

The Heaven-Bred Warhorse

May 18, 2014

The Awkwardness of the Salvation Army

We Really Are at War

And currently, we are not built for battle

For if thou altogether holds thy peace at this time, then shall there enlargement and deliverance arise to the Jews from another place; but thou and thy father's house shall be destroyed: and who knows whether thou art come to the kingdom **for such a time as this?**

Esther 4:14

The “For Such a Time as This” Principle

God always has a means of salvation . . . always. He always has a ram caught in the thicket, a shepherd boy delivering bread and cheese at just the right time, a queen positioned just in the perfect spot at just the right moment in history, or a messiah giving Himself over into the hands of sinners in the fullness of time. God is salvation - that is His work. He saves. And He is ready to work a marvelous salvation in our day.

A Hobelar

A Heaven-bred answer to the needs of God's people in any given generation. Often built and designed by God decades, if not centuries, if not millennia, if not eons prior to the time in history when the "Hobelar" itself is actually revealed and made fully ready. The Hobelar is an instrument of war, designed by God, to wholly shock the enemy and swiftly overcome them.

The 4 Attributes of the Hobelar

- It is audacious
- It is surprising
- It is lightning fast
- It is small and unassuming - but delivers a gigantic blow

The Birth of a Hobelar in Scotland

1270, Ellerslie, Scotland

A little baby boy is born. His parents christen him "William." He is trained to know right from wrong, to esteem honor, integrity, character, manhood, holiness, heroism, boldness, the work of the Cross, and the authority of Scripture. He is raised to endure hardship, built physically to wield a sword, and trained academically to understand government, society, and war.

The "For Such a Time as This" Moment Arises

1296, The Ellerslie Estate, Scotland

Edward I, with his bloated numbers of strong and well-bred soldiers, invades Scotland fully expecting to stamp out the small Scottish rebellion. A multitude of well-trained English soldiers march into Scotland - an unstoppable force against a bunch of hungry, rag-tag Scots. And that is when William strides out of the gates of Ellerslie with the Hobelar in his possession which the Scots so desperately need.

Hobelars of History

Gideon -

- audacious
- surprising
- lightning fast
- small and unassuming - but delivering a gigantic blow

David -

- audacious
- surprising
- lightning fast
- small and unassuming - but delivering a gigantic blow

Esther -

- audacious
- surprising
- lightning fast
- small and unassuming - but delivering a gigantic blow

Jesus -

- audacious
- surprising
- lightning fast
- small and unassuming - but delivering a gigantic blow

The Apostles

- audacious
- surprising
- lightning fast
- small and unassuming - but delivering a gigantic blow

Scotland in 1296

Ransacked, plundered, starving, weak, and very vulnerable

When England and Edward I invaded Scotland in 1296 it revealed to the armies of Scotland that their historic feudal-styled military tactics, which had always proven effective, were no longer able to sustain them and must be adapted to meet the current challenge. A radical review and revision of their military approach then ensued. William Wallace and Robert the Bruce both engaged the English in a form of quasi-guerrilla warfare, with their chief strategy being, whenever possible, to pick the site of the battle and to make the ground fight for them. This tactic worked, eliminating the advantage of the English size and strength and playing England's slow-moving, feudal-styled girth against them by hitting them with the Hobelar. This allowed the Scots to win battles against vastly superior size and strength, simply by wielding the tactic of speed and surprise.

The Advent of the Hobelar

The Hobelar was used by the Scots as a means of gaining the element of speed and surprise, essential for success, thus allowing them to engage the enemy at times and places of their choosing.

The Strategy and Tactics of the Scottish Armies 1296-1314

Meanwhile . . . in Ireland . . .

The Irish are breeding a special horse - a horse that can prove dexterous on the steep mountain face as well as move like lightning through the open meadows - a horse that is soon to be discovered in Scotland right around the year 1296.

So, What Exactly is “the Hobelar”?

It's a form of military attack utilizing special bred war horses - horses that are smaller, but lightning fast. These horses were built to move over the most difficult terrain with the dexterity of a mountain goat but with the swiftness of the raging rapids. The proper use of the Hobelar could cause a far larger military operation to falter and fail due to the fact that it couldn't respond quick enough to the lightning quick movements of the soldiers riding on the Hobelar.

The Hobin

From the Gaelic "Obann" meaning Swift, Sudden, Speedy, Instant

The Time for Radical Review

When England and Edward I invaded Scotland in 1296 it revealed to the armies of Scotland that their historic military tactics, that had always proved effective, were no longer able to sustain them and must be adapted to meet the current challenge. **A radical review and revision of their military approach then ensued.**

And of the children of Issachar, which were **men that had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do**; the heads of them were two hundred; and all their brethren were at their commandment.

