



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

September 10, 2023

(Episode 81)

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

[While Diabulous and his Diabolonians at Hell-Gate Hill were plotting their next attack, we learned the origins of the Doubters; and we also began hearing about the Bloodmen. The Bloodmen are a people who have their name derived from the extreme sinfulness of their nature, and from the fury that is in them to...] execute it upon the town of Mansoul. Their land lies under the dog-star, and by that they are governed according to their intellects. The name of their country is the province of Loathegood: the remote parts of it are far distant from the land of Doubting, yet they are adjacent to the hill called Hell-Gate Hill. These people are always aligned with the Doubters, for together they cause the men of the town of Mansoul to question their faith and fidelity; so are both alike, qualified for the service of their prince.

Now, by the beating of his drum, Diabulous formed another army from these two countries to rise against the town of Mansoul; an army of twenty-five thousand strong. There were ten thousand Doubters and fifteen thousand Bloodmen, and they were put under several captains for the war. Old Incredulity was once again made general of the army.

As for the Doubters, their captains were five of the seven who were heads of the last Diabolonian army. These were their names: Captain Beelzebub, Captain Lucifer, Captain Apollyon, Captain Legion, and Captain Cerberus. Some of the captains they had before were made lieutenants, and some ensigns of the army.

But in this expedition of his, Diabulous did not count that these Doubters would prove his principal men, for their manhood had been tried before. Moreover, the Mansouliaus had put them to the worst. He only brought them to increase the number, and to help in a pinch, if needed. Instead, he trusted in his Bloodmen, for they were all rugged villains, and he knew that they had done skillful feats in the past.

As for the Bloodmen, they were also under command. The names of their captains were Captain Cain, Captain Nimrod, Captain Ishmael, Captain Esau, Captain Saul, Captain Absalom, Captain Judas, and Captain Pope.

1. Captain Cain was over two bands, namely, the zealous and the angry Bloodmen. His standard-bearer bore the red colors and his shield was the murdering club (Gen 4:8).

2. Captain Nimrod was captain over two bands, namely, the tyrannical and encroaching Bloodmen. His standard-bearer bore the red colors and his shield was the great bloodhound (Gen 10:8).

3. Captain Ishmael was captain over two bands, namely, the mocking and scorning Bloodmen. His standard-bearer bore the red colors and his shield was one mocking Abraham's Isaac (Gen 21:9-10).

4. Captain Esau was captain over two bands, namely, the Bloodmen who complained that another should have the blessing, as well as being over the Bloodmen who executed their private revenge upon others. His standard-bearer bore the red colors and his shield was one privately lurking to murder Jacob (Gen 27:42-45).

5. Captain Saul was captain over two bands, namely, the groundlessly jealous and the devilishly furious Bloodmen. His standard-bearer bore the red colors and his shield was three bloody darts cast at harmless David (1 Sam 18:10-11; 19:10; 20:33).

6. Captain Absalom was captain over two bands, namely, over the Bloodmen who will kill a father or a friend for the glory of this world; as well as over those Bloodmen who flatter with words until they can pierce others with their swords. His standard-bearer bore the red colors and his shield was the son pursuing the father's blood (2 Sam 15; 16; 17).

7. Captain Judas was over two bands, namely, the Bloodmen who sell a man's life for money, and also those Bloodmen who betray their friend with a kiss. His standard-bearer bore the red colors and his shield was thirty pieces of silver and the hangman's rope (Matt 26:14-16, 49).

8. Captain Pope was captain over one band, for all these spirits are joined in one under him. His standard-bearer bore the red colors and his shield was the stake, the flame, and the good man in it (Rev 13:7-8; Dan 11:33).

The reason Diabulous rallied another force so soon after he had been beaten in the field was because he placed such mighty confidence in this army of Bloodmen. He placed a great deal more trust in them than he ever had in his army of Doubters, even though they had often done great service for him in strengthening him in his kingdom. But these Bloodmen, he had proven them often; and their sword seldom returned empty. Besides, he knew that these, like mastiffs, would fasten upon anyone: upon father, mother, brother, sister, prince, or governor, yes, even upon the Prince of princes Himself. And what encouraged him even more was that they once forced Emmanuel out of the kingdom of Universe. "And why," thought he, "may they not also drive Him from the town of Mansoul?"

So this army of twenty-five thousand strong was, by their general, the great Lord Incredulity, led up against the town of Mansoul. Now Mr.

Prywell, the scoutmaster-general, had himself gone out to spy, and he brought Mansoul tidings of their coming. Therefore they shut up their gates and put themselves in a posture of defense against these new Diabolonians coming up against the town.

So Diabulous brought up his army and beseiged the town of Mansoul. The Doubters were placed about Feel-gate, and the Bloodmen were set before Eye-gate and Ear-gate.

Now when this army had encamped themselves, Incredulity, in the name of Diabulous, in his own name, and in the name of the Bloodmen and the rest that were with him, sent a summons as hot as a red-hot iron to Mansoul, to yield to their demands. They threatened to immediately burn down Mansoul with fire if they continued to resist them. For you must know that, as for the Bloodmen, they were not interested in Mansoul's surrender since it was their intention that Mansoul should be destroyed and cut off out of the land of the living. True, they sent to them a summons to surrender; but should they so do, it would not stench or quench the thirsts of these men (Isa 59:7). They must have blood, the blood of Mansoul, else they die. It is from tactics like these from where they get their name (Psa 26:9-10; Jer 22:17). Therefore, when all his other means proved ineffectual, Diabulous reserved these Bloodmen as his last and sure card to be played against the town of Mansoul.

Now, when the townsmen received this red-hot summons, it immediately birthed in them some changing and interchanging thoughts. In less than half an hour, however, they jointly agreed to carry the summons to the Prince, which they did after they had written at the bottom of it, "Lord, save Mansoul from bloody men!" (Psa 59:2).

So He took it, looked upon it, and considered it. He also took notice of that short petition the men of Mansoul had written at the bottom of it. He called the noble Captain Credence and bid him to take Captain Patience with him to go and take care of that side of Mansoul which was besieged by the Bloodmen (Heb 6:12, 15). So they did as they were commanded. Captain Credence took Captain Patience and they both secured the side of Mansoul that was besieged by the Bloodmen.

Then He commanded that Captain Good-hope, Captain Charity, and my Lord Willbewill should take charge of the other side of the town. "And I," said the Prince, "will..."

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