

The Soul of a Warrior #2

Introduction

I want to continue to teach on the topic of 'Soul of a Warrior' because that's what it will take to win the battle for the soul of America; it's a battle we are losing because we have too many...

Chocolate Soldiers

This title is taken from a remarkable little book written 100 years ago by Englishman Charles Thomas Studd. (What an appropriate name!)

Charles Thomas Studd

(1860-1931)

- **Champion Cricket player**
- **Converted to Christ under the ministry of D.L. Moody at age 18**

Studd inherited a large fortune from his father but gave it all away to Christian missions work and spent the rest of his own life on mission fields in China, India and Africa.

- **In 1912, he wrote 'The Chocolate Soldier'-which is really a war cry against a passive kind of Christianity.**

Wikipedia

Studd believed in plain speaking and a muscular Christianity, calling for Christians to embrace a "Don't Care a Damn" attitude toward worldly temptations.

Studd's book is an indictment against cowardly Christians, calling the church to recover the warrior spirit of God's heroes.

Here is the theme of his book...

C.T. Studd

Heroism is the lost chord of present-day Christianity. A soldier without heroism is a chocolate soldier, dissolving in water and melting at the smell of fire.

History is repeating itself. Once again the Christian banner is trodden under foot and the chocolate soldiers have fled from the battlefield. And here is the problem:

Theme

The Christian church in America has been feminized to the point where we have forgotten how to fight.

2 Goals Tonight

First, I want to show how there has been a feminization of the Church. Second, I want to show how this feminization has opened the door for the rise of homosexuality and the militant Gay Movement in America.

Eric Metaxas

Something began to happen back in the 1960's where we ceased teaching the things we once knew and took for granted. And so, for some time now, we have ceased to raise manly men.

The battle for America has a few Christian champions fighting the good fight of faith. But far too many would-be-warriors are still focused on self.

Testimony: I know many very spiritual men who aren't even in the battle!
They spend all their time on spiritual introspection.

C.T. Studd

It's good to have a great heart-searching. It's better to make a heart-resolve. But if we squat among the sheep, leaving our hard-pressed brethren to tackle the wolves by themselves, we are but Chocolate Christians.

Thomas Paine

Thomas Paine referred to the cowardly colonists who refused to fight for their country as 'summer soldiers' and 'sunshine patriots'.

We are in a battle for the soul of America. Barbarians are at the gates. But God is raising up an army with the soul of a warrior. Will the real men of God stand up?

The soul of the warrior won the war for America's freedoms. Where is it today?

Dutch Sheets

The warrior spirit was essential in order to win America's freedom. This kind of warrior-heart is also necessary spiritually. Though we are called to love and pursue peace with all men, we believers are also called to wage spiritual warfare.

I know the devil will work to make this message be understood.
'He's a male chauvinist'. 'He is ignoring the importance of women'.
'He is a fanatic'. Now that is a label I will wear!

C.T. Studd

God's real people have always been called fanatics. But fanatics among Christians today are as rare as the dodo bird.

The great warrior David was willing to look like a fool dancing before the Lord. Yet today, the same men who go crazy at a football game won't even lift their hands to the Lord in a worship service.

I. The Feminization of Christianity

C.S. Lewis

"We make men without chests and expect from them virtue and enterprise. We laugh at honor and are shocked to find traitors in our midst."

A. There is an Attack on Biblical Manhood

1. Tristan Emmanuel is a Canadian Christian activist who puts his finger on the problem.

Tristan Emmanuel

Canadian, Founder and President Equipping Christians for the Public Square
On a cultural level, we all know that the idea of a "real man" has almost been beaten out of our social consciousness. Men are objects of scorn and vilification. Watch any TV commercial or sitcom and you'll witness a barrage of attacks, all designed to assault the dignity of real masculinity and the historic male role model as provider and protector.

2. He also points out that the emasculation of the American male doesn't end in the pews; it extends to the pastors in our pulpits.

Tristan Emmanuel

Many pastors have suppressed godly male assertiveness, opting instead to 'be nice'. They have abdicated their calling to 'speak the truth' in the interest of political correctness. And they have decided that manipulating people with emotional self-help books and anecdotal sermonizing is better for the bottom line than training and teaching the men in their congregations to be leaders and warriors for Christ. As a result, the evangelical church is suffering from a shortage of real men.

3. Surveys show that women vastly outnumber men in most church congregations. So where are the men? One new book blames panty-waist pastors who fail to realize that God's real men don't resonate with messengers who minimize masculinity.

a. David Murrow's book is called "Why Men Hate to Go to Church". His bottom line...

David Murrow, Why Men Hate Going to Church

Men don't feel welcome in churches anymore because Christianity has been feminized.

b. Murrow says men don't fight the feminization; they just drop out. Instead of fighting the feminization they just give in to it.

