

HEALING THE TRAUMA OF WAR

While teaching at a Restoration in California, I saw the relationship between the struggles of Vietnam veterans and the United States military's actions in Vietnam. Through a report by Cindy Jacobs, I had heard that a curse of wandering had been released on our soldiers by the Buddhist priests. When these soldiers returned home, they were wounded in body, soul, and spirit. Some were never able to enter into society again living on the streets and lost to drugs. We lost a generation of men.

At this restoration, a young man came to me in great distress. He had been to a previous Restoration, applied the prayers but only found his situation worsened. He could not complete anything: degrees, or jobs. It was destroying his marriage. I asked him about his father and discovered that his father was a veteran of Vietnam who had never returned to his wife and baby son. As we spoke, I told him that I would focus my prayers on this restoration on our nation's sins in Vietnam. This was personal because my older brother had been a part of that war. I wept bitterly repenting for every sinful action of our soldiers and government. As I finished with the Proclamation of Covenant, I clapped my hands and declared, "It is finished!" An amazing thing happened that only the Holy Spirit could orchestrate. A large Styrofoam boulder attached to the wall for a special Easter play flew across the platform of the church. It was as if the Holy Spirit was saying, "Yes, this is finished!"

The testimony of this weekend was that a woman who had worked for the Navy during the Vietnam war experienced instant deliverance from a tormenting spirit. The young man wrote several months later that his marriage was saved, and he was working for the city in a position he loved. Since that time, I have worked with other Veterans who are still carrying the burden of shame, guilt, and curse and they receive healing and restoration. With the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, American veterans are under the curse of death. Could this be the reason that there are twenty suicides per day for returning veterans?

"So a curse without cause does not alight" (Proverbs 26:2 NASB). When there is cause, men come under a curse. In Vietnam, there were Buddhist monks who sacrificed themselves by fire on behalf of their land. Powerful curses against the military and the soldiers were released. Because the American troops were involved in a war without a clear-cut enemy, everyone was suspect. Innocent women and children died. With the shedding of innocent blood, the curses could stand. Because of these curses, soldiers have had difficulty returning to their families and a normal life having been taken captive by drugs and alcohol. They have been wanderers like Cain, lost in our society.

Every nation has been involved in wars. Wars are cruel, and innocent people die. Shedding of Innocent Blood and destruction gives both sides ground to curse their enemies. A curse without causeless cannot stand. In war, there is always ground for the curse to settle

on a nation, families, and the government. In the Indo-Pakistani conflicts, there has been ongoing hatred and cursing against the soldiers, their families, and the government. When I was at the Attari Border Crossing for India and Pakistan, I was distressed by the level of hostility released each evening at the closing ceremony. How does the roar of the people on both sides affect the spiritual atmosphere of hatred? Life and death are in the power of the tongue.

————— P R A Y E R —————

Father, I know that a curse without cause does not settle in our lives. However, the unconfessed sins of the generations have given the curses of our enemies in war grounds to destroy us. Father, I come on behalf of the men in my family line that have participated through the ages in the horror of war (*name wars if known*). I confess as sin every atrocity they committed against man, woman, and child through brutality, torture, and rape. I confess the shedding of the innocent blood of children, women and the elderly, the purposeful destruction of people's homes, crops and livelihood leading to further death through starvation and disease. (*The next sentence depends on your nation. This would hold true for the United States and Europe during WW I.*) I confess the use of biological, germ, nuclear, and toxic weapons that ravaged the land and the people for generations. I ask that all the accusations and curses spoken by the victims of war be covered in the blood of Jesus.

I confess the pride, hatred, and utter contempt of the conquering forces towards their enemies who were stereotyped, degraded and dehumanized. I confess that this generation continues to hate, degrade and stereotype our former enemies. I confess the sins of fornication and rape leading to abandoned, illegitimate children—outcasts in their culture because they looked like the enemy. Father, forgive our great sins against humanity and free us from the curses of our enemies.

Father, I forgive the leaders for deceiving the people with their hidden agendas, lies, and manipulations of national and tribal pride. I forgive the political and military leaders for making my forefathers instruments of death and destruction. I forgive them for destroying the humanity of these men. These broken men could not forget the horrors of what they did, heard, and saw. These images and sounds torment them filling them with shame and guilt. As a result, our families suffered the loss of love and intimacy. I forgive these leaders for the destruction of our fathers, husbands, and brothers – all family relationships that suffered because of the broken lives of the men in my family.

Father, I ask that the generational trauma to the DNA in my family be healed. Heal the spirit, soul, and body of the men in my family. I ask that the Blood of the Lamb erase the sights

and sounds of war, the horrors of the battlefield, and the guilt and shame of their actions. I ask that all confusion and guilt over surviving the war be settled in the eternal purposes of God. Father, may they make peace with You and themselves. Help them to forgive themselves. I declare that their sins are remitted.

Father, I forgive all the enemy forces that marched against my family throughout time. I forgive them for every brutal action, every death, every rape, every crippled, deformed body, all suffering causing unbearable grief and even madness, and the starvation and disease caused by the loss of homes, crops, and land. I release them from the curses of my people and ask that You bless their seed with salvation. I ask that You release my family from the curses of our enemies.

Thank You for making peace with my enemies.

