



**CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH**  
NINILCHIK

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

March 19th, 2023

(Episode 64)

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

[After successfully infiltrating Mansoul with two Diabolonians, a message was sent to Diabolous by the hand of Mr. Profane. When Mr. Profane arrived at Hell-Gate Hill, he conversed with Cerberus, the wretched watch-dog and hound of Hell-Gate. Their conversation continued, Mr. Profane saying...] “The contrivance is almost finished. The lords in Mansoul that are Diabolonians are at it day and night. The others are like silly doves, lacking a heart to be concerned with their state to consider that ruin is at hand. Besides you may, yes, even must think, when you put all things together, there are many reasons that prevail with Diabolous to make what haste he can.”

CERBERUS. “You said it like it is. I am glad things have come to pass as they have. Go in, my brave Profane, to my lords, they will give you for your welcome as good a chaotic and disorderly dance as the whole of this kingdom can afford. I have sent your letter in already.”

Then Mr. Profane went into the den, and his lord, Diabolous, met him, and saluted him, saying, “Welcome, my trusty servant. I have been made glad by your letter.” The rest of the lords of the pit also gave him their salutations. Then Profane, after he bowed to them all, said, “Let Mansoul be given to my lord, Diabolous, and let him be her king forever.” And with that, the hollow belly and yawning gorge of hell gave so loud and hideous a groan— for that is the music of that place— that it made the mountains around it totter, as if they would fall in pieces.

Now, after they read and considered the letter, they consulted how they should respond. Lucifer was the first to speak.

LUCIFER. Then said he, “The first project of the Diabolonians in Mansoul is likely to be lucky, and to take, namely, that they will, by all the ways and means they can, make Mansoul yet more vile and filthy; no way to destroy a soul like this— this is *probatum est*— it is tried, tested, and proved. Our old friend Balaam went this way and prospered many years ago; let this therefore stand with us for a maxim, and be to Diabolonians for a general rule in all ages; for nothing can make this to fail but grace, in which I would hope that this town has no share (Num 31:6; Rev 2:14). But whether to fall upon them on a market-day, because of their burdens in business, I would prefer there be more discussion. And there is more reason why this opposition should be debated, than why some other should. It is because everything that we attempt pivots upon this scheme. If we do not time our business well, the whole project may fail. Our friends, the Diabolonians, say that a market-day is best; for then will Mansoul be most busy, and have fewest

thoughts of a surprise. But what if they should also double their guards in those days? And I'm of the opinion that nature and reason should teach them to do it. So, what if they should keep such a watch on those days as the necessity of their present case has required? Yes, what if their men should always be armed in those days? If this happens, then you, my lords, may be disappointed in your attempts, and may bring our friends in the town to the utmost danger of unavoidable ruin."

BEELZEBUB. Then said the great Beelzebub, "There is something in what my lord has said, but his conjecture may or may not fall out. Nor has my lord laid it down as that which must not be receded from; for I know he said it only to provoke a warm debate among us about it. Therefore, if we can, we must understand whether the town of Mansoul has such sense and knowledge of her decayed state and of the plan we have designed to execute against her; and if her awareness has provoked her to set watch and ward at her gates, and to double them on market-days. But after inquiry has been made, if it shall be found that they are asleep, then any day will do, but a market-day is best; and this is my judgment in this case." **[A lesson for Christians.]**

DIABULOUS. Then said Diabulous, "How should we know this?" and it was answered, "Inquire about it at the mouth of Mr. Profane." So Profane was called in and asked the question. He answered as follows—

PROFANE. "My lords, so far as I can gather, this is at present the condition of the town of Mansoul: they are decayed in their faith and love; Emmanuel, their Prince, has turned His back on them; they send often by petition to fetch Him again, but He makes no haste to answer their request, nor is there much reformation among them."

DIABULOUS. "I am glad that they are backward in a reformation, but I am still afraid of their petitioning. However, their looseness of life is a sign that there is not much heart in what they do, and without the heart things are little worth. But go on, my masters. I will distract you, my lords, no longer."

BEELZEBUB. "If the case be so with Mansoul, as Mr. Profane has described, it will not matter greatly what day we assault it. Neither their prayers nor their power will do them much service."

APOLLYON. When Beelzebub had ended his oration, Apollyon began his. "My opinion," he said, "concerning this matter is that we go on fair and softly, not doing things in a hurry. Let our friends in Mansoul go on still to pollute and defile it, by seeking to draw it even more into sin, for there is nothing like sin to devour Mansoul. If this is done, and it takes

effect, Mansoul, all by itself, will forsake watching, petitioning, or anything else that should attend to her security and safety; for she will forget her Emmanuel, she will not desire His company, and if we can get her to live like this, her Prince will not come to her speedily. Our trusty friend, Mr. Carnal-Security, with one of his tricks, drove Him out of the town; and why may not my Lord Covetousness and my Lord Lasciviousness by what they may do keep Him out of the town? And this I will tell you (not because you don't know it, because you do), that two or three Diabolonians, if entertained and countenanced by the town of Mansoul, will do more to the keeping of Emmanuel from them, and towards making the town of Mansoul your own, than an army of a legion can in withstanding Him should one be sent out from us.

“Therefore,” Apollyon continued, “let this first project that our friends in Mansoul have set up be strongly and diligently carried out, with all cunning and craft imaginable; and let them send continually, under one guise or another, more men of various characters to play with the people of Mansoul; and then, perhaps, we shall not need to be at the charge of making a war upon them; or if it is necessary to do so, still, the more sinful they are, the more unable they will surely be to resist us, and then the more easily we shall overcome them. And besides, suppose that Emmanuel should come to them again (and that is the worst that can be supposed), why may not the same means, or the like, drive Him from them once more? Yes, why may He not be driven from them forever by their lapse into that sin again, for the sake of which He was at the first driven from them for a season? And if this should happen, then along with Him go His rams, His slings, His captains, His soldiers, leaving Mansoul naked and bare. Indeed, when this town sees herself utterly forsaken of her Prince, will she not of her own accord open her gates again to you, and make of you as in the days of old? But this will take some time. A few days will not affect so great a work as this.”

As soon as Apollyon finished speaking, Diabolous began to blow out his own malice and to plead his own cause. He said, “My lords, and powers of the cave, my true and trusty friends, I have with much impatience, as becomes me, given ear to your long and tedious orations. But my furious gorge and empty paunch so lusts to repossess my famous town of Mansoul, that whatever comes out, I can wait no longer to...

**...Be Continued...**