SERMON STARTERS
Series: “WHAT IS THE CHURCH?”

Message # 4  “THE CHURCH: FELLOWSOLDIERS WARRING TOGETHER”

Texts: Phil. 2:25
“Yet I suppose it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus, my brother, and companion in labor, and fellow soldier, but your messenger, and he that ministered to my wants.”

Philemon verse 2
“And to our beloved Apphia, and Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in thy house.”

This study is the fourth installment on the subject, “What Is The Church?” We have briefly looked at some of the “fellow” prefixes in the New Testament to answer the question. In the previous three lessons we have looked at: “The Church: Fellowshippers Worshiping Together”, “The Church: Fellow-laborers Working Together” and “The Church: Fellow-Disciples Walking Together.” In this concluding study we will look at the church as “Fellow-soldiers Warring Together.”

Epaphroditus and Archippus were called “Fellow Soldiers” by the Apostle Paul. In fact Paul considered himself a soldier of Jesus Christ. He wrote in II Tim. 4:7: “I have Fought a good fight....” And he wrote extensively about the Christian soldier in Ephesians chapter six. Just what is involved in this aspect of the church?

WE SHARE A COMMON CAPTAIN.
Read Revelation 19:11-16

WE SHARE IN COMMON COMMANDS.

In fact, every admonition to believers is a command to be obeyed.

WE SHARE A COMMON CHALLENGE.
Read II Tim. 2:1-4

WE SHARE A COMMON CONFLICT.
Read Phil 1:27,28; I Cor. 16:13; Eph. 6:13

WE SHARE A COMMON CONQUEST.
Read Rom. 8:37; 1 Cor. 15:57; I Sam. 17:45-47

CONCLUSION: “Fight the good fight”! (I Tim. 1:18)

“ONWARD! CHRISTIAN SOLDIERS, MARCHING AS TO WAR”