **The followers of Jesus Christ refuse violence**

The Bible's Jesus has nothing to do with wars between nations and population groups. This should be obvious to everybody who is able to read.

Jesus died on the cross for everybody. He never attacked on any person and didn't encourage anybody in violence. No, on the contrary! He says in *"You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbour and hate your enemy'. But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be sons of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous."* Matth.5:43-45

He doesn't speak about a private moral, because he refers to the old command of God to destroy a sinful nation, but not to fight against own nation. It was really so that God ordered to hate the evil ruler and his people. *"Now go, attack the Amalekites and totally destroy everything that belongs to them. Do not spare them; put to death men and women, children and infants, cattle and sheep, camels and donkeys."* 1Sam.15:3

The battle against an evil ruler and a war against his bad people sounds good in the ears of everybody. This was a well know issue to those, who listened to Jesus. God had commanded to destroy sinful and evil nations.

Therefore Jesus proclaims so unknown and revolutionary message, LOVE YOUR ENEMIES. God lets his sun to rise on Saddam Hussein and George Bush as well. The war propaganda always says that the enemy is evil, but Jesus takes the reason away, when he says that do good to evil ones.

## **The Christian Churches don't represent the Bible's Jesus**

Why in the history there has been so many wars, where it is said that the war defends Christianity? Some Christian churches even have been established using a sword to convert nation to the "Christian" faith. Who is their Christ? It is easy to understand that their Christ is not Jesus Christ, well known from the Bible. The only explanation for this is the apostasy of the Christian leaders. They turned away from the faith of Jesus. They didn't love Jesus, but the power over people. Therefore they made union with the national rulers.

What else does a government want from a religion than moral support in their wars? When the Christian leaders gave their support in this thing, they gave up the most important message in the Christianity. They lost the Gospel of the living God.

## **Which is the most valuable, Jesus or the national independence**

God has shown his mercy and love for all people and nations in Jesus. He put our sins on the innocent Jesus. *"The punishment that brought us peace was upon him."* Isaiah 53.5

The greatest problem of the mankind is its war against God. Indeed God judges sins and his face is against those who are evil. On the other hand he loves his enemies, the sinners. Jesus came to the world to suffer our punishment, that he could give to us the real peace with God through the Gospel.

If God considered the life of one man so valuable that He gave his Son, do you consider the national independence so valuable that you can kill a man, for whom Jesus died on the cross?

In the Spirit of Bible's Jesus it can be said: A national independence is not worth killing even one human being.

What these war heroes gained by their sacrifices? They did it for the future generations? All these fine reasons are nonsense. They had to do it, because the government commanded them. The most important thing is to understand that God has not commanded them to do so. When a church has given its support to send men to a war, it has disowned Lord Jesus.

## **Peace with God**

If a human being has the peace with God through the blood of Jesus Christ, he doesn't need to make a defence by violence. Jesus promised to his own the defender: *"And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counsellor to be with you for ever - the Spirit of truth."* John 14:16 The Spirit's defence force is better than the greatest machinery of war.

Pilate said to Jesus: "Don't you realise I have power either to free you or to crucify you?" Jesus answered. *"You would have no power over me if it were not given to you from above."* John 19:10-11 A follower of Jesus has the same attitude, when he is threatened with violence. The apostle Paul says: *"For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time has come for my departure."*

2Timothy 4:6-8

Because Jesus has won death, a believer doesn't need to cause the death of another person to avoid his own death. He has the Spirit of resurrection and therefore he has this attitude.

God can save my life from all violence, but when it is my time to leave this world, I don't defend myself, but I trust God, who raised Jesus from death. - Is this too difficult for persons that have not the Spirit of God? Maybe it is so, but there is a God's promise: *"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God."* Matth.5:9

Although you are not a Jesus believer, refuse all violence. Select non-military service and don't go to any killer school. It is better to be a peacemaker than a war maker. The peacemaking is a way to Jesus, because there is that promise, "will be called" and nobody can be called a son of God, if he doesn't come to Jesus.

