

## **The United Effort**

-Warfare is not waged by individuals but by units of soldiers united in purpose and committed to one another.

***Mark 6:7***

***And he called unto him the twelve, and began to send them forth by two and two; and gave them power over unclean spirits;***

***Luke 9:1-2***

***Then he called his twelve disciples together, and gave them power and authority over all devils, and to cure diseases.***

***<sup>2</sup>And he sent them to preach the kingdom of God, and to heal the sick.***

***Luke 10:19***

***Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall hurt you.***

-The local church is Christ's basic unit of united warfare. We are united by the Spirit as one body and share a common vision and goal. Our bond is His love. Our vision is to see believers brought to maturity and see the church prepared for the coming of Christ, a church without spot or wrinkle.

***Rom 8:29***

***For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.***

***1 Cor 12:13***

***For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body— Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit.***

-We are charged with enforcing His victory by faith and obedience.

-Our empowerment is the Holy Spirit and our authority is directly related to the church's holiness.

**-Sin in the church will diminish our authority over the enemy and even totally nullify it.**

**-As the body of Christ we are His boots on the ground here on earth.**

***Eph 1:20-23 that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, <sup>21</sup>far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. <sup>22</sup>And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, <sup>23</sup>which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.***

**-The local unit is made up of foot soldiers and leaders. The leaders are called elders.**

**-All go through spiritual training but the leaders' training will be more severe to prepare them for their task.**

**-Leaders must exhibit humility and love for Christ and His church. Without humility the leader will be ineffective and divisive.**

**-The leaders must allow the Holy Spirit to lead. Soldiers must allow the leaders to lead through their God given authority.**

**-An army can not function apart from submission to authority. Otherwise there would be disorder and even chaos.**

**-Leadership and direction come down from heaven not up from below.**

**-Sin in the church will give satan a foot hold. Especially rebellion against leadership which is a very serious offense against the Lord.**

### **Numbers 16:1-3**

**Now Korah the son of Izhar, the son of Kohath, the son of Levi, with Dathan and Abiram the sons of Eliab, and On the son of Peleth, sons of Reuben, took men; <sup>2</sup>and they rose up before Moses with some of the children of Israel, two hundred and fifty leaders of the congregation, representatives of the congregation, men of renown. <sup>3</sup>They gathered together against Moses and Aaron, and said to them, "You take too much upon yourselves, for all the congregation is holy, every one of them, and the LORD**

is among them. Why then do you exalt yourselves above the assembly of the LORD?"

**Numbers 16:31-35**

<sup>31</sup>Now it came to pass, as he finished speaking all these words, that the ground split apart under them, <sup>32</sup>and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed them up, with their households and all the men with Korah, with all their goods. <sup>33</sup>So they and all those with them went down alive into the pit; the earth closed over them, and they perished from among the assembly. <sup>34</sup>Then all Israel who were around them fled at their cry, for they said, "Lest the earth swallow us up also!"

<sup>35</sup>And a fire came out from the LORD and consumed the two hundred and fifty men who were offering incense.

***1 Samuel 15:23***

***For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, And stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the LORD, He also has rejected you from being king."***

**Conclusion**

-The church is God's holy conduit upon the earth to transmit God's will from heaven to earth.

-The local church's primary method of warfare is spiritual worship and prayer by a holy army properly prepared and empowered.