

Special Forces: Day Twenty-five

Intermediate Training: Unit One

Improvised Demolitions

Breaching Walls

This morning I was listening to a song about breaking down walls and I couldn't help but think about all of the walls I encountered in my SF career. Walls outside and inside of buildings; walls I had to climb up or rappel down; walls of brick, wood, plaster and ice; walls we had to blow through and walls with doors we could move through. Believe me when I say that we knew lots of ways to deal with walls that impeded the mission. It was also quite normal for us to have to use whatever explosives we carried along with common materials to construct the demolitions charges required to breach walls that needed to be gotten through. The point here is that walls had to be destroyed in the normal course of the mission.

The same is true with life in general. If you think about it, walls are everywhere. Not only physical walls, but walls between people, families (I've been there), countries, religions and churches - just to name a few. Volumes have been written, seminars conducted, international conferences convened, and monies appropriated for the purpose of tearing down walls that divide people and nations.

I submit however, that all of the above measures are for the most part useless unless what I term the **Wall of Walls** is first breached. I am referring to the wall of sin that separates us from God because of that long ago fall of Adam and Eve at the dawn of creation. There is one essential difference between this wall of sin and others I have encountered. I am totally powerless to tear it down. God, however, dealt that wall of separation a deathblow by sending his Son to die on a cruel cross in order to give us a door – a pathway through the wall.

Key Verse:

“Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.” Revelation 3:20 (NKJV)

Mankind's sinful condition did not disappear because of the cross, but God provided a door! Not only did he provide the door, he only asks that we open that door. It seems that the door can only be opened from our side. Once we open the door, Jesus says that he will come in to us and dine with us. We don't have to walk through to him, but he will come through to us and live in our hearts!

If this is true and I sense walls or obstructions that hinder my walk as a Christian in service to the King, they must be 'Danmade' walls. The sad truth is that through the years I have built some walls that have either delayed or prevented the accomplishment of what I have accepted as God's mission for my life of service in His Kingdom. I won't go into detail, but I will call them 'Danmade' walls of sin and rebellion. The bad news is that I built many of the walls. The good news is that the walls can be totally demolished.

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1:9 (NIV)

Once the walls are down, we can 'dine' with Jesus. I don't know what picture that might bring to your mind, but I think of a fine restaurant, white linen tablecloths, bright shiny silver, fine china, and carefully prepared exotic dishes. There are no fast food chain restaurants here!

So What!

Ignoring walls in my life won't make them disappear. If I really want a continuous 'dining' experience with Christ, there are actions that I can take to assist in their destruction.

- I must **recognize the sin** that traps me and hinders my progress. This is at times easier said than done. There seems to be a lot that is described clearly in FM-1 (Field Manual 1, the Bible) as sin and abhorrent to God that is no longer considered sin, even by some supposedly Christian organizations. The Bible has to be my final authority. God wrote it and His Holy Spirit will enlighten me as to it's truth.

- I must **agree with God** about my sin, **earnestly confess** my sin and **truly repent**, turning away and not picking it up again, no matter what others might tell me or what my lying sinful human nature might have to say.

- I must realize that in some cases it might be a short firefight while at other times it could be a longer, protracted engagement before I see final victory. It can seem like only having a hammer to bust through an obstacle when dynamite or C-4 is needed.

- The final battle has already been won. Armed with His Grace and Power I have the mission of conducting 'mop-up' operations that include bringing down personal 'Danmade' walls and being a peacemaker or reconciler wherever live, work and breathe.

Having said that, I must remember that God is the master tactician here. His ways are not my ways. As I walk in obedience to his Word and his Spirit, I can trust by faith that God will bring it to pass, that walls will come tumbling down.