

## **Fasting Devotion: Day Two**

### **THE LORD OF HOSTS By Rick Watkins (from 2009)**

*The LORD will march out like a mighty man, like a warrior he will stir up his zeal; with a shout he will raise the battle cry and will triumph over his enemies. Isaiah 42:13*

*But the LORD is with me like a mighty warrior; so my persecutors will stumble and not prevail. Jer 20:11*

*David said to the Philistine, "You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the LORD Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. I Samuel 17:45*

You may know God as Yahweh Yireh, the God who provides

or as Yahweh Rophe – the God who heals

or as El Roi – the God who sees me...

**But do you know God as Yahweh Tsebaoth – the Lord of Hosts?** This name (or title) of God is used over 240 times in the OT, more than any other name of God (translated as LORD Almighty in NIV). It is an aspect of God's divine nature that many of us fail to understand and thus, for the most part, fail to deeply experience in our lives and ministries. It is God the warrior who leads us into battle and who fights for us. He is the LORD Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel! The LORD marches out like a mighty man, like a warrior!

Who would doubt that life sometimes is a battle? If we are not experiencing an attack, then it may be someone in our immediate family or a close friend. How important then for us to know God as a mighty warrior, the lord of the heavenly hosts.

We may know very well the "Lamb of God" - His gentleness, compassion and tender care. And towards each other, we need to clothe ourselves with a "lamb's heart". But the Lamb is also a Lion. And as we wage battle against the Evil One, we must have His Lion-Heart" within us.

What battles are you facing today?

In your own personal life – to walk in wholeheartedness and obedience? In your family? In your ministry?

Ask God to give you a deeper revelation of His warrior spirit and of the warrior spirit He has placed within you. Ask Him to "train your hands for war, your fingers for battle."

***If we are going to be successful in our warfare, we need to see the Lord as the great commander that He is, for it's Him we follow. He is commander and ruling master of the universe. He is the Lord of Powers, both on earth and in heaven: and the armies, which are in heaven, are following Him. Francis Frangipane***

**PRAYER POINT:** Ask the Lord to assemble us like an army under His command--skilled and trained by Him as we allow Him to prepare us to receive and intercede for the pastor He is calling to St. Giles.