

CCF 30/6/19
Benaiah

Benaiah

- Grandfather was a valiant man from Kabzeel (2 Sa 23:20, 1 Ch 11:22)
- Father Jehoida a priest who brought 3,700 men to support David when he was crowned King – tribe of Levi, descended from Aaron (1 Ch 12:21)
- Killed two Moabite heroes (sons of Ariel) (2 Sa 23:20)

Benaiah grew up in a priestly family so as well as being a warrior he would have known the scriptures and been faithful to God.

Benaiah

- Defeated a 7'6" Egyptian by attacking him with only a club and then killing him with his own spear (1 Ch 11:23)
- In charge of David's bodyguard (2 Sa 23:23)
- In charge of mercenaries and for one month a year the whole army (1 Ch 27:5-6)

David had lots of enemies – some from within his own family. Benaiah, the head of his bodyguard had to be totally trustworthy.

Mercenaries are the hardest men in the army. To command them you have to be a true warrior.

Cherethites and Pelethites were not Jewish so Benaiah's priestly family meant nothing to them.

Benaiah

- Defeats opposition to Solomon's succession and leads the military escort to his coronation (1 Ki 1:36-40, 2:24,25,34,46)
- Becomes commander of Solomon's army (1 Ki 2:35, 4:4)

Solomon greatest King who ever lived.

1 Kings 4:25 Amplified Bible (AMP)

25 Judah and Israel lived in security, every man under his vine and fig tree [in peace and prosperity], from Dan [in the north] to Beersheba [in the south], during all the days of Solomon.

Benaiah had a major role to play in that peace – working with the army & with God to bring it about.

Benaiah

- “He also went down and killed a lion in the middle of a pit on a snowy day.” (2 Sa 23:20b)



The foundation of Benaiah's military career and reputation.

Lion is an ambush predator and hides easily in the undergrowth because of the colour of his coat.

He weighs 500lb, can run at 35 mph and can jump 30ft.

He is a fearsome opponent for any man.

BUT

It's a snowy day – no hiding in the undergrowth, also the lion is easily tracked leaving his prints in the snow. Maybe he slipped into the pit?

This lion was in a cistern. No running, no jumping, confined space for his bulk hampering his agility.

Benaiah

- “He also **went down** and killed a lion in the middle of a pit on a snowy day.” (2 Sa 23:20b)



Benaiah could have shot him with arrows or thrown a spear, but he went down into the pit and killed him face to face.

We are at War

- God gave Adam authority over the earth.
- Satan stole this authority when he tempted Adam & Eve to sin.
- Jesus defeated Satan and took back authority at His resurrection.
- Jesus restores authority and gives His power to us as believers.

We are at War

- Satan now has power but no authority.
- He knows the end of the book.
- He knows the job of the church and that the gospel must be preached to all nations before Jesus returns.
- So he tries to prevent us doing that.
- He can't defeat our power.
- So he tries to undermine our authority.

False Peace – Satan's weapon

- Peace – world says it's the absence of war/stress/fear/problems etc.
- So when those things come we seek comfort from them.
- False Peace
- "I have peace though I walk in the stubbornness of my heart" Dt 29:19b

When the Lions come into our lives Satan tempts us to seek comfort in physical and soulish things.

Food/drink/sex/drugs/exercise/achievements/career/philosophy/politics

This can bring peace, but it's a false peace.

It's like trying to tame the Lion.

Could you share what you do to find peace with your family or your church?

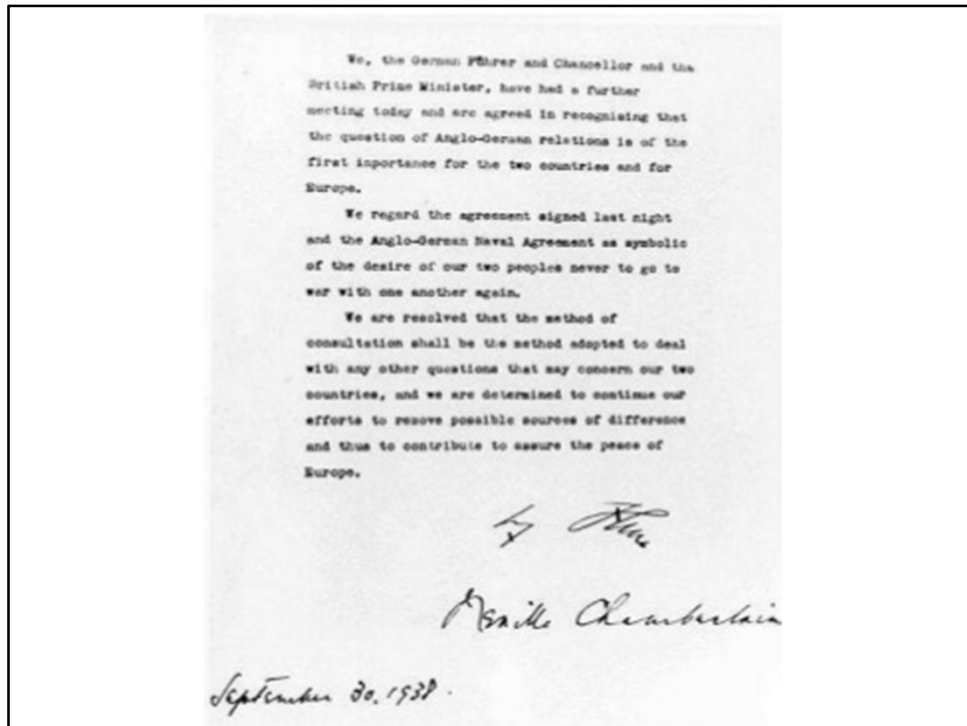
"I have peace though I walk in the stubbornness of my heart"

Dt 29:19b – example of going against God.

In this way Satan neutralises our effectiveness against him because we are actually agreeing with him that false peace is the solution.



Autumn 1938 – “Peace for our time”



Autumn 1938 – “Peace for our time”

Real Peace

Philippians 4:4-7 Amplified Bible (AMP)

4 Rejoice in the Lord always [delight, take pleasure in Him]; again I will say, rejoice! 5 Let your gentle spirit [your graciousness, unselfishness, mercy, tolerance, and patience] be known to all people. The Lord is near.

Real Peace

6 Do not be anxious or worried about anything, but in everything [every circumstance and situation] by prayer and petition with thanksgiving, continue to make your [specific] requests known to God.

Real Peace

7 And the peace of God [that peace which reassures the heart, that peace] which transcends all understanding, [that peace which] stands guard over your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus [is yours].

Stands guard = garrisons

Real Peace

Romans 15:13 Amplified Bible (AMP)

13 May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing [through the experience of your faith] that by the power of the Holy Spirit you will abound in hope and overflow with confidence in His promises.

God's peace has power!

What's your Lion?

Isaiah 26:3 (AMPC)

You will guard him and keep him in perfect and constant peace whose mind [both its inclination and its character] is stayed on You, because he commits himself to You, leans on You, and hopes confidently in You.

The battle is in the mind.

What's your Lion?

John 14:27 Amplified Bible (AMP)

27 Peace I leave with you; My [perfect] peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your heart be troubled, nor let it be afraid. [Let My perfect peace calm you in every circumstance and give you courage and strength for every challenge.]

We are challenged to defeat our Lion.

Example of house purchase.

What's your lion?

Kill him with the word of God.