

MEMORIAL DAY

HONORING OUR SOLDIERS' SACRIFICE

2 Tim. 2:1-4; 4:7-8

*“Paul’s Memorial Day
Message to a Young Soldier”*

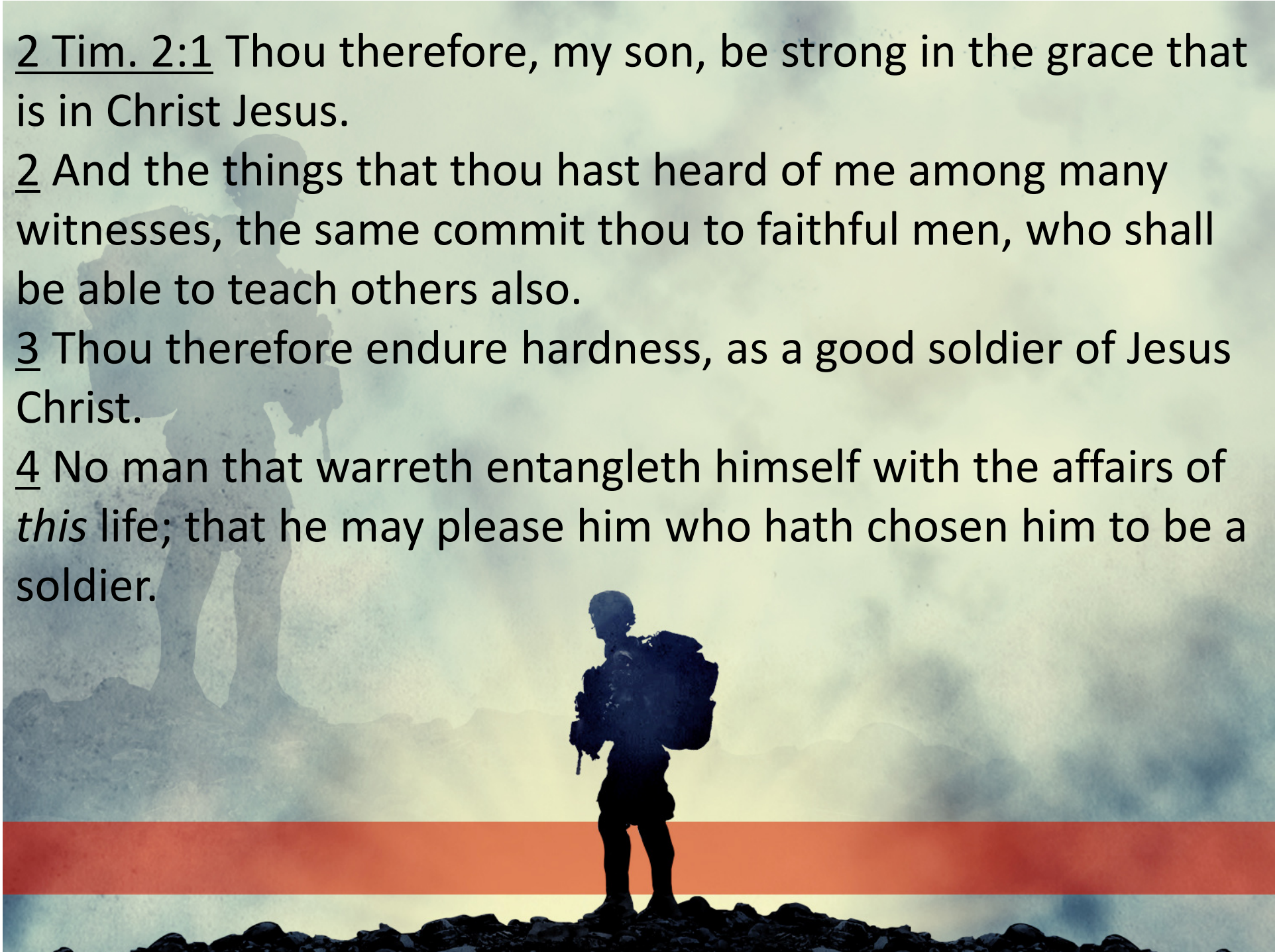


2 Tim. 2:1 Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.

2 And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.

3 Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.

4 No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of *this* life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.



2 Tim. 4:7 I have fought a good fight, I have finished *my* course, I have kept the faith:

8 Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.

"What are you doing?" friends shouted, ***"Those are the graves of two union soldiers."*** Softly that compassionate mother said, ***"I know. I also know that somewhere in the North, a mother or a young wife mourns for them as we do for ours."***



“The true Christian is called to be a soldier and must behave as such from the day of his conversion to the day of his death. He is not meant to live a life of religious ease, indolence and security. He must never imagine for a moment that he can sleep and doze along the way to heaven, like one traveling in an easy carriage.” **J. C. Ryle**

2 Cor. 10:4 (For **the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God** to the pulling down of strong holds;)
5 Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;



Rom. 13:12 The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and **let us put on the armour of light.**

2 Cor. 6:7 By **the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armour of righteousness** on the right hand and on the left,

Eph. 6:11 Put on **the whole armour of God**, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. ...

