**THE GREAT SOLDIER**

**I Timothy 3:16**

**16**[**And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/1-Timothy-3-16/)

**INTRO:**

**The Great Solider we must always remember and never forget is Jesus Christ!**

**1. Notice His Faithfulness makes Him Great**

 **A. Faithful in Patience**

**\*\*He endured the Soldiers, the Struggles, and the Sinners.**

 **B. Faithful in Priorities**

**\*\*His priorities were to become Sin and to become Superior.**

 **C. Faithful in Purpose**

**\*\*His purpose was to Protect and to Preserve not just a nation, but all of humanity!**

**2. Notice His Fight makes Him Great**

 **A. He was Determined in His Fight**

**\*\*He didn’t Stop; He didn’t Surrender.**

**\*\*Death didn’t take Him; He took death when He laid down His life!**

**\*\*Be determined to never stop nor surrender in this good fight!**

 **B. He was Driven in His Fight**

**\*\*He was driven to fight because of Lost People and because of Loving People.**

 **C. He was Dedicated in His Fight**

**\*\*He was dedicated to His Word and to His Winning!**

**3. Notice His Finish makes Him Great**

 **A. His Finish was a Reminder**

**\*\*When He died it was noted that He was God’s Son and God’s Savior!**

 **B. His Finish was a Resurrection**

**\*\*This is what makes Him “The Great Soldier.” He left the grave and went to glory!**

**This great Soldier stepped onto a harsh battlefield one day.  He took up arms and entered the fight knowing that it would cost Him everything.  This Soldier bravely entered that battlefield and won a great victory, but at a terrible price.  This Great Soldier gave His life, not for a nation, but for all humanity.  His was not a life given in vain, but the sacrifice of His life served to set free the captives of sin.**

**\*\*Let’s look at three things in this verse we must always remember about The Great Soldier!**

**BODY – THE GREAT SOLDIER**

**I.   May We Always Remember His Appearing**

**I Timothy 3:16b [God was manifest in the flesh,](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/1-Timothy-3-16/%22%20%5Co%20%22View%20more%20translations%20of%201%20Timothy%203%3A16)**

**\*\*This reminds us that He was a Heavenly Being that became a Human Baby!**

**A.  Jesus Laid Aside His Heavenly Address**

**John 6:38 38**[**For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/John-6-38/)

 **1. He left Home for Suffering**

**I Peter 2:21b [because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps:](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/1-Peter-2-21/%22%20%5Co%20%22View%20more%20translations%20of%201%20Peter%202%3A21)**

 **2. He left Honor for Sin**

**II Corinthians 5:21 21**[**For he hath made him *to be* sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/2-Corinthians-5-21/)

 **3. He left Heaven for Sinners**

**Luke 5:32 32**[**I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Luke-5-32/)

 **B.  Jesus Laid Aside His Heavenly Appearance**

**\*\*When a soldier enters the army, he ceases to wear the same clothes he wore as a civilian.**

**\*\*On earth Jesus was 100% Messiah and 100% Man, but He appeared in Heaven as the Messiah. And He appeared on earth as a Man.**

**\*\*However, even on earth He gave us a glimpse of His Heavenly Appearance through . . .**

 **1. The Mountain Appearance**

 **2. The Miracle Acts**

 **3. The Marvelous Ascension**

**\*\*His great appearance made Him a Great Soldier, and He made that appearance just so you and I could be saved!**

**II.  May We Always Remember His Accomplishments**

**I Timothy 3:16 . . .** [**justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world,**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/1-Timothy-3-16/)

**\*\*Jesus is great because He is an accomplished soldier!**

**A.  Remember His Perfect Service**

 **1. His Service was Substantiated**

**\*\*That means justified! He was justified by God the Father as being Real and Right!**

**\*\*He’s still Real, and He is still Right!**

 **2. His Service was Spiritual**

**\*\*His words, His ways, and His work was Spiritual!**

 **3. His Service was Seen**

**\*\*His service was “seen of angels” throughout His life.**

 **a. The Angels Sing at His Announcement**

 **b. The Angels Serve after His Allurement**

 **c. The Angels Speak after His Awakening**

 **B.  Remember His Perfect Sacrifice**

 **1. His Sacrifice for Salvation**

 **2. His Sacrifice for Sinners**

 **3. His Sacrifice for Survival**

**\*\*He died so you could be Saved and Survive!**

 **C.  Remember His Perfect Salvation**

**\*\* Jesus was “preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world..*.*”   We see here . . .**

**1.  His Salvation Is Proclaimed**

**2.  His Salvation Is Powerful**

**\*\*Don’t forget that His perfect salvation when preached and proclaimed is still powerful enough to save the wicked, the worldly, the weary, and the weeping lost sinner!**

**\*\*His great accomplishments made Him a Great Soldier!**

**III.   May We Always  Remember His Ascension**

**I Timothy 3:16 “received up into glory.”**

**\*\* Notice the three-fold blessing here that we need to remember.**

**A.  The Glory Of His Ascension**

**Luke 24:50-51 50**[**And he led them out as far as to Bethany, and he lifted up his hands, and blessed them.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Luke-24-50/)

**51**[**And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Luke-24-51/)

 **1. It Spoke of Him as Majestic**

 **2. It Spoke of Him as Magnificent**

 **a. A Magnificent Transition**

 **b. A Magnificent Triumph**

 **3. It Spoke of Him as Messiah**

**B.  The Grace Of His Ascension**

**\*\*His ascension means that . . .**

 **1. Grace is Accomplished!**

 **a. No More Suffering**

 **b. No More Seplurchres**

 **2. Grace is Attainable!**

 **a. Through the Savior**

 **b. Through the Spirit**

**C.  The Gravity Of His Ascension**

 **1. His Resurrection Defied Gravity**

 **a. He conquered Graves**

 **b. He conquered Gravity**

 **2. His Return Defies Gravity**

 **a. The saved will conquer graves!**

 **b. The saved will conquer gravity!**

**\*\*There is a purpose, a promise, and a plan!**

**\*\* His great Ascension makes Him a Great Soldier!**

**CLOSE**

**1. We should rightly remember all the soldiers who died for this country so that we can be free – no doubt!**

**2. However, America and the whole world is trying to discard and forget about this one Great Soldier who died so we could all be free from sin and live forever!**

**3. If you ever accept Him as your Savior you cannot forget Him!**

**4. When He lives in your heart you cannot forget about His Appearing, His Accomplishments, nor His Ascension!**

**5. Will you come and make it known to Him that you remember what He did for you?**

**6. If He is speaking to your heart today will you accept what this great soldier did for you on Calvary?**

**7. Come and ask Him to apply the blood to your heart and save your lost soul before it is everlasting too late!**