

THE “FIRST AID KIT”

On **12/26/2020** the Lord showed me a vision of a g_u_n hidden in an ash pail next to a wood burning fireplace. **End of vision.** Immediately I knew my next story topic - it was an incident that happened last summer. On 6/26/2020 as I was taking my trash to the curb, my neighbors, a married couple, flagged me down. They said that a local business owner had told them that A_N_T_I_F_A and B_L_M had threatened to burn down our city because he was selling c_o_n_f_e_d_e_r_a_t_e flags at his store.

Then the husband said “Dana, you need to get prepared”. I thought, yes, I need to seek the Lord. Then he said “Check out my first aid kit.” Then he popped the lid on his “first-aid kit”. It was empty inside except for a g_u_n. I was kind of taken aback since all I wanted to do was get back to my morning coffee, when suddenly the neighbor is showing me his weapon. Now I ask you, who can deal with a_r_s_o_n and g_u_n_s before their first caffeine fix of the day? I said “Well, I believe that the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for the pulling down of strongholds”. I honestly don’t know where that came from since I was only half awake. Then the wife said “You’re preaching to the choir.” They’re Christians too, just to clarify.

Now I need to backtrack to what happened to me on 6/23/2019. I had just retired for the night and was lying there thinking about what I was going to eat the next day. Suddenly the Holy Spirit interrupted my thoughts and I heard Him say “**NO G_U_N_S**”. Whoa! I’ve got to tell you I was not expecting that. I’ve always been a supporter of the S_E_C_O_N_D__A_M_E_N_D_M_E_N_T, so those two little words rocked my world and shattered my paradigm. But then again, God does that to me a lot. So like any good “Berean”, I started searching scripture to see if what I heard was in line with the Word of God.

The first scripture that I came across was in Matthew 26 where Peter drew his sword and cut off the ear of the soldier who had come to arrest Jesus. Jesus said “**Put your sword in its place, for all who take the sword will perish by the sword**”. Then Jesus healed the soldier’s ear. Based on the context, I am pretty certain that the Lord was referring to a physical sword. So far the word “**NO G_U_N_S**” seemed right in line with scripture.

But then I came across another scripture that seemingly contradicted Matthew 26. This is the very same scripture that my neighbor’s wife actually quoted to me as justification for their “first aid kit” prep.

LUKE 22:35 And He said to them, “**When I sent you without money bag, knapsack, and sandals, did you lack anything?**” So they said, “Nothing.”

36Then He said to them, “**But now, he who has a money bag, let him take it, and likewise a knapsack; and he who has no sword, let him sell his garment and buy one. 37For I say to you that this which is written must still**

be accomplished in Me: 'And He was numbered with the transgressors.' For the things concerning Me have an end." 38So they said, "Lord, look, here are two swords." And He said to them, "It is enough."

So was Jesus actually telling his disciples to buy a physical sword? After meditating on this, I believe the sword that Jesus was referring to, was actually the "sword of the Spirit", which is the Word of God. When Jesus was tempted by Satan in the wilderness, he used the Word of God or "sword of the Spirit" to overcome Satan. So why did he say to "sell his garment"? I believe this is a reference to our righteousness being as filthy rags before the Lord. And we are washed by the water of the Word. So I don't think that scripture was talking about physical weapons at all, but spiritual ones.

Then I thought about the prophet, Elisha. If ever there was someone who knew how to deal with threats against his life, it was him. He had plenty of practice since his enemies were always trying to kill him. One time he was surrounded by a mob of young men threatening to take him out. Did he whip out a G_L_O_C_K? Did he set the sights on his A_R_15? No, he relied on the "sword of the Spirit" and cursed the mob in the name of the Lord. At his words, God sent angry bears out of the woods to deal with the threat. Scripture doesn't say what words Elisha spoke, but I believe that Deuteronomy 28:25-26 seems to fit the bill pretty well. Then another time his home was surrounded by an army of Syrians sent to assassinate him. Did he use his k_i_l_l_e_r_d_r_o_n_e_ to take them out? No, he prayed to God to temporarily blind the eyes of his enemy. The same thing happened with Elijah too. The King actually sent a company of 50 soldiers to kill him, not just once but three times. Elijah said if he was a man of God then let fire come down from the sky and consume them. And it did, because nothing is impossible with God.