13 Wherefore take unto you **the whole armour of God**, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.



I. LEARN FROM THE PAST – 2 Tim. 2:1-2a

2 Tim. 2:1 Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.

2 And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses...

A. The Encouragement for the Soldier – “...be strong...”

1. The Strength of Courage – “...be strong in the grace...”

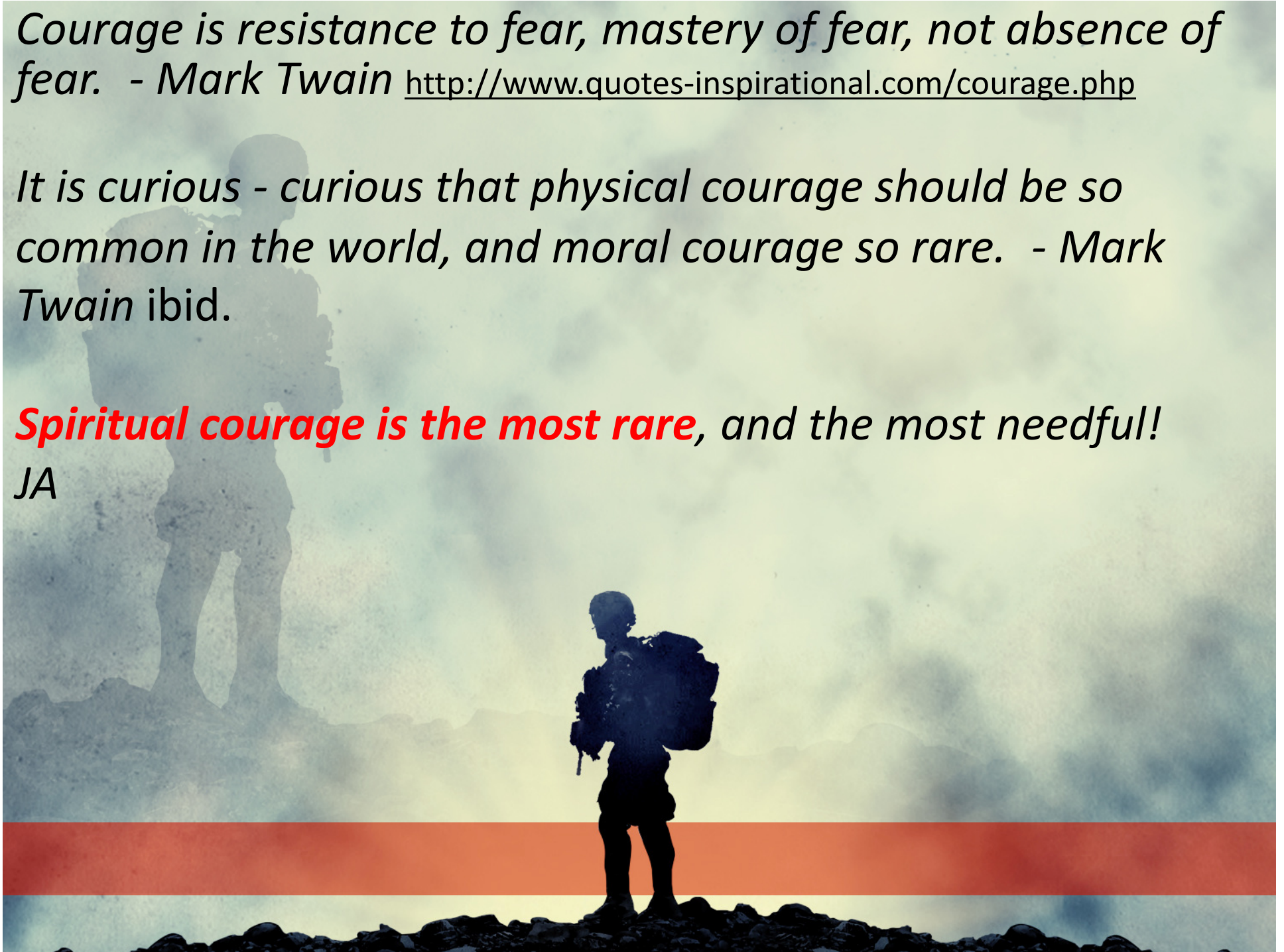


Courage is resistance to fear, mastery of fear, not absence of fear. - Mark Twain <http://www.quotes-inspirational.com/courage.php>

It is curious - curious that physical courage should be so common in the world, and moral courage so rare. - Mark Twain ibid.

