

### SUNDAY YOUNG PEOPLE'S READING

# The HOLY WAR

Made by Shaddai Upon Diabulous for the Regaining of the Metropolis of the World

or

The Losing and Taking Again of the Town of Mansoul

# by John Bunyan

Retold in Modern English by Jon Cardwell

# December 19th, 2021

(Episode 31)

"I have given symbols..." Hosea 12:10

[Diabulous set forth in oration to Emmanuel why Mansoul could not respond to the Prince's offers of mercy, judgment, and execution of judgment; and having ended his speech, Emmanuel spoke....]

"You deceiving one!" said He. "I have, in My Father's name, in My own name, and on behalf and for the good of this wretched town of Mansoul, some things to say to you. You claim a right, a lawful right, to the deplorable town of Mansoul, when it is most apparent to all My Father's court that the entrance which you have obtained at the gates of Mansoul was through your lie and falsehood. You falsely represented My Father, you falsely represented His law, and so deceived the people of Mansoul. You claim that the people have accepted you as their king, their captain, and true liege lord; but, that was also by the exercise of deceit and guile. Now, if lying, wiliness, sinful craft, and all manner of horrible hypocrisy, will pass in My Father's court for equity and right, in which court you must be tried, then will I confess unto you that you have made a lawful conquest. But alas, what thief, what tyrant, what devil is there that may not conquer after this manner? But I can make it clear, O Diabulous, that you, in all your claims to Mansoul's conquest, have nothing of truth to say. Do you think this is right, that you lied about My Father, and made Him seem to Mansoul as the greatest deluder in the world? And what do you say to your having knowingly perverted the right meaning and intent of the law? Was it good also that you preyed upon the innocence and simplicity of the now miserable town of Mansoul? Yes, you overcame Mansoul by promising them happiness in their transgressions against My Father's law, when you knew, and could not but know, had you consulted nothing but your own experience, that this was the way to undo them. You have also yourself, O you master of enmity, of violent hatred—defaced My Father's image in Mansoul, and set up your own in its place, to the great contempt of My Father, the heightening of your sin, and to the intolerable damage of the perishing town of Mansoul.

"And, you have moreover— as if all these were just little things with you— not only deluded and undone this place, but, by your lies and fraudulent conquest, have set them against their own deliverance. How you have stirred them up against My Father's captains, and made them to fight against those that were sent by Him to deliver them from their bondage! All these things and very many more, you have done against your light, and in contempt of My Father and of His law; yes, and with a

scheme to bring the miserable town of Mansoul under His displeasure forever. I have therefore come to avenge the wrong you have done to My Father, and to deal with you for the blasphemies by which you have made poor Mansoul blaspheme His name. Yes, upon your head, you prince of the infernal cave, will I requite it.

"As for Myself, O Diabulous, I have come against you by lawful power, and by strength of hand, to take this town of Mansoul out of your burning fingers. For this town of Mansoul is Mine, O Diabulous, and that by undoubted right, as all shall see who will diligently search the most ancient and most authentic records, and I will defend My right and entitlement to it, to the confusion of your face.

"First, because My Father built and formed the town of Mansoul with His hand. He also built the palace in the midst of that town for His own delight. This town of Mansoul, therefore, is My Father's, and that by the best entitlements; and anyone who disputes the truth of this must lie against his soul.

- "Second, O you master of the lie, this town of Mansoul is Mine.
- "1. Because I am My Father's heir, His firstborn, and the only delight of His heart. I have therefore come up against you by My own right, even to rescue My own inheritance out of your hand (Heb 1:2; John 16:15).
- "2. But further, as I have a right and claim to Mansoul by being My Father's heir, so I also have it by My Father's gift. It was His, and He gave it to Me (John 17); nor have I at any time offended My Father, that He should take it from Me and give it to you. Nor have I been forced to sell, as if being bankrupt, or set to sale to you My beloved town of Mansoul (Isa 50:1). Mansoul is My desire, My delight, and the joy of My heart. But,
- "3. Mansoul is Mine by right of purchase. I bought it, O Diabulous, I purchased it for Myself. Now, since it was My Father's and Mine, as I was His heir, and since I have also made it Mine by virtue of a great purchase, it follows that, by all lawful right, the town of Mansoul is Mine, and that you are a usurper, a tyrant, and traitor, in even holding it as your possession. Now, the reason for My purchasing it was this: Mansoul trespassed against My Father; now My Father said, that in the day that they broke His law they should die. Now, it is more possible for heaven and earth to pass away than for My Father to break His word (Matt 5:18). For this reason, when Mansoul indeed sinned by listening to your lie and submitting to it, I took action and became a guarantor for My Father,

body for body, and soul for soul, that I would make amends for Mansoul's transgressions, and My Father accepted My offer. So, when the time appointed had come, I gave body for body, soul for soul, life for life, blood for blood, and so redeemed My beloved Mansoul.

- "4. Nor did I do this half-way; My Father's law and justice, which were both matters containing consequences when disobeyed, are both now satisfied, and very well content that Mansoul should be delivered.
- "5. Nor have I come out this day against you, except by My Father's commandment; it was He who said to Me, 'Go down and deliver Mansoul.'

"For this reason, let it be known to you, O you fountain of deceit, and let it be known also to the foolish town of Mansoul, that I have not come against you this day without My Father."

#### To Be Continued...

#### Thoughts to Ponder from Today's Episode:

Again, who does Emmanuel represent and who does Diabulous represent? In the first paragraph of Emmanuel's speech, what is the reason He gives for Diabulous' claim to Mansoul? In other words, how did Diabulous obtain possession of the town?

In the second paragraph, Emmanuel says that Diabulous did all these things against his "light." What is meant by this? Read Isaiah 14:12-15 and Ezekiel 28:12-15 to assist you with your answer.

Emmanuel defends His right to Mansoul because *First*, it belongs to His Father, and *Second*, it belongs to Him. Emmanuel gives FIVE wonderful reasons why Mansoul belongs to Him. In your own words, briefly describe Christ's right to your soul.

In reason #3, Emmanuel says He "took action and became a guarantor" for His Father. What did He mean by that? Read Hebrews 7:22 and Hebrews 8:6-12 to help with your answer.