



Devotional Thoughts :: Are you an overmountain man?

Are you an overmountain man?, on: 2011/8/9 14:27

Who were the overmountain men? The over mountain men were mostly Scots-Irish settlers who had come to place like Northwestern Tennessee and Southwestern Virginia. They were called overmountain men because they had settled west, just up and over the Appalachians, which was the boundary that separated the thirteen colonies from what was then the western frontier. These men declared their independence before the patriots did, buying land from the Indians and then fighting with them for almost 20 years to establish their communities in the wilds of the frontier, beyond the influence of the British. It was called the independent Washington District.

In 1780 the situation for General Washington and the patriots looked very grim. After the British general Charles Cornwallis won a decisive victory at the battle of Camden, he sent Major Patrick Ferguson into the mountains to clear out patriot irregulars and some overmountain men who had fought with them, and to protect loyalists in that area. One of the leaders of the irregulars was a man named McDowell. He had fought alongside some of the overmountain men, but they had returned to the Western side of the Appalachians. When Major Ferguson came with his troops, he quickly overcame McDowell's irregulars and McDowell was forced to flee over the mountains to the overmountain men and the relative safety of the wild frontier.

One of the men that Major Ferguson had captured was a man by the name of Samuel Phillips. He was sent to the overmountain men with a message from the Major. The summary of the message was as follows " Lay down your arms or I will march my army over the mountains, hang your leaders and lay waste to your country with fire and sword." Now, this was no idle threat. There had been many atrocities carried out by the British along these frontier lines. The response to the letter was entirely different than you may expect. With the patriots facing defeat and routed on many fronts, one would not have blamed the overmountain men if they had indeed laid down their arms and tried to make some kind of deal with the British and gain some concessions from them. Yet these men were made of different stuff. They called a meeting of their many communities and decided to raise up a force. Now one could have expected that the force raised would be a force that would defend their communities and their way of life, but the overmountain men had no intention of defending anything. In a counter-intuitive move, they raised a force of about one thousand men and set off to go up and over the mountains and to engage their enemy.

And that is exactly what they did. They marched up and over the mountains and finally caught up with their enemies in a place called, of all names, Kings Mountain. The British had dug in on the top of this mountain with a force of similar size, just over one thousand. They were evenly matched in numbers, but they had highly trained soldiers and they held the high ground. In fact, so confident was Major Ferguson in his position that he declared that " only God could get him off that mountain." Yet, in just a few short hours, one hundred and sixty five British soldiers lay dead, another one hundred and sixty three were so severely wounded that they were left to die on the mountain and six hundred and ninety eight were captured. Among the dead was the infamous Major Ferguson. God indeed had taken him off the mountain in death. The overmountain men lost twenty five men. Nine of the captured soldiers were later hung for atrocities committed.

Now this story serves as a metaphor. How should Christians respond to threats today? Should we shrink away and cower at the threats of the enemy. Should we try and compromise with the enemy? Are some things worth fighting and dying for? Consider what the overmountain men had already established prior to the great threat coming. They had went up and over the mountains, away from the established colonies and had established their own colony. They had to fight and pay for everything that they had. While they were somewhat friendly to the patriots, they had definitely been separate from the colonists prior to the war of independence. In a time of their greatest need, the patriots were able to call upon and fall back to the overmountain men who used their considerable skills and bravery in helping defeat an enemy who was hell bent on destroying and swallowing up men into their system.

There are overmountain men today. There is a great tide of evil coming that will spew out threatening's against God's people. And yet God has a people that He has established and strengthened in the fires of affliction. He has separated a people from the system of the world and called them to Himself. A people who love God and Him alone with their whole hearts. They have been hardened and tempered to the things of this world by trial and by affliction. They come from every walk of life, every traditional background. The Body of Christ is shortly to face its greatest test. Indeed the Word of God tells us that there is such a time coming, that if it were possible, even the very elect would be deceived and for the elect's sake God will shorten those days.

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Will you stand in the evil day brothers and sisters? Have you forged your own independence from the world? Are you wholly dependent upon the Lord? Will you run to the enemy when he challenges the people of God? Now is the time to be forged in the fire, to be purified, to be purged of the dross of this world. For if this world has a place in your heart, when the letter comes that demands that you lay down and submit to the gods of this world, you surely will.

The overmountain men had already established their place by trial and by blood, so they were hardened and ready when the enemy would come in like a flood. Are you truly ready brothers and sisters to stand in the evil day that is almost upon us? Its time to take up the armor of the Lord. For our battles are not against flesh and blood, but against principalities and powers, against the worlds rulers and the darkness of this age , against spiritual wickedness in high places. So let us take on Truth and put on the breastplate of righteousness. Let us walk in the Gospel of peace and shield ourselves from the enemies blows by our faith in God alone. And always remember that we have salvation in Christ Jesus that can never be taken from us and the Word of God that delivers and defeats all of our enemies as we walk in the Spirit.

