15 July 2018: Preached by Pastor Clement Chew

Topic: A Study of 2 Timothy: A Soldier of Christ

Scripture text: 2 Timothy 2:3-4

All Christians are called to be full time soldiers in the ministries and vocations God has called us to. The purpose of a soldier of Christ is to fight spiritual battles against spiritual wickedness in high places. A good soldier must fight and be prepared to guard precious things. He must be quick to see the cause to fight whenever the glory of God is at stake. We can learn from David who fought against the giant Goliath because he challenged the army of God and defiled the name of Christ.

A good soldier of Christ must be prepared to suffer evil in the battles when fighting for the cause of Christ. To "endure hardness" is to persevere in times of humiliation, persecution and hardship. Satan seeks to destroy the work of Christ and the testimonies of the saints. Hence, we must be prepared and patient to endure trials by the grace of God (v. 3)

A good soldier of Christ must be free from distractions that will cause him to lose focus in the spiritual battlefield. We must not be distracted by the affairs of this life, lest we be tempted to love the world or the things that are in the world. With a wholehearted dedication to the Lord, God will be pleased to use us and grant us discernment in our battles (v. 4a).

A good soldier of Christ seeks to please the Lord Jesus Christ who has called him to His army. We please Christ by doing what is right in His eyes and by obeying His commandments. When we yield to our fleshly desires, we will displease our Commander and lose our fight. May we be utmost serious as soldiers of Christ and glorify God with our lives (v. 4b)