Spiritual courage is the most rare, and the most needful!

JA



2. The Standard is Christ – “...that is in Christ Jesus.”

Col. 1:18 “...**in all things he might have the preeminence.**”

B. The Example for Success – “...the things that thou hast heard...”

1. The Record of Warfare – “...things...heard...”

Prov. 20:11 **Even a child is known by his doings**, whether his work *be* pure, and whether *it be* right.



2. The Report of Witnesses – “...among many witnesses...”

2 Cor. 1:12 For **our rejoicing is this, the testimony of our conscience**, that in simplicity and godly sincerity, not with fleshly wisdom, but **by the grace of God, we have had our conversation in the world, and more abundantly to you-ward.**

II. LIVE IN THE PRESENT – 2 Tim. 2:2b

2 Tim. 2:2b “...the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.”



A. The Obligation to the Responsible – “...the same commit thou to faithful men...”

B. The Opportunity to Replicate – “...who shall be able to teach others also.”

III. LEGACY IN THE PRINCIPLES – 2 Tim. 2:3-4

2 Tim. 2:3 Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.

4 No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of *this* life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.



"A people that values its privileges above its principles soon loses both." ~ President Dwight D. Eisenhower

http://www.sermoncentral.com/pastors-preaching-articles/staff-writer-one-dozen-memorial-day-quotes-to-honor-sacrifice-2185.asp?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=scnewsletter&utm_content=SC+Better+Preaching+Update+20150523+5/22/2015+1:52:36+PM

A. The Endurance – 2 Tim. 2:3 Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.



Original Word: συγκακοπαθέω

Transliteration: sugkakopatheó

Definition: I suffer hardships together with.

– properly, suffer *together* because *closely-identified*; to endure hardship *with someone* as a *co-sufferer*, i.e. as a true partner (comrade). It is only used in 2 Tim 1:8.

Mark 4:16 And these are they likewise which are sown on stony ground; who, when they have heard the word, immediately receive it with gladness;

17 And have no root in themselves, and so **endure but for a time**: afterward, when affliction or persecution ariseth for the word's sake, immediately they are offended.



Jer. 9:3 And they bend their tongues *like* their bow *for* lies: **but they are not valiant for the truth upon the earth**; for they proceed from evil to evil, and they know not me, saith the LORD.

Heb. 11:34 Quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, **waxed valiant in fight**, turned to flight the armies of the aliens.

B. The Entanglement – 2 Tim. 2:4a “No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of *this* life...”



“But once war is forced upon us, there is no other alternative than to apply every available means to bring it to a swift end...

War's very object is victory, not prolonged indecision...

In war there is no substitute for victory.”

Gen. Douglas MacArthur, *Farewell Address to Congress*,
April 19, 1951

C. The Expectation – 2 Tim. 2:4b “...that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.”



1. Earning the Stripes – “...please him...”

Original Word: ἀρέσκω

Transliteration: areskó

Definition: I please, with the idea of willing service rendered to others;

Hence to please, **winning someone's favor (affection, approval) because meeting their expectation.**

2. Enlistment for Service – “...chosen...to be a soldier.”



Original Word: στρατολογέω

Transliteration: stratologeó

Definition: I collect an army, enlist troops.

Performance proves that the purpose is becoming appropriate for the profession.

“A ship was made for sailing, not to be safely anchored in a harbor.” *Author unknown.*

IV. LEAVE WITH PROMISES – 2 Tim. 4:7-8



2 Tim. 4:7 **I have fought a good fight, I have finished *my* course, I have kept the faith:**

8 Henceforth there is laid up **for me a crown** of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and **not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.**

"Who kept the faith and fought the fight; the glory is theirs, the duty ours." ~ Wallace Bruce

http://www.sermoncentral.com/pastors-preaching-articles/staff-writer-one-dozen-memorial-day-quotes-to-honor-sacrifice-2185.asp?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=scnewsletter&utm_content=SC+Better+Preaching+Update+20150523+5/22/2015+1:52:36+PM



