

A Ministry of the Athens Universal Life Church Dr. Rob White – Senior Minister https://aulc.us

Sermon: Honoring Our Veterans on Veteran's Day

Today we gather on this solemn occasion, Veteran's Day, to honor the brave men and women who have answered the call to serve, protect, and defend our nation. This is a time to recognize their sacrifices, celebrate their courage, and remember the principles they fought for—principles of freedom, justice, and peace. As we reflect on these themes, we turn to God's Word, finding strength and understanding in the truth of Scripture.

- -- Hello, I am Doctor Rob White with the AULC Ministries with our message this week.
- -- I am happy that you can take a few minutes out of your busy week to be with us today!

Over 200 years ago, the founders of our nation declared that "all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of happiness." Our veterans have defended these rights for generations, ensuring that our freedom endures. Scripture reminds us that freedom is indeed a God-given blessing. In 2 Corinthians 3:17, Paul writes, "Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom." True freedom comes from God, and our veterans have worked to preserve that freedom for us all.

Throughout American history, courageous men and women have stood to defend these principles. They have sacrificed their safety and comfort, knowing that freedom is worth the cost. Jesus Himself said in John 15:13, "Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends." Veterans embody this sacrificial love by putting themselves in harm's way for the sake of others, exemplifying the spirit of Christ's love in their actions.

On September 11, 2001, our nation experienced a ruthless attack on our soil. Terrorists attempted to strike fear into our hearts, but the response of our people and our military showed that the spirit of freedom cannot be defeated. Like the warriors in the Bible who defended Israel against enemies, our military personnel stood up with courage and resilience. They remind us of David, who stood up to Goliath with courage and faith, knowing that the battle belonged to the Lord (1 Samuel 17:47). Like David, our veterans and military personnel have taken on great challenges, standing against the forces of evil with bravery and determination.

Today, our troops continue to fight terrorism and defend freedom across the world. They follow in the footsteps of the millions who have gone before them, men and women who have fought for our security and the freedom of others. Isaiah 41:10 reassures us, "Do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand." Our veterans embody this verse, stepping forward in faith and courage, trusting that God is with them in every battle.

Today, there are more than 25 million living veterans who served our nation in times of peace and war. They come from diverse backgrounds, beliefs, and ethnicities, yet they are united in their service to our country. This diversity and unity remind us of the body of Christ, as described in 1 Corinthians 12:12, "For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ." Our veterans come from different walks of life but share a common mission—to protect and defend our nation.

From the hour they took their oath until the day of their honorable discharge, our veterans devoted themselves to a cause greater than themselves. Many of them faced unimaginable hardships, yet they remained steadfast in their commitment. Like the Apostle Paul, who endured many hardships to spread the gospel, our veterans faced challenges and sacrifices with courage. Paul reminds us in 2 Timothy 4:7, "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." Our veterans, too, have fought the good fight for freedom, justice, and peace.

As a nation, we owe an immeasurable debt of gratitude to our veterans. Today, we pause to reflect on the sacrifices they have made—some paying the ultimate price, others bearing the scars of their service. We remember their heroism, from battles at Yorktown and Gettysburg to the conflicts of Iraq and Afghanistan. They remind us of the faithful soldier Uriah the Hittite, one of David's mighty men, who fought valiantly for his king and country (2 Samuel 11). Though Uriah's story is tragic, it reminds us of the loyalty and bravery of those who serve. Our veterans carry on this legacy, showing loyalty to their country and courage on the battlefield.

Psalm 144:1 says, "Blessed be the Lord, my rock, who trains my hands for war, and my fingers for battle." God has blessed our nation with men and women who are willing to defend our freedoms. We can never fully repay our veterans for their service, but we can honor and respect them, and show our gratitude through our prayers, our support, and our actions.

Our nation was founded on the principles of liberty, opportunity, and justice for all. Our veterans have upheld these values, helping to make our nation secure and advancing the cause of freedom worldwide. Like Jesus' parable of the Good Samaritan in Luke 10:30-37, our country has often served as a "lifeguard" to the world, helping those in need. Our veterans are like the Good Samaritan, stepping in to defend, protect, and support the vulnerable, even when it means personal sacrifice.

Jesus said, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God" (Matthew 5:9). Our

veterans are peacemakers, serving not only to protect our freedoms but also to bring stability and peace to those oppressed. They have risked their lives to help create a world where justice and peace prevail.

On this Veteran's Day, we remember and honor every citizen who has defended America in times of peace and times of danger. The Apostle Paul, writing in Romans 13:7, said, "Give to everyone what you owe them... if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor." Today, we give honor to whom honor is due. We honor our veterans who have kept the cradle of liberty safe and will continue to inspire future generations with their courage, compassion, and dedication.

As we close, let us pray for our veterans, for those who are currently serving, and for the families who support them. May God bless our veterans, may He bless all who serve our great nation, and may He bless the United States of America.

- -- That's our Lord's message for this Lord's Day and I hope you got a blessing out of it!
- -- Go out this week and be a blessing and be blessed! -- For the more you are a blessing, the more you will be blessed!
- -- Thank you all for watching and listening and we will see you all next week!

Copyright © 2024 – Athens Universal Life Church – All Rights Reserved!