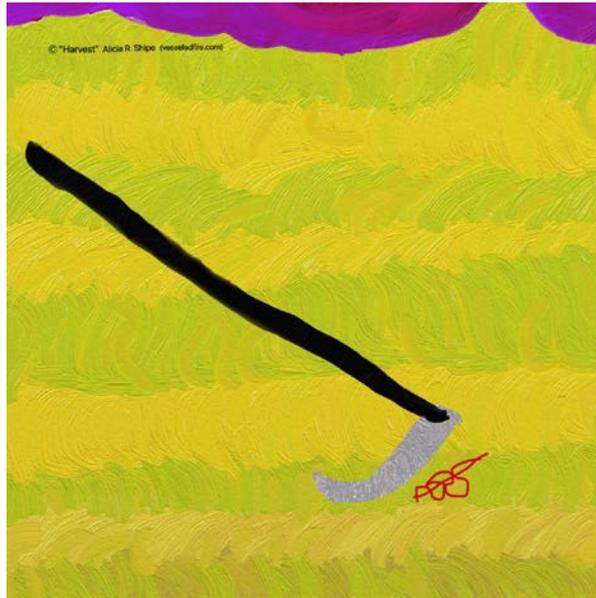


The Arsenal of God



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"Harvest" Digital Art by Alicia R. Shipe

I am pausing from "The Body" series. However, this writing goes with the main purpose of the series.

I heard a powerful sermon this past Sunday and I wanted to share it with my own thoughts. The sermon was about how we are weapons handled by God Himself. The main scripture reference was **Jeremiah 51:20**.

Jeremiah 51:20 - "You are My battle-ax and weapons of war: For with you I will break the nation in pieces; With you I will destroy kingdoms..."

That in itself was enough to encourage me in my walk but I read what came before.

Jeremiah 51:11-19 - Make the arrows bright! Gather the shields!The Lord has raised up the spirit of the kings of the Medes. For His plan is against Babylon to destroy it,Because it is the vengeance of the Lord, The vengeance for His temple. 12 Set up the standard on the walls of Babylon; Make the guard strong, Set up the watchmen, Prepare the ambushes. For the Lord has both devised and done What He spoke against the inhabitants of Babylon. 13 O you who dwell by many waters, Abundant in treasures,Your end has come, The measure of your

covetousness.14 The Lord of hosts has sworn by Himself: "Surely I will fill you with men, as with locusts, And they shall lift up a shout against you." 15 He has made the earth by His power; He has established the world by His wisdom, And stretched out the heaven by His understanding. 16 When He utters *His* voice—*There is* a multitude of waters in the heavens: "He causes the vapors to ascend from the ends of the earth; He makes lightnings for the rain; He brings the wind out of His treasuries."

In reading this passage it is imperative we know what is in our hearts. With the political climate as it is (at least here in the United States of America) it has become too easy to point the finger at those who have differing opinions than those we have personally voted for. I don't know about you, but Holy Spirit has been convicting my heart as I read passages like this because too often (in the recent past) I have had a person or group of people in my mind. We must all remember just as Holy Spirit reminded me...

Ephesians 6:12 - For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.

We must also remember that it is God in us that helps us accomplish this. Though we are His children, we are also His weapons to be used when His timing is right. This relates to "The Body" series because if a weapon is not in good condition to be used then it needs more time to become ready. Weapons need to be checked regularly, maintained regularly, and ready when He that wields the weapon is ready to use it.

There is more than one weapon that can be used at a time in warfare. The greater the arsenal, the bigger the victory. We have a duty to be ready in whatever capacity God Almighty created us to be used at whatever time He designated us to be used. We also have a duty to pay attention and be obedient to Him and Him alone so that we (The Body of Christ) can become THE force on earth He desires and created us to be for the full purposes of His Kingdom advancement. With our individual preparation comes the tools to help prepare other weapons. It is only the God-Head that knows when and where any weapon or weapons (us) will be used and how.

God's design is eternal. That means it already was, already is, and always will be. Making these vessels ready (in obedience to Him) to be used however He has already purposed it includes us

knowing how He designed our natural bodies to operate. Knowing how our natural bodies intricately operate can show us a picture of how The Body of Christ is to operate. Gaining understanding of these allows us to be more co-hesive and less divisive. With that unity we become the greatest arsenal in the natural realm as well as the spiritual realm. We are His weapons against the enemy. We are His weapons of love stored in His arsenal when He is ready to use us because we have allowed ourselves to be properly prepared for whatever the task may be.

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