

A Time to Fight

I keep hearing over and over that, as Christians, we should be kind and turn the other cheek. In principle this should be our stance. I have been reminded over and over in the Bible that God wants to fight our battle. So, we don't have to? I just don't think it's that simple. Should a bunch of people die in a fight and you still win? Should the enemy be obliterated for our cause? I believe God wants to fight the battle so both sides win. Men will fight a dirty war. Men will fight by any means. God will fight the right way.

The Lord in heaven would rather that I pray, look to God for direction and help. The battle belongs to him. It's like our enemies. The great equalizer is death. Justice might not come on earth. Yet, at death God will make amends. Our role is to uphold the integrity of God. To rely on the best way to win. There are several instances where God confused or destroyed the enemy without an arrow being shot. God does not need to prove He is strong and we are weak. In battle we could find those things out. Yet, God knows we know. We are strong. He is strong. The greatest power we have is admitting weakness to gain strength in the Lord.

With that said, there is a time to fight. Sometimes our long road is much longer directly because we don't fight. We don't pray, call on the Lord, or read our Bible. Sometimes it's as simple as not fighting. There are moments when the long game is what God needs to make us better people. Sometimes fighting will grow us too. People like to say that God helps those who help themselves. Although, that is not directly in the Bible there is some truth in it. The Bible does say stand firm. It does say be courageous. It is possible that God needs us to stand at the Red Sea as the enemy is barring down upon us.

What does God have to say? Several times Moses asked God to do it! Moses asked God to replace him with another. Yet, God pushed Moses into a corner to fight. Read 2 Chronicles 20. God took the battle to the enemy. Notice that the Israelite army only had to take the spoils of war. Not an arrow was shot. Now remember that Moses had to go to Pharaoh. Moses had to wander in the desert 40 years. Battles are fought and won in many different ways. That does not mean you don't have to fight. It does mean: who are you fighting alongside? With God?

Matthew 5:26 scares me to death. "*Truly I tell you, you will not get out until you have paid the last penny.*" This verse is a response to taking your adversary to court. I was offered a deal by my Ex before court. In my wisdom it was too much to bear. So, I fought her and lost even more in court. Maybe God had this fight and I didn't trust Him? About two years later all the monetary hardship disappeared when my kids moved in with me. Fighting was the worst thing I could have done, yet I chose to battle. A battle God had beaten already.

On the other side is a necessary fight. I was a small child for a long time. Kids used to pick on me. One day the biggest kid in the school hit me for no reason. I hit him back. I should have died that day. He said I was dead. Yet, that boy never touched me again. He respected the fight. I fought for visitation rights in court. I fight every day on the treadmill. We all have our battles. Yet, for the most part the battle is the Lords. Praying is powerful. Patience and diligence are powerful. What if we just trusted in God and left our battles in His hands?

Read 2 Chronicles 20. Read Matthew 5 concerning your adversary. Then I suggest that you read Ecclesiastics 3. There is a time for everything. Yet, the Lord will give you direction and timing if you will give the battle to Him. God might solve it or He might ask you to battle and fight. Either way leave those decisions in His hands. Joshua 1:9 is a great way to enter the battle. Begin on your knees and God will show you the way through. "*Have I not commanded you? Be*

strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go.”