

WW II

9/6/06

At one time you've probably heard the war stories of what it was like sacrificing during WWII. Many men went off to Europe or the Pacific, and those men and women left behind also made great sacrifices- women who previously were content to raise up children at home sacrificed and got jobs in factories making trucks, tanks, airplanes and bullets- all for the war effort. People bought war bonds and even kids got involved in special school projects to support the troops. Anyone who wasn't supporting the war effort was considered a traitor.

We're in a spiritual war. We've been given our Commission- to preach the gospel to every creature. Do you view this spiritual war with the same intensity that our older relatives viewed WWII? Are you making sacrifices to get the gospel out, both in time and in financial resources? The stakes in this war are far greater than winning or losing WWII, are they not? The stakes are eternal damnation or salvation of souls. When you think about decisions in life: what house to buy (or whether to buy a house or a condo or live in an apartment), what job to take, what to do with your money and what to do with your free time, do you think of the war? Is the war always on the back of your mind? Let us dwell on this tormented soul of a rich man who cried out from hell (Sheol), "Father Abraham, have pity on me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I am in agony in this fire." (*Luke 16:24*)

Does the war and the enemy and the task of evangelism seem daunting? "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or discouraged because of the...vast army...for there is a greater power with us than with him. With him is only the arm of flesh, but with us is the Lord our God to help us and to fight our battles.' And the people gained confidence." (*2 Chronicles 32:7-8*)