

The example of the Unknown Soldier.

2 Timothy 2:3-4, "You therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. No man that goes to war entangles himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who has chosen him to be a soldier."

The Christian life is a spiritual warfare. Our weapons are not earthly, but mighty through God. The word of God is the armour of God and when we put on this armour, we are putting on Christ. Prayer, which is the life of Christ in us, empowered by the Holy Spirit, allows us to enter boldly before the Father. It is our duty to present our bodies as a living sacrifice because we are not our own, we have been bought with a price.

The Unknown Soldier

The tomb of the Unknown soldier lies in Westminster Abbey as a memorial to the fallen soldiers in World War 1 who were never identified. This poem is written in their honour.

Who was the unknown soldier, now in the Abbey lies?
A young life full of promise, a needful sacrifice.
A mother's heart his death had broken; a father's grief remains unseen,
The hope for children's children, an empty shattered dream.

But in him a multitude lie buried, who never can be known,
For though their names are honoured, they died in mud alone.
Yet now we hold their memory, with great esteem and pride,
For through the dreadful slaughter, the nation's hopes survived.

They did not make decisions, they went where they were sent,
For orders must be followed, without regard for one's consent.
But though they had no option, facing death and hell and pain,
Their courage and brave actions were not achieved in vain.

For in the midst of sorrow, greatness always seeks to shine,
And their example sends a message that stands the test of time.
And I with many others respect the lives they gave,
For war has many heroes whose deeds have an unknown grave.

Stephen Howard Dulwich