Jeremiah G. Dys

The feminist movement really hasn't changed a thing because, in the end, men have embraced their own feminization. Men have done this to themselves because they have become soft and lazy.

4. Many men are like Adam in the Garden of Eden; he was silent and passive, willing to let his wife take the lead in the duel with the devil. Many men to this day are willing to do the same.

Jeremiah G. Dys

Men have conceded our role in family, church and state. But we had no right to abdicate that responsibility. The solution is very simple: Men need to be men again. They need to take up their responsibility the way God intended them to behave. And the church needs to re-learn how to help them do that again.

5. How can that happen? The first thing we need to do is get back to preaching the biblical Jesus, who will always be our model for manhood. We have to reject what's been going on for decades in our churches...

B. The Feminization of Jesus Christ

1. Pastors in our modern American pulpits promote the 'Lamb of God', which is good, but totally ignore the 'Lion of Judah', which is cowardly.

a. The same One who tenderly forgave the harlot made a whip of cords and drove the money-changers out of the Temple.

b. The same one who blessed Simon Peter and spoke tenderly to the harlot also called the Scribes hypocrites and called the Pharisees a brood of vipers.

2. Dorothy Sayers, a friend of the great C.S. Lewis pointed out the problem many years ago.

Dorothy Sayers

Our later generations have muffled up the shattering personality of Jesus. We have efficiently clipped the claws of the Lion of Judah, certified Him as 'meek and mild', and recommended Him as a household pet for pale pastors and pious old ladies."

a. The real Jesus was a man's man!

Dorothy Sayers

The same gentle Jesus, meek and mild, was so straightforward and so inflammatory in His language that He was thrown out of church, stoned, hunted from place to place, and finally labeled a firebrand and a public danger.

b. Yet how many so-called men of God feminize the Lord Jesus for fear of offending people? A few years ago, the pastor of one of America's largest churches was asked on a national interview program what he thought about homosexuality; and all he could say was, "It's not for me to judge them".

c. This man has become a model for 1000's of pastors who believe the way to build a bigger church is to avoid anything offensive.

Dorothy Sayers, "Letters to a Diminished Church"

"If all men are offended by Christ, let them be offended. We do Jesus little honor by watering down His personality until it wouldn't offend a fly. Surely it is not the business of men to adapt Christ to men, but to adapt men to Christ."

3. Jesus Christ is the ultimate male role model. But I'm thinking of another man tonight. A man that God sent ahead to prepare for the ministry of Jesus; a man Jesus Christ Himself said was the greatest in the Kingdom up until then; I'm thinking of John the Baptist....

II. The Model for Manhood

A. John the Baptist

1. In Matthew 11, John had been arrested and thrown into prison. Why?

Matthew 14:3-4 The Message Bible

Herod had arrested John, put him in chains, and sent him to prison to placate Herodias, his brother Philip's wife. John had provoked Herod by naming his relationship with Herodias "adultery."

a. So much for not being involved in politics! Here's a model for how manly men have the courage to call out sinful political leaders like Herod.

2. Jesus went on to say this about John:

Matthew 11:7-8

As they departed, Jesus began to say to the multitudes concerning John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? But what did you go out to see? A man clothed in soft garments? Indeed, those who wear soft clothing are in kings' houses."

a. Jesus says John was not a 'reed shaken by the wind'!

3. Jesus says John was not a man 'clothed in soft garments'. There is a hidden message here.

a. The word 'soft', in Greek, means 'effeminate'!

'soft'

Metaphorically, in a bad sense: effeminate, or of a catamite, a male who submits his body to unnatural lewdness.

Thayer's Greek Lexicon

Albert Barnes

The kind of clothing here denoted was the light, thin clothing worn by effeminate persons. Christ asks them whether they were attracted by anything like that. This kind of clothing was an emblem of riches, splendor, effeminacy, feebleness of character. But He says that John was a man of a different stamp-coarse in his exterior, qualified to be the forerunner of the suffering Messiah.

4. Jesus calls John a 'man's man'; no chocolate soldier here! Jesus juxtaposes John against those dressed in 'effeminate' clothing.

5. The message for our day is simple: the feminization of the church and of Christ Himself explains the rise of the LGBT community in America.

a. When the Church loses the spirit of the warrior and the doctrine of biblical manhood, the culture becomes confused.

Tristan Emmanuel

Ironically, with the death of genuine masculinity, an increasing number of young men are seeking to reclaim their manhood in homosexuality.

6. This explains what we see happening everywhere today. The feminization of the Church has led to...

B. The Feminization of the Culture

1. We see this in the rise of the militant homosexual agenda.

StandingForFreedom.Com

When the battle about gay marriage began, Christians were told that gays only wanted equality and the right to marry the person they love just like

heterosexual couples. Of course, their agenda did not stop there, as a militant LGBT lobby has marched on, quickly conquering corporate America and fighting intently for the hearts and minds of America's youth.

a. Notice the words here: what began as an appeal for rights has now become a 'militant LGBT' army 'fighting for the hearts and minds of America's youth'.