## **The war of one man**

We see that all kind of evilness is allowed to rife in the world. God is very long-suffering. He really gives good to the evil and allows the unrighteous to rule his creation up to its pollution. He waits that as many as possible would agree to the peace with him by receiving Jesus. But one must not misunderstand his patience.

Those, who did not accept the peace with God, will face the wrath of God when his great battle day will come. It will be the holy war

of God and he will get the victory. In that battle there is only one man in the side of God against the troops of UN.

Who is worthy to kill the great army of the all nations? Only Jesus, the Lamb of God is worthy to execute rebellious and unrighteous nations. He will be the only war hero on that day. Then all evil will receive its just reward. This is the future of the evil mankind: *"Out of his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations. He will rule them with an iron sceptre. He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty."* Rev.19:11-21

TODAY IT IS A DAY OF GOD'S GRACE,  
LAY DOWN YOUR WEAPONS FOR THE GOLGOTHA'S SAKE  
AND RAISE UP YOUR HANDS TOWARDS HEAVEN  
SURRENDERING TO GOD -  
HE WILL HAVE MERCY ON YOU.

The Bible version used in references is NIV

## **The Lamb of God at war**

**The Lamb of God took away the sin of the world. He won because He was dressed in the armour of God. Take off your human armour and put on Jesus.**

### **Jesus already won the war**

Jesus Christ is the sacrificial Lamb of God. The Almighty God loved us and gave the greatest Sacrifice for us. His only Son answered for the judgment of our sins and died for us. By rising up from the dead He won death.

Jesus had a great struggle to remain the pure sacrificial lamb. He was tempted to sin in every way, just as we are but He never wronged in any way. He fought against temptations and gained the victory. It was the war against evilness. He won the war because He was dressed in the armour of God. His resurrection testifies His purity and innocence.

The victory He gained He donated to us by the way of being slain as the pure sin offering of our sins like a lamb without defect so that we could come to terms with God. As the proof of His victory He is now sitting on the throne of God.

### **The war of the Jesus' own**

Also the Jesus' own are struggling to remain pure. The faith of the Gospel donated purity, but everybody is in danger of losing it. This gives every reason for a believer to put on the armour of God.

*"Put on the full armour of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms."* Eph.6:11-12

If we use our own weapons, it is natural that we don't see our need of the armour of God. These two exclude each other. If we make war with human weapons, we cannot be dressed in the armour of God. Thus be a conscientious objector, but don't refuse to receive the war weapons of God.

*"For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ."* 2Co.10:3-5

Paul lived *"with weapons of righteousness in the right hand and in the left."* 2Co.6:7 Many who confess the Christian faith live with human war weapons in their right hand and in the left. They believe that they can defeat evil with human weapons. They even will fight against the beast of the Revelation. It is written about their defeat: *"He was given power to make war against the saints and to conquer them. And he was given authority over every tribe, people, language and nation."* Re.13:7

The beast will conquer them, because they were not dressed in the full armour of God, instead they put their trust in human weapons. The Revelation tells also about the Christians who won: *"They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony; they did not love their lives so much as to shrink from death."* Re.12:11

The overcomers have the three powerful weapons: the blood of Jesus, the testimony of Jesus and the faithfulness of Jesus. These three things tell everything about the nature of this war. The good personal relationship with God is the matter we are fighting for. Generally in wars it is fought for the home, for the fatherland and for the religion. A follower of Jesus fights for continuously having a good relationship with God.

They remained in the Gospel of God, because the blood of Jesus worked in their life. They lived from the power of the Holy Spirit, because they had the testimony of Jesus. They loved Jesus, because they were faithful to His teachings though it could cost them their life.

### **Taking off your own armour**

When putting on the armour of God the most difficult phase is to abandon our own armour. Many would like to wear both the armours, but it is not possible. If the love of God, shown in the

sacrifice of Golgotha, has really caused us to love Jesus, then we dare to give up our own armour.

Actually we must first win the war against ourselves so that we could be dressed in the armour of God. Denying ourselves and crucifying our sinful nature is the fruit of God's grace in us. When the Spirit of God purifies our inmost with the blood of Jesus, it brings about the love for God in us. Then we will have the power to deny ourselves and to follow the Lamb of God.