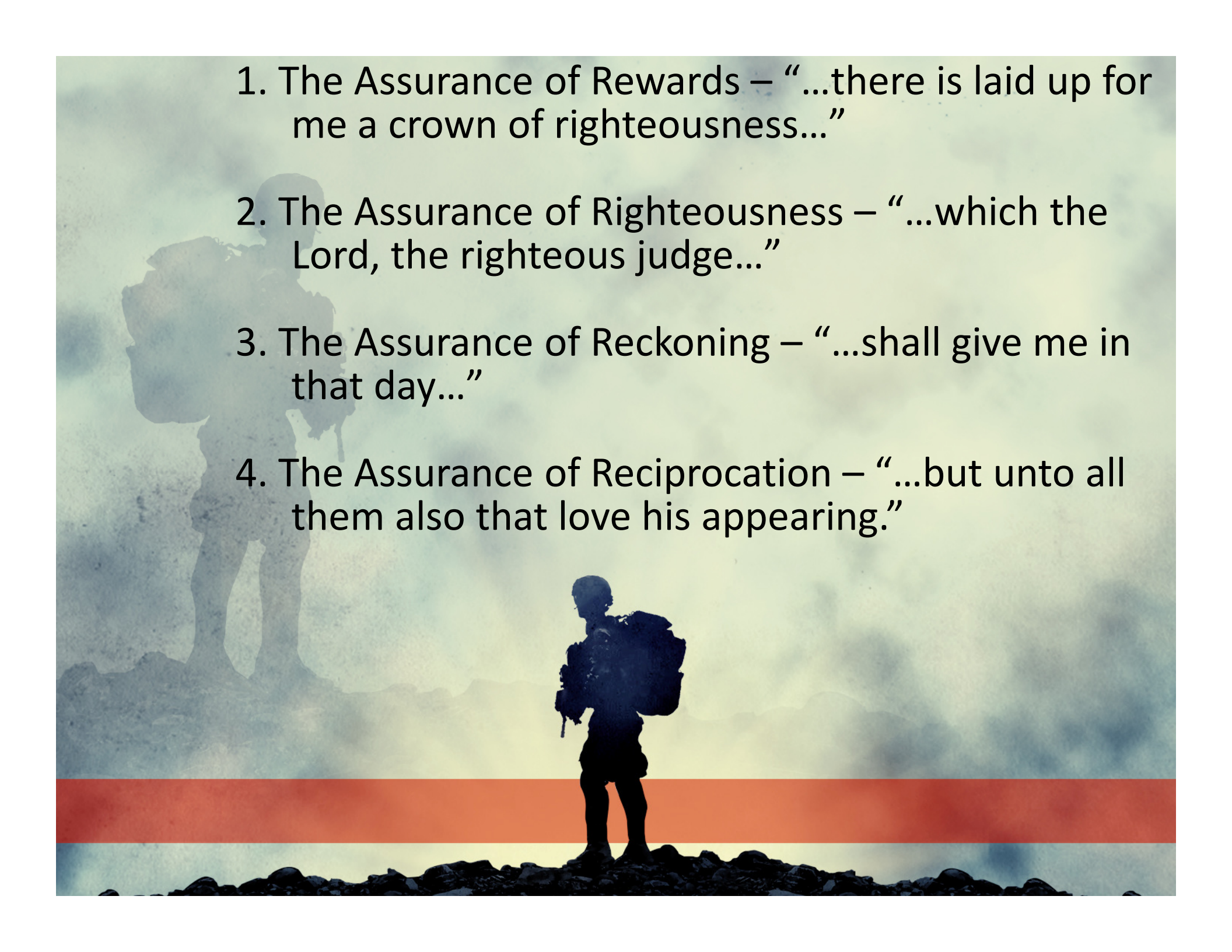
A. Fulfilling the fight, 2 Tim. 4:7a “I have fought a good fight...”

B. Finishing with faith, 2 Tim. 4:7b “...I have kept the faith:”

C. Focusing on the future, 2 Tim. 4:8

2 Tim. 4:8 Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.



- 
- The background of the slide features a silhouette of a hiker with a large backpack standing on a rocky mountain peak. The sky is a mix of blue and yellow, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. A prominent horizontal red band runs across the lower portion of the image, just above the hiker's feet. The text is overlaid on the upper part of the image.
1. The Assurance of Rewards – “...there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness...”
 2. The Assurance of Righteousness – “...which the Lord, the righteous judge...”
 3. The Assurance of Reckoning – “...shall give me in that day...”
 4. The Assurance of Reciprocation – “...but unto all them also that love his appearing.”

“Death leaves a heartache no one can heal; love leaves a memory no one can steal.” ~ From an Irish headstone

http://www.sermoncentral.com/pastors-preaching-articles/staff-writer-one-dozen-memorial-day-quotes-to-honor-sacrifice-2185.asp?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=scnewsletter&utm_content=SC+Better+Preaching+Update+20150523+5/22/2015+1:52:36+PM



Conclusion

Heb. 12:1 Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with **so great a cloud of witnesses**, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset *us*, and **let us run with patience the race that is set before us**,

2 **Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of *our* faith**; who for the joy that was set before him **endured the cross**, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

3 For **consider him that endured** such contradiction of sinners against himself, **lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds.**



Josh. 1:9 Have not I commanded thee? **Be strong and of a good courage;** be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for **the LORD thy God *is* with thee whithersoever thou goest.**

Heb. 13:5 “...for he hath said, **I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.**”

