

## Unstoppable pt11 – Be Violent 2 Together

Pastor John Carmichael

[Mat 11:12 NASB95] 12 "From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and violent men take it by force.

[Luk 16:16 NASB95] 16 "The Law and the Prophets [were proclaimed] until John; since that time the gospel of the kingdom of God has been preached, and everyone is forcing his way into it.

[2Sa 23:8-12 NASB95] 8 These are the names of the mighty men whom David had: Josheb-basshebeth a Tahchemonite, chief of the captains, he was [called] Adino the Eznite, because of eight hundred slain [by him] at one time; 9 and after him was Eleazar the son of Dodo the Ahohite, one of the three mighty men with David when they defied the Philistines who were gathered there to battle and the men of Israel had withdrawn. 10 He arose and struck the Philistines until his hand was weary and clung to the sword, and the LORD brought about a great victory that day; and the people returned after him only to strip [the slain.] 11 Now after him was Shammah the son of Agee a Hararite. And the Philistines were gathered into a troop where there was a plot of ground full of lentils, and the people fled from the Philistines. 12 But he took his stand in the midst of the plot, defended it and struck the Philistines; and the LORD brought about a great victory.

- You can go FAST by yourself. You can go FAR with others.
- We have to learn how to go by ourselves. We have to learn to work with others.
- Oxford Dictionary – violent: (especially of an emotion or unpleasant or destructive natural force) very strong or powerful. "violent dislike."
- Suffers violence – note is forcibly entered.
- Take it by force – note seizes it for themselves.
- The Bible teaches that we are in a spiritual war.
- David had an elite group of fighting men, but three give us insight into setting us apart as winners.
- They learned to fight by themselves. They learned to fight together.

**What does Godly violence look like when we are together?**

**There are two characteristics of Godly groups that are together.**

### **I. Must be united at times.**

- **V. 16-17** - These mighty men became unified behind a single purpose.
- David wished for a glass of water; these men faced the whole army together.
- **[Ecc 4:12 NASB95] 12 And if one can overpower him who is alone, two can resist him. A cord of three [strands] is not quickly torn apart.**
  - three separate cords intertwined become stronger than three separate cords.
- Better stated from the negative point of view: **Our weaknesses are not differences but our divisions.**
- Most of our differences are to make us stronger. Where one is weak, the other is strong.
- **We must rely on and respect differences:**
  - **[Rom 12:6 NASB95] 6 Since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, [each of us is to exercise them accordingly:] if prophecy, according to the proportion of his faith;**

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- [1Co 12:27-28 NASB95] 27 Now you are Christ's body, and individually members of it. 28 And God has appointed in the church, first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, [various] kinds of tongues.
- [Eph 4:11 NASB95] 11 And He gave some [as] apostles, and some [as] prophets, and some [as] evangelists, and some [as] pastors and teachers,
- Our unity becomes our strength.
- Steps to unity:
  - Tomato stake yourself. Stay connected to each other.
  - Be willing to commit to unity.

### II. **Must be thick-skinned.**

- **V. 16-17** - After they risked their lives for the drink, David poured it out on the ground.
  - This would offend most people.
  - Not if, but when.
  - They were so committed to God and David that they would not be offended.
  - **It is not conceited (arrogant and inflated with pride); it is not rude (unmannerly) and does not act unbecomingly. Love (God's love in us) does not insist on its own rights or its own way, for it is not self-seeking; it is not touchy or fretful or resentful; it takes no account of the evil done to it [it pays no attention to a suffered wrong]. I Corinthians 13:5 AMPC**
    - love is not touchy.
  - Pastor Rodgers – the skin of an elephant with the heart of Jesus.
  - Let me add that be thick-skinned but tender-hearted.
  - Being touchy is a sign of unresolved hurt and anger.
  - **[Jas 1:19-20 NASB95] 19 [This] you know, my beloved brethren. But everyone must be quick to hear, slow to speak [and] slow to anger; 20 for the anger of man does not achieve the righteousness of God.**
  - If you can be offended, you will be offended.
  - Your enemy can do nothing to someone who refuses to be offended.
  - Be thick-skinned but tender-hearted.
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- [2Co 2:14 NASB95] 14 But thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and manifests through us the sweet aroma of the knowledge of Him in every place.
  - **We can be unstoppable together!**