When the faith in the blood of Jesus is only superstition, it brings about a deceitful feeling of security. Then we have no strength to abandon our own armour. Many use the blood of Jesus as a spell against the devil by repeating "under the blood of Jesus", when the devil attacks them. It may also happen that he likes to leave you so that you would remain in your superstition, and would not come to know the real influence of the blood of Jesus.

The blood of Jesus saves us from the anger of God and not the anger of the devil. Experience how the fear of the judgment of God is taken away from you in the power of the blood of Jesus! We overcome the devil by the blood of Jesus because that blood makes his charges groundless. His charges have no effect on us, because we have peace with God by the blood of Jesus.

Nobody should think that God would love to see blood shedding. He doesn't want a sacrifice for sacrifice's sake, but He sacrificed, because there is not forgiveness without the sacrifice. God loved you and not the sacrificing. God's sacrifice is mercy on you.

If somebody considers the crucifixion of Jesus wallowing in violence, he defames God's love and hurts His feelings. He gave the sacrifice because it was necessarily needed so that we could be saved. Out of love for you He determined to do the extreme deed and sacrificed His only Son, and then you - are you watching that event as a violent movie.

The passion of Christ on the cross is a holy thing, because it is pain of God. If you consider the events of Golgotha holy in your heart, you become an overcomer. You will experience peace with God,

you will get the right to confess His name and you will get the love which is faithful to Him unto death.

### **Putting on the armour of God**

It is said about Jesus that He is faithful and true, and He judges and makes war in righteousness. God's love and truth are His weapons. If you put on Jesus you put on the armour of God.

*"Therefore put on the full armour of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled round your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God." Eph.6:13-17*

Holding to the truth ties God's love to us as a belt. The mind and attitudes of Jesus are as the breastplate. The hope of our resurrection is as a helmet. The willingness to live according to the Gospel, caused by God's love, is our shoes we stand in for the Gospel. The faith given by God is the shield and the words from God are the sword of the Spirit.

After you have put off your human weapons you feel weak and insecure. In your weakness pray God and He will put His armour on you.

When you believed in Jesus you got peace with God. It is like a white linen cloth on you. When God gives you the faith, the hope and the love of Jesus, it is the armour of God on you. His love is your war uniform. His hope is your helmet in your head. His faith is your shield in your left hand. His word is your sword in your right hand.

### **Are you now dressed in the full armour of God?**

The evil one attacks against us in the same way as he did with Jesus. The devil tempted Jesus to doubt the love of God the Father so that He would start to rebel against His Father. In our case the devil tries in many ways to make into nothing the events of Golgotha so that

we would not believe based on them that God loves us. He wants us to believe in our salvation through some trick. He would have allowed Jesus to have the assurance of the salvation, if stones would have changed into bread.

If he didn't succeed in moving us away from the grace of the gospel, next the devil tempts us to join in politics. He showed Jesus, "*all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour*" Mt.4:8 , so that seeing them would have caused so strong a desire to govern that Jesus would have worshipped the devil to gain the power. Jesus lashed with the sword of the Spirit by saying that "Worship the Lord your God and serve Him only". A believer cannot be in politics without worshipping the devil. Who worships only God, receives power only from God. Jesus doesn't yet give seats in the cabinet to His own. If you claim now to be in politics by the grace of God, it is actually the judgment of God for you and not a grace.

Finally the devil tempted Jesus to do arbitrary actions. Jesus was tempted to throw himself down from the highest point of the temple and show how the angle saves Him. Also we are tempted to do similar theatrical performances. The devil converts Christianity into theatre. He has tempted great crowds of Christians to put God to the test with the congregational actions that seem to be genuine but actually they are self-imposed actions.

These three temptations of Jesus tell us about three important things. Hearing of God's words gives us life. Waiting for the Kingdom of God is the only meaningful target for our life. Living in the will of God gives the purpose for our life.

