



CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH
NINILCHIK

SUNDAY YOUNG PEOPLE'S READING

The HOLY WAR

Made by Shaddai Upon Diabulous for the
Regaining of the Metropolis of the World

or

The Losing and Taking Again of the
Town of Mansoul

by John Bunyan

Retold in Modern English
by Jon Cardwell

April 16th, 2023

(Episode 67)

"I have given symbols..." Hosea 12:10

[Mr. Profane returned to Mansoul from the pit with the letter from Diabolous and his lords for the Diabolonians in Mansoul. The town had corrupted to the point that the population was mingled with both Daibolonians and Mansouliaus. Mr. Prywell overheard the plot to overthrow Mansoul and immediately informed the Lord Mayor. The subordinate preacher, Mr. Understanding, assembled the people and called Mr. Prywell up so the townfolk could hear it directly from him; and Mr. Prywell] ... came and told his tale so punctually, and affirmed its truth with such ample grounds, that Mansoul fell immediately under a conviction of the truth from what he said. The preacher also backed him, saying, “Sirs, it is not irrational for us to believe it, for we have provoked Shaddai to anger, and have sinned Emmanuel out of the town. We have had too much correspondence with Diabolonians and have forsaken our former mercies. It’s no marvel then that the enemy both within and without should plot and plan our ruin; and what better time than this to do it? The sickness is now in the town and we have been made weak by it. Many good meaning men have died and the Diabolonians have recently grown stronger and stronger.

“Besides,” continued the subordinate preacher, “I have received from this good truth-teller one more hint: that he understood by those he overheard that several letters have lately passed between the Furies and the Diabolonians, letters which strategized our destruction.” When Mansoul heard all this, and unable to dispute it, they lifted up their voice and wept. Moreover, in the presence of the townsmen, Mr. Prywell confirmed all that their subordinate preacher had said. Therefore they cried all the more over their foolishness and doubled their petitions to Shaddai and His Son. They also broke the news to the captains, high commanders, and men of war in the town of Mansoul, entreating them to use the means to be strong, and to take good courage; and that they should look after their military dress and equipment to ready themselves to give Diabolous battle by night and by day if he should come (as they were informed he would), to besiege the town of Mansoul.

When the captains heard this, they being always true lovers of the town of Mansoul, like so many Samsons they shook themselves and came together to consult and strategize how to defeat those bold and hellish plots spun by the means of Diabolous and his friends against the now sickly, weakly, and much impoverished town of Mansoul. They agreed upon these following particulars—

1. That the gates of Mansoul should be kept shut, and made secure with bars and locks, and that all persons who went out, or came in, should be very strictly examined by the captains of the guards (1 Cor 16:13), “for the purpose,” said they, “that those who are managers of the plot amongst us, may be taken, whether coming or going; and that we may also find out who the great contrivers are among us for our ruin” (Lam 3:40).

2. The next thing was, that a strict search should be made for all kind of Diabolonians throughout the whole town of Mansoul; and that every man’s house should be searched from top to bottom; and that, too, if possible, a further discovery might be made house by house of all such among them as had a hand in these plans (Heb 12:15-16).

3. It was further concluded, that wherever or with whomever any of the Diabolonians were found, that even those of the town of Mansoul who had given them house and harbor, must repent in an open place to their shame, so others would be warned (Jer 2:34; 5:26; Ezek 16:52).

4. It was, moreover, resolved by the famous town of Mansoul, that a public fast, and a day of humiliation, should be kept throughout the whole corporation, to the justifying of their Prince, the abasing of themselves before Him for their transgressions against Him, and against Shaddai, His Father (Joel 1:14; 2:15-16). It was further resolved, that all such in Mansoul who did not endeavor to keep that fast on that day and humble themselves for their faults, but instead, set their affections toward worldly lusts, or be found wandering up and down the streets, should be considered to be Diabolonians, and should suffer as Diabolonians for all such wicked doings.

5. It was further concluded then, that with what speed, and with what warmth of mind they could, they would renew their humiliation for sin and their petitions to Shaddai for help. They also resolved to send tidings to the court of all that Mr. Prywell had told them (Jer 37:4-5).

6. It was also determined, that thanks should be given by the town of Mansoul to Mr. Prywell for his diligent seeking after the welfare of their town; and further, that forasmuch as he was so naturally inclined to seek their good, and also to undermine their foes, they gave him a commission of Scout-Master-General, for the good of the town of Mansoul.

When the corporation, with their captains, had thus concluded, they did as they said; they shut up their gates, they searched strictly for Diabolonians, they made those with whom any were found to take penance in the open place: they kept their fast and renewed their

petitions to their Prince. Mr. Prywell managed his charge and the trust that Mansoul had put in his hands, with great conscience and good fidelity; for he gave himself up wholly to his employ, and that not only within the town, but he went outside also to pry, to see, and to hear.

And not many days after, he provided for his journey, and went towards Hell-Gate Hill, into the country where the Doubters were, where he heard of all that had been talked about in Mansoul. He also perceived that Diabulous was almost ready for his march, etc. So he hurried back and, calling the captains and elders of Mansoul together, he told them where he had been, what he had heard, and what he had seen. Particularly, he told them that Diabulous was almost ready for his march, and that he made the general of his army old Mr. Incredulity, the one who had broken out of prison in Mansoul; that his army consisted all of Doubters, and that their number was above twenty thousand. He told, moreover, that Diabulous intended to bring the chief princes of the infernal pit with him, and that he would make them chief captains over his Doubters. He told them, moreover, that it was certainly true that several from the dark den would ride along with Diabulous to reduce the town of Mansoul to the obedience of Diabulous, their prince.

He said, moreover, that he understood by the Doubters, among whom he had been, that the reason why old Incredulity was made general of the whole army, was because there was none more loyal than he to the tyrant; and because he had a merciless spite against the welfare of the town of Mansoul. “Besides,” he told them, that he remembered the affronts Mansoul had given him, and he was resolved to be avenged of them. But the black princes shall be made high commanders, only Incredulity shall be over them all; because, which I had almost forgot, he can more easily, and more dexterously besiege the town of Mansoul than can any of the other princes (Heb 12:1).

Now, when the captains of Mansoul, with the elders of the town, had heard the tidings Mr. Prywell brought, they thought it expedient, without further delay, to execute the laws against the Diabolonians, laws their Prince had made for them and given them in commandment to manage them. Therefore, a diligent and impartial search was immediately made in all houses in Mansoul for all and all manner of Diabolonians. Now, in the house of Mr. Mind, and in the house of the great Lord Willbewill, were two...

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