My point is that Elisha and Elijah didn't need to rely on the weapons of man because they had something far more powerful at their disposal - spiritual weapons mighty in God! If God was for them, who could be against them?

Scriptures

ACTS 17:10 Then the brethren immediately sent Paul and Silas away by night to Berea. When they arrived, they went into the synagogue of the Jews. 11These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so.

2 CORINTHIANS 10:3 For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. 4For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, 5casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ, 6and being ready to punish all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled.

MATTHEW 26:50 Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and took Him. 51And suddenly, one of those who were with Jesus stretched out his hand and drew his sword, struck the servant of the high priest, and cut off his ear. 52But Jesus said to him, "Put your sword in its

place, for all who take the sword will perish by the sword. 53Or do you think that I cannot now pray to My Father, and He will provide Me with more than twelve legions of angels? 54How then could the Scriptures be fulfilled, that it must happen thus”.

LUKE 22:36 Then He said to them, “But now, he who has a money bag, let him take it, and likewise a knapsack; and he who has no sword, let him sell his garment and buy one. 37For I say to you that this which is written must still be accomplished in Me: ‘And He was numbered with the transgressors.’ For the things concerning Me have an end.” 38So they said, “Lord, look, here are two swords.” And He said to them, “It is enough.”

EPHESIANS 6:17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:

EPHESIANS 5:26 that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word,

ISAIAH 64:6 But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.

2 KINGS 2:23 Then he went up from there to Bethel; and as he was going up the road, some youths came from the city and mocked him, and said to him, “Go up, you baldhead! Go up, you baldhead!” 24So he turned around and looked at them, and pronounced a curse on them in the name of the Lord. And two female bears came out of the woods and mauled forty-two of the youths.

2 KINGS 6:14 Therefore he sent horses and chariots and a great army there, and they came by night and surrounded the city. 15And when the servant of the man of God arose early and went out, there was an army, surrounding the city with horses and chariots. And his servant said to him, “Alas, my master! What shall we do?” 16So he answered, “Do not fear, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them.” 17And Elisha prayed, and said, “Lord, I pray, open his eyes that he may see.” Then the Lord opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw. And behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha. 18So when the Syrians came down to him, Elisha prayed to the Lord, and said, “Strike this people, I pray, with blindness.” And He struck them with blindness according to the word of Elisha.

2 KINGS 1:9 Then the king sent to him a captain of fifty with his fifty men. So he went up to him; and there he was, sitting on the top of a hill. And he spoke to him: “Man of God, the king has said, ‘Come down!’” 10So Elijah answered and said to the captain of fifty, “If I am a man of God, then let fire come down from heaven and consume you and your fifty men.” And fire came down from heaven and consumed him and his fifty.

MARK 10:27 But Jesus looked at them and said, “With men it is impossible, but not with God; for with God all things are possible.”

DEUTERONOMY 28:25 “The Lord will cause you to be defeated before your enemies; you shall go out one way against them and flee seven ways before them; and you shall become troublesome to all the kingdoms of the earth. 26Your carcasses shall be food for all the birds of the air and the beasts of the earth, and no one shall frighten them away.

DEUTERONOMY 28:28 The Lord will strike you with madness and blindness and confusion of heart. 29And you shall grope at noonday, as a blind man gropes in darkness; you shall not

prosper in your ways; you shall be only oppressed and plundered continually, and no one shall save you.

LUKE 9:54 And when His disciples James and John saw this, they said, “Lord, do You want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them, just as Elijah did?”

ROMANS 8:31 What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?