2. The enemy army is out of the closet and on the battlefield! Did you miss this?

The San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus removed a music video from their public YouTube channel titled "A Message From the Gay Community," in which the group sings "we're coming for your children."

Lyrics

"You think we're sinful, you fight against our right,
you say we all lead lives you can't respect.
But you're just frightened, you think that we'll corrupt your kids if our agenda
goes unchecked.
Funny, just this once, you're correct."

"We'll convert your children, happens bit by bit,
quietly and subtlety and you will barely notice it.
You can keep them from disco, warn about San Francisco,
make 'em wear pleated pants, we don't care.

We'll convert your children... we'll make them tolerant and fair.

Just like you worried, they'll change their group of friends,
you won't approve of where they go at night.
And you'll be disgusted when they start learning things online
that you kept far from their sight.

We'll convert your children – Yes we will!
Reaching one and all, there's really no escaping it...
Cause we're coming for your children.

The gay agenda is coming home. The gay agenda is here.

a. These threats make a real man's blood boil. But you have to hand it to them...they're on the battlefield and making headway.

3. In case you've had your head in the sand, here's some ground they've already gained:

a. We now have a transexual Muppet.

Muppet Makeover

In the latest episode of Disney Junior's "Muppet Babies", the beloved Gonzo appears in a dress and announces that he has a new name – "Gonzo-rella".

b. This is how the gay agenda seeks to normalize transsexualism in the minds of our children. Consider these things:

- **Last year, Nickelodeon launched its "Trans Youth Acting Challenge", which encouraged transgender youth to send in their audition tapes**
- **Disney will reboot its show "The Proud Family" to center around two gay dads and their adopted daughter who is a racial activist**

StandingForFreedom.com

A new report shows that the number of homosexual and transgender characters in children's programming is growing, with at least 259 characters now identifying as LGBT in animated shows.

c. Here's a stunner. Even our superheroes are going gay.

DC Comics

In the latest DC comic book, Robin, Batman's sidekick, comes out of the closet as a homosexual.

Comic book executive Andrew Wheeler promises that this is the first of many.

Andrew Wheeler

“We need to get from ‘some’ LGBTQ superheroes to ‘enough’. And really, we’ll know we’ve achieved success when Captain America can have a boyfriend, and Wonder Woman can have a girlfriend. Queer representation in superhero comics is what success looks like.”

4. I agree, it is a ‘queer’ day when a culture can’t tell the difference between a male and a female and call it science!

Dr. Richard Budgett

International Olympic Committee Medical and Science Director

“The science is settled. Everyone agrees that transgender women are women; it’s just a matter about eligibility for sports.”

5. How have things gotten this far out of hand? Too many chocolate soldiers; not enough warriors.

III. Close

A. Summary

1. The feminization of the church has led to a feminization of the culture.
2. The feminization of the culture has opened the door to a militant gay agenda.
3. The cure for the culture is for the church to recover the concepts of biblical manhood and a warrior spirit that takes back the battlefield. Chocolate soldiers won’t be of any use.
4. We must speak the Word of God to the homosexual:

Leviticus 18:22-23

You shall not lie with a male as with a woman. It is an abomination. Nor shall you mate with any animal, to defile yourself with it. Nor shall any woman stand before an animal to mate with it. It is perversion.

5. We must speak the Word of God to the transgender and cross-dresser.

Deuteronomy 22:5 NLT

A woman must not put on men's clothing, and a man must not wear women's clothing. Anyone who does this is detestable in the sight of the Lord your God.

6. We need some modern-day John the Baptist men who can confront sin with the Word of God without flinching.

7. One final thought about John the Baptist:

Matthew 11:11-12

"Assuredly, I say to you, among those born of women there has not risen one greater than John the Baptist; but he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force."

- **John was a model man; Jesus said none greater; but 'even the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater'. What does that mean?**

8. John did all he did as the last prophet of the Old Testament; and yet he did not have greater weapons we have as New Testament believers.

- He did not have the power of the blood of Jesus
- He did not have the authority of the name of Jesus
- He did live to see the mighty outpouring of the baptism of the Holy Ghost and fire as we have
- He did not have the powerful revelation of the New Testament

9. We have all we need to rise up and take the battle to the enemy; there is an Army rising up! We have a growing number of mighty men already in the fight! This is no time to sit on the sidelines!

C.T. Studd

If we squat among the sheep, leaving our hard-pressed brethren to tackle the wolves by themselves, we are but Chocolate Christians.

Closing Prayer