

Daily Devotion For February 26, 2022

²“Take a census of all the congregation of the children of Israel, by their families, by their fathers’ houses, according to the number of names, every male individually, ³from twenty years old and above—**all who are able to go to war in Israel.**” Numbers 1:2-3

As we have been watching the Russian invasion of Ukraine the past few days, it has been heart-warming to hear how the citizens of Ukraine are willing to take up arms to fight and defend their independence. The Ukraine government has issued an order that all males ages 18-60 be willing to fight. I have respected the willingness of President Zelensky and other government officials to go to war to fight for their freedom.

When Moses was told to take a census of the children of Israel, God said he was to count every male, going family by family, household by household, individual by individual, to check the “genealogical registration” of the men who were twenty years or older. But there was one qualification: These men needed to be “*able to go out to war.*” Later, a second census was taken, with the same qualification (Numbers 26:2).

After the census was completed and everything was prepared, Moses said it was time to go to war (Numbers 31:3). They knew exactly how many men were available, and they were ready for battle.

Here, God gave us a picture of spiritual warfare. He is looking for those who are committed to being soldiers in His army...who will not sit on the sidelines...who are ready for war...and who take their responsibilities seriously.

This also is a picture of the Body of Christ. All of us are called to be part of the Body, but not everyone is willing to actively participate. Some never fulfill their responsibilities or follow the call of God. Some never use the gifts, talents, and resources He has given them. But God wants to know who He can count on.

Thought For Today: Search your heart. Let God know if *you* are “ready for war”—a good soldier in His army, armed and prepared for spiritual battles. Let Him know that you are ready to fulfill His call on your life. Be faithful with the resources He’s given you. Seek His will. Fill your mind with His Word. Obey Him and be His servant.

Today’s Prayer Focus: Evelyn Kageyama emailed me yesterday that Seon was to have surgery at 3:30 PM on Friday. Let’s pray for a good result. Continue to pray for the nation of Ukraine and its people. Deo Volente.