Re: Are you an overmountain man?, on: 2011/8/9 14:35

I'm actually an over the hill man.

Krispy

Re: - posted by Solomon101, on: 2011/8/9 14:39

@ appolus- Great post. Thanks for sharing it.

@ Krispy - Your reply is hilarious. I don't care who you are.. that's funny!
"A merry heart does good like a medicine". Proverbs

Re: , on: 2011/8/9 14:46

Okay brother Krispy, now tell me something I dont know :).....brother Frank

Re: , on: 2011/8/9 14:51

Solomon... once people take the time to get to know me they find out I am not all fire and brimstone! :-)

I'm actually a likable guy.

Krispy

Re: , on: 2011/8/9 18:31

And by the way Krispy, if your over the hill, and I am older than you, what does that make me ?brother Frank

Re: , on: 2011/8/10 1:50

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This is very good, Brother.

"Will you run to the enemy when he challenges the people of God?"

"Are you truly ready brothers and sisters to stand in the evil day that is almost upon us?"

etc.

Thank you for this message. The need of the hour!

The LORD Bless and protect those who have truly been to the mountain of transfiguration - have seen the LORD in His Glory and were humbled there and now can go out with the boldness that is only complete confidence In The LORD Who they're 100% dependent on, like a little child. Totally dependent on His Spirit and have no confidence in their flesh at all.

Some of the greatest mountain men & women I've known are little dependent children in His Hands, but warriors in this earth.

Many that I haven't met yet, but have only heard their prayers over a telephone or read their words on a website.

Jesus Bless those who won't allow the enemy or anyone but GOD, to silence them.

We need those who have been in His presence to protect His Church and to literally carry the weak through the flames of the evil days ahead of us -- who fear neither man nor demons but Only The LORD GOD Almighty. Amen, dear Brother. Praying one for another - with Thanksgiving.

Matt 24:4-13

Thank you.

Re: , on: 2011/8/10 9:05

Serious days are knocking on our door sister. Jesus Himself is knocking upon the doors of His people. Will they arise from their slumbers and open the door of their hearts? We shall see.....brother Frank

Re: , on: 2011/8/10 10:08

The 101st Airborne Division of the U S Army has one of the finest records in military history. One of their finest hours was when they were surrounded by the Germans at Bastogne during WWI. The 101st was outgunned and outmanned by the Germans. The German commander sent a message to Gen. MacAuffie to discuss terms of surrender. The American general gave a one word answer. It was not vulgar. This should be our word to Satan when we are overwhelmed. Can anybody in this forum tell me what that word was?

Blaine

Re: - posted by MrBillPro (), on: 2011/8/10 10:14

Quote:

-----KrispyKrittr....Solomon... once people take the time to get to know me they find out I am not all fire and brimstone! :-)

I'm actually a likable guy.

Krispy

Krispy have you read this scripture? Lol....Leviticus 19:11" do not steal, do not lie, do not deceive one another"

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Re: , on: 2011/8/10 10:59

He very famously replied "nuts." Also, general Paton who "relieved," the 101st did so after asking for prayer because the weather was holding up his battalion. The skies cleared and the rest is history..... brother Frank

Re: - posted by StarofGOD (), on: 2011/8/10 11:13

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Amen Brothers, thank you for sharing this. I am not sure how it turned out for Gen. MacAuffie, but we do have a promise in Scripture!

1 Cor 10:13 make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

Re: StarofGod, on: 2011/8/10 12:21

Amen my sister. The good general prevailed against his enemies just as we will prevail against the evil one. Good verse you shared for God always makes a way.

Blaine

Re: , on: 2011/8/10 15:49

I prayed silently with a few overmountain Saints last night.

"The Effectual Prayer of a Righteous man prevaieth Much."

GOD Bless you Brother Frank, for the message in this opening post as well.

Re: , on: 2011/8/10 16:14

Thankyou for your silent prayers sister, there are certainly overmountain woman as well, some of Christendom's greatest prayer warriors have been women. I know one overmountain woman who prayed for me until I was saved at the age of 27, my dear mother.....brother Frank

Re: , on: 2011/8/10 16:26

Reminds me of Caleb who took a mountain or two for the Lord. That saint said I feel just as strong at 85 as I was at 40.. He was certainly an overmountain man. Would anyone dare call him a senior citizen to his face?

Blaine

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Re: , on: 2011/8/10 18:49

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Whether 85 or just a lad who would take on a lion, it matters not to the Spirit of God.....brother Frank