1 Chronicles 12:32

The Salvation Army in 1880

God showed them their “Hobelar”. It was the use of brass bands, the wielding of the language and insignia of an army, the leasing of secular theaters in which to hold their meetings, the employment of secular music overlaid with Christian lyrics, the near-instant sending off of the new recruits into active ministry labor, and the use of women in their leadership. This military maneuver wholly surprised the enemy, who was totally unprepared for this movement of grace. With speed, audacity, suddenness, and boldness, the Hobelar of 1880 charged into the fray, devastating the powers of darkness the world over.

Every Culture Has Its Access Points

- The Flash mob
- The Innovative
- The Improv
- Caroling
- Trick or Treat

The Telmarine Culture

leveraging the culture against itself

The Christ Army of 2014

What is our “Hobelar”?

If There is an Option . . .

Don't Hit Where the Defenses are Up

The “Tickling Avy” Strategy

The Enemy is Vulnerable . . . Right Now!

The Powers of Darkness have grown bloated and proud. They are used to winning and they have grown accustomed to victory. But that confidence is their greatest weakness. God's been

breeding a special warhorse for such a time as this. The enemy has a big army, but it's a slow army, ill-equipped to handle the onrush of a new military instrument.

What is the Hobelar of our Day?

A Flash Mob of Opera-Singing Preachers?

The Hobelar with a Bow and Arrow

In the 1330s, the landscape of war again began to change. The Hobelar had proven effective for thirty years, but now it was again time to review and revise the military approach. In 1335 there was the advent of a new sort of infantryman. It was an archer on the back of a Hobelar - known as the Mounted Archer. This dramatic shift, which brought the age-old skill of archery to the backs of warhorses, once again changed the face of battle.

And it came to pass, when the Philistine arose, and came and drew nigh to meet David, that David **hasted, and ran** toward the army to meet the Philistine.

1 Samuel 17:48

Mahar - Mä·har' (H4116)

to move headlong, with haste, sprinting, springing, straightway into danger; to move with liquid ferocity as a lion towards his prey

And it came to pass, when the Philistine arose, and came and drew nigh to meet David, that David (**habelared** - *he did that which was least expected, wholly unorthodox, and a complete surprise*), and **ran** toward the army to meet the Philistine.

1 Samuel 17:48

As a Lion Toward His Prey

But we are lambs, not lions

We are little lambs with the faces of lions

*It is always shocking and surprising to see a little lamb
moving with liquid ferocity straight into the lion's lair with the air of a hunter.*

If We Are Willing to Look Like Idiots

Then anything is possible.

So, bring on the rotten tomatoes!

The Sheep Brigade

The Unstoppable Military Force of Dumb Woolly Creatures

Super-conquering

they are "more than conquerors" (Romans 8:37)

Bequeathed All-Power and Authority

seated, in Christ Jesus, in the heavenly position of power and authority (Ephesians 2:6)

given power over all the power of the enemy (Luke 10:19)

to tread upon their high places (Deuteronomy 33:29)

Immovable and Invincible

able to repel all the fiery darts of the enemy (Ephesians 6:16)

able to tread on lions, adders, serpents, scorpions, and dragons (Psalm 91; Luke 10:19)

able to drink poison and be unharmed (Mark 16:18)

A thousand shall fall at their side, and ten thousand at their right hand;

but it shall not come near them (Psalm 91: 7)

There shall not an hair of their head perish (Luke 21:18)

Jesus gives unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of His hand. (John 10:28)

and nothing shall by any means hurt you (Luke 10:19)

Fearless

The LORD is their light and their salvation; so whom shall they fear?

the LORD is the strength of their life; so, of whom shall they be afraid? (Psalm 27:1)

Though a host should encamp against them, their heart shall not fear:

though war should rise against them, they remain confident in their God. (Psalm 27:3)

Because God will never leave them or forsake them (Hebrews 13:5)

and He ever lives to make intercession for them (Hebrews 7:25)

God is their refuge and strength, a very present help in their trouble.

Therefore, they will not fear, though the earth be removed,

and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea (Psalm 46:1-2)

And no weapon that is formed against them shall prosper; and every tongue

that shall rise against them in judgment God shall condemn. (Isaiah 54:17)

Unstoppable

The LORD is with them as a mighty terrible one (Jeremiah 20:11)

The gates of hell shall not prevail against them. (Matthew 16:18)

whatsoever they shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever they shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. (Matthew 16:19)

and there is no restraint to the LORD to save by many or by few (1 Samuel 14:6)

greater is he that is in them, than he that is in the world. (1 John 4:4)

Since God is for them, who can be against them? (Romans 8:31)