

It's Your Move

Dead Ends are Doorways - Part III

Pastor Carl Toti

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1 Samuel 14:6-7 (NKJV)

6 Then Jonathan said to the young man who bore his armor, "Come, let us go over to the garrison of these uncircumcised; it may be that the LORD will work for us. For nothing restrains the LORD from saving by many or by few." 7 So his armor-bearer said to him, "Do all that is in your heart. Go then; here I am with you, according to your heart."

1. THE ARMOR-BEARER

Hebrew Transliteration: *nasa*

Strong's Talking Greek & Hebrew Dictionary.

In its verb form, the word is used up to 600 times in the Hebrew Bible.

To _____. (literally you hand in an oath).

To _____. (share each others burdens, literally carrying the leaders weapons).

To _____. (taking away responsibilities to free the leader up).

1 Samuel 16:21 (NLT)

"So David went to Saul and began serving him. Saul loved David very much, and David became his armor bearer."

QUALITIES OF AN ARMOR-BEARER

- Defender of his leader.
- Goes into battle with his leader.
- Takes care of his six o'clock.
- Serves his leader loyally but not blindly.
- Compensates for his leader's weakness. Makes him/her look good.
- Filters his leader's words and deeds through his love for that leader to others.
- Never holds an offense.
- Armor-bearing isn't a job but a dignified calling.
- Supports his/her leader in word and deed.
- Will take the leader seriously but not literally. Offended followers take their leader literally but not seriously.

2. THE AGITATOR

1 Samuel 14:8-10 (NKJV)

8 Then Jonathan said, "Very well, let us cross over to these men, and we will show ourselves to them. 9 If they say thus to us, 'Wait until we come to you,' then we will stand still in our place and not go up to them. 10 But if they say thus, 'Come up to us,' then we will go up. For the LORD has delivered them into our hand, and this will be a sign to us."

1 Samuel 14:11 (NKJV)

11 So both of them showed themselves to the garrison of the Philistines. And the Philistines said, "Look, the Hebrews are coming out of the holes where they have hidden."

THE LORD JESUS (Agitator)

Luke 23:14 (NJB)

14 He said to them, ‘You brought this man before me as a popular agitator. Now I have gone into the matter myself in your presence and found no grounds in the man for any of the charges you bring against him.

THE APOSTLE PAUL (Agitator)

Acts 24:5 (AMPC)

5 For we have found this man a perfect pest (a real plague), an agitator and source of disturbance to all the Jews throughout the world, and a ringleader of the [heretical, division-producing] sect of the Nazarenes.

3. GOD’S HALF-ACRE

1 Samuel 14:12-14 (NKJV)

12 Then the men of the garrison called to Jonathan and his armor-bearer, and said, “Come up to us, and we will show you something.” Jonathan said to his armor-bearer, “Come up after me, for the LORD has delivered them into the hand of Israel.” **13** And Jonathan climbed up on his hands and knees with his armor-bearer after him; and they fell before Jonathan. And as he came after him, his armor-bearer killed them. **14** That first slaughter which Jonathan and his armor-bearer made was about twenty men within about half an acre of land.

“The road to victory is circuitous. Like a mountain trail, it sometimes double backs before going on. Like a mountain trail, it requires patience and perseverance to traverse. The one who tries and drops by the wayside does not attain victory. Power is the ability to make things happen, to influence events, to set the course of history. Some kinds of power operate effectively in the short term; some only over the course of generations. Traditionally, the Chinese think in terms of millennia, the Russians in terms of centuries, the Europeans in terms of generations, the Americans in terms of decades. We must take a longer view. Then we will be more likely to take the actions in the short term that are necessary to achieve the results we want in the long term. Then we will recognize that victory, if it comes, will come incrementally...”

Richard Nixon, *The Real War*

You win battles a half-acre at a time.

1 Samuel 14:15-17 (NKJV)

15 And there was trembling in the camp, in the field, and among all the people. The garrison and the raiders also trembled; and the earth quaked, so that it was a very great trembling. **16** Now the watchmen of Saul in Gibeah of Benjamin looked, and there was the multitude, melting away; and they went here and there. **17** Then Saul said to the people who were with him, “Now call the roll and see who has gone from us.” And when they had called the roll, surprisingly, Jonathan and his armorbearer were not there.