On the other hand they tell about what we should avoid. Don't fix your heart on any perishable thing. Don't be patriotic, but keep away from politics and refuse all violence. Don't plan your life yourself, but ask how to carry out the plan of God.

### **Just love of God**

God loved us and sacrificed His only Son to be able to save us from His own righteous judgment. Those, who don't allow Jesus to bear the judgment of their sins, are allowed to bear it by themselves. This is right and just, isn't it? They have despised grace therefore it is not given them.

Jesus is the Redeemer and the Judge of all people. Only He is worthy of judging all people because He has suffered for all. On the last day He will come from the heaven and on that day His loving justness will crush all evil.

*"I saw heaven opened and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war."* Re.19:11

However be aware that every day God judges and makes war in righteousness, and not only on the last day. Many just don't recognize His judgments and being at a war against Him. The very reason why they don't notice it, is because He makes war against them with love and truth.

God's Gospel bears fruit all over the world. The Spirit of God convicts all of their sins, testifies to the righteousness of God and carries out the judgments of God in the world and shows God's love in the sacrifice of Golgotha. Some have received God's grace, but most people are content with judgment.

Also today people hit Jesus - by resisting His messengers. Also today they put the crown of thorns on His head - by despising His own. Again and again they crucify Him on the cross - by killing His followers. They make war against God and are wondering why He doesn't hit them back. *"You have condemned, you have murdered the just; he does not resist you."* Jas.5:6

A wrong doer knows to expect a revenge, but a kind and non-violent response makes him himself to revenge on himself. *"The evil deeds of a wicked man ensnare him; the cords of his sin hold him fast. He will die for lack of discipline, led astray by his own great folly."* Pr.5:22-23

God's peacefulness and His non-resistance come from His good heart. His long-suffering is our period of grace. During that time He hopes that we repent and turn to Him and beg for mercy.

### **Evil in the hands of God**

When Jesus says, *"all who draw the sword will die by the sword"* Mt.26:52 , He doesn't mean that nobody could return alive from a front, but He is speaking about the just consequences of our deeds.

How you do to others, so you do also to yourself. What you sow you will reap.

When you put your trust in violence you sow violence also into your own soul. There it germinates and grows and finally it drowns your soul in eternal restlessness. Nobody returns from a war front without mental damages.

Jesus doesn't carry out in His judgments the principle of 'eye for eye and tooth for tooth'. Instead He overcomes evil with good. *"You have heard that it was said, 'Eye for eye, and tooth for tooth'. But I tell you. Do not resist an evil person."* Mt.5:38-39 How does Jesus judge in righteousness and make war faithfully against evil, if He doesn't resist evil? Evil will be destroyed by its own evilness. Pride hits a proud one, greed a greedy one and selfishness a selfish one.

Evil will always finally get his wages. God guarantees it. If we take revenge, then the guilty one doesn't get the judgment as the fruit of his deed. God's judgment shows faithfulness by being long-suffering. The guilty one gets time for repentance, but the delayed judgment also ripens evil to eat his own fruit. A proud one loses his reason, a greedy one dispossesses himself and a sensualist tortures his own body.

Long-suffering and patience are the war weapons of the disciples of Jesus. Confidence in our own resurrection gives us courage not to defend ourselves. The evil ones torment the followers of God, but they will rise up shining as the Son of God. *"In all things God works for the good of those who love Him."* Ro.8:28 Nobody can have mercy on others without exposing himself to the evilness of others.

### **The victory of the Lamb of God**

Do you believe in the victory of the slain Lamb? If you follow Him, you do believe. They tried to kill Jesus already before the very Easter, when it was meant to happen. The crowd tried to push Him down the cliff, *"but He walked right through the crowd and went on His way."* Lu.4:30

Without the permission of God nothing happens, but who can trust His protection? Only he who fears and honours God. Jesus says: *"I tell you, my friends, do not be afraid of those who kill the body*

*and after that can do no more. But I will show you whom you should fear: Fear Him who, after the killing of the body, has power to throw you into hell. Yes, I tell you, fear Him."* Lu.12:4-5

People can kill our body, but only God can throw us into hell. God is Almighty. Therefore, whatever happens, it comes from Him.

Who fears evil honours the power of evil. The devil throws nobody into hell, but he will be thrown into it. God has strictly limited the power of evil in the world. Generally He gives His enemies under the power of the evil one. If an evil spirit torments you, God has sent it for you. *"He cast upon them the fierceness of His anger, wrath, and indignation, and trouble, by sending evil angels among them."* Ps.78:49

*"Saul's attendants said to him, 'See, an evil spirit from God is tormenting you.'" 1Sa.16:15* The King Saul turned away from God and was therefore given into the hands of evil spirits. God also gave an evil spirit like a thorn to torment Paul: *"To keep me from becoming conceited because of these surpassingly great revelations, there was given me a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me."* 2Co.12:7

Paul gave the disobedient believers into the hands of the devil: *"Who did this, hand this man over to Satan, so that the sinful nature may be destroyed and his spirit saved on the day of the Lord."* 1Co.5:4-5

God guides His people to the trials of the devil to test us. The Holy Spirit guided also Jesus to the trial. *"Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil."* Mt.4:1

Our relationship with God is the only thing, which determines our destiny. He, the Almighty, gives everyone of us our lot, as well to men as to angels. By resisting God you invite the devil to govern your life. He has the right to come, because you sinned. In vain you drive the devil away or negotiate with him about anything. Seek mercy from God! He delivers you from the evil one, for His is the kingdom, and the power and the glory.

Thus there is no devil except from God. In the same way the Bible speaks about the governments of the nations. *"For there is no*

*authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. Consequently, he who rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted."* Ro.13:1-2

Those who exist have been established by God, but it doesn't mean that they would be good. And even less it means that they should be obeyed as God. Those who exist, exist by God, because He is the Almighty.

So do not speak abusively against politicians and against the devil, but also don't seek their mercy. Many who confess the Christian faith have gone astray by getting involved in politics and by trying to drive the devil away from his position. *"Bold and arrogant, these men are not afraid to slander celestial beings."* 2Pe.2:10

The Lamb of God gained the victory because God's grace was sufficient to Him. He didn't beg for mercy from the government neither from the devil. The right way to resist the evil is to submit oneself to God. Only take care of your relationship with God and everything else will be arranged through it. *"Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."* Jas.4:7

If you submit yourself to God, you do the will of God. The devil tempts you to be disobedient to God. You must resist him by being disobedient to his suggestions. This is the right way to resist the evil one. Be man of courage and fight the noble fight of the faith and obey Jesus out of God's love which can be freely adopted by all.

The Bible version used in references is NIV





**Only Jesus Christ is worthy to kill a man because He died for everyone.**

**Jesus' own are strangers in the states where they live, because Jesus is their King. Therefore Christians have nothing to do with the patriotism of this world. Pride, greed and selfishness are reasons for violence as well in the life of individuals as between nations.**

**Good is bad's enemy, because goodness hates evil. Bad is good's enemy, because evil hates goodness. God is a good enemy of a bad person and a person is a bad enemy of the good God. God demonstrated His love for His bad enemy allowing His Only Son to suffer the punishment deserved by a bad person. Wickedness that doesn't break down and humble itself before this great love, will be crushed suddenly.**

**We easily escape fears into lies, but only truth gives peace. A bad conscience produces fears but forgiveness removes them. Some fears are the reverse side of dreams. The fellowship of God gives perfect safety.**

**Rebelling against God is the mother of all wars. Actually every weapon made by man has been turned on God. However He offers peace to all in Jesus Christ.**

**Before He will attack, He offers peace for His enemies. Jesus will come soon and judge the world! When He returns on the earth, every gun will be burnt. The sacrifice of Jesus on Calvary is the only way to peace, because only through it we are able to get a reconciliation with God.**

**Jesus Christ, well known from the Bible, is not very well known in the world as a pacifist. The reason is obvious. The big Christian churches do not follow Bible's Jesus, but are blessing weapons. Any service in an army is against the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The Lamb of God took away the sin of the world. He won because He was dressed in the armour of God. Take off your human armour and put on Jesus.**

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