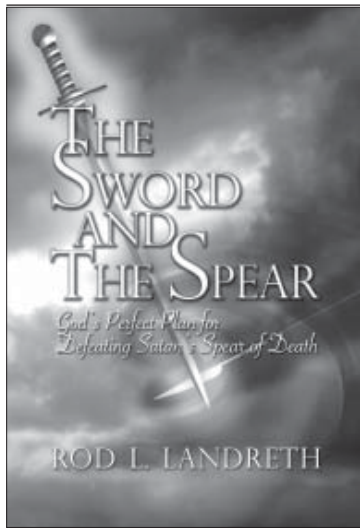


FAITH & SPIRIT



The Sword and The Spear

God's Perfect Plan for Defeating Satan's Spear of Death

MARTELL - A book signing outside the Lighthouse Christian book store in Martell on July 10th brought people out on a scorching summer day. They came to enjoy the Christian music, peruse the various booths, and some perhaps to find answers to their troubles.

"You don't have to be waylaid by Satan's evil plans", says author Rod Landreth. Finally there is a book that gives you real answers on how to avoid traps and be the person you want to be.

The Sword and the Spear features Bible verses, Christian parables and discussions about God's true intention for his children to defeat Satan's Spear. Many will find themselves tempted by the controlling influence of God's most famous

fallen angel, Satan, but there is salvation. Just as heaven and hell are real places, author Rod Landreth believes the conflict between God's mighty sword and Satan's evil spear are also real.

Just as the fall of man began in the Garden of Eden when it was threatened by the spear of Satan, we have also been given the sword of God to fight back, to slay those innately wicked intentions that can ultimately be defeated by a redeemable heart.

Landreth reveals God's plan for succeeding in the battle for our souls, by showing us how to recognize Satan's influence in our everyday lives, as we swing back with God's mighty sword.

Rod L. Landreth is a pastor at the Church of the Living Word in West Point, California. He cites God as the most powerful inspiration for writing this book. "God is the inspiration. He has put the desire in my heart."

Landreth previously published *The Chosen Yoke*, a must-read for all Christians, and is working on his next book. He lives in Wilseyville, California, with his wife of 37 years, Cindy. Rod L. Landreth, for more info: revrod@volcano.net, phone: 209-293-4366.

Publisher's website is at www.strategicpublishinggroup.com, ISBN: 9781609111700. Rod's first published book "The Chosen Yoke", along with *The Sword and The Spear*, are both available at the Lighthouse book store in Martell or Amazon.com, Barnes and Noble.com.

Calaveras Big Trees State Park Meet Rescued Raptors

Rescued birds of prey will be featured at Calaveras Big Trees State Park on August 5 at 10:00 A.M. The wild birds will accompany handlers from the Native Bird Connections, an educational organization from the Bay Area specializing in wild birds. The program will last approximately 1.5 hours. The public is invited to attend the event, which is being held in conjunction with the regular meeting of the park Docents. Admission to the event is free with payment of the \$8.00 entrance fee. A \$3.00 donation is suggested for campers and Docents.

The birds on display have been injured and cannot be released back into the wild, so they are the main focus of lectures presented by Connections. The experienced naturalist interpreters will discuss the birds to raise public awareness about the importance of protecting nature's feathered hunters. For additional information on the event, call the Visitor Center at 209-795-7980. The Park is located 3 miles east of Arnold on Hwy 4. www.nativebirds.org. For more information or to join their efforts, call 209 795-3840.

THE ARMOR

Imagine yourself standing barefooted in a rocky climate, like in the Middle East. You could move--ever so carefully--but without shoes you would be useless in battle. The weight of the other pieces of armor would only make your feet more sensitive if you had no protection. You would be a "push-over" for the enemy, as you would have no agility and be wincing in pain every time you attempted to move. This is why it is essential to have our "feet shod with the gospel of peace".

How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation [Yeshua, Jesus!] who say to Zion, "Your God reigns!" Eph 6:15 (NIV) ...your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace.

Eph 6:15 (Wey) ...as well as the shoes of the Good News of peace--a firm foundation for your feet.

Rom 10:15 (KJV) ...As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!"

Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace.

In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

The spiritual footwear that comes from the "Gospel of Peace" gives us the firm-footed stability, promptness and readiness we'll need to face our agile

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Manute Bol: An appreciation for a Special Blessing

By Wim Laven

Remember Manute Bol? He was the tallest person to ever play in NBA, for 10 seasons. He could touch the rim without jumping—so tall (it is written) that the average man stands eye level to his belly button. The only player in the history of the NBA to record more blocked shots than points, and the second highest blocks per game average.

On June 19, 2010 Manute—translated "special blessing"—passed away. He died from doing what he loved, not basketball, but, aiding his country. He lived what could be described as a humble life, and gave all he could—literally—to help the people of Sudan. When he was fined for missing pre-season games, he was hurt; he

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Recipe For A Perfect Day

It was a gorgeous, sundrenched spring day in the Sierra Gold Country with wildflowers bursting in full bloom and the hillsides at ARK 2000 were luscious and green. Take it from Annie and Mara and the other girls, it was a picture-perfect day and a great time to host a very special Earth Week visit with a group of young "at risk youth" from the Los Angeles' Compton Boys and Girls Club. The Project OneSong program is based on the undeniable link between animal cruelty & human violence in our society. Project OneSong teaches young people how to develop empathy and compassion for animals and others as an alternative to violence. Most of the children in the Project OneSong program come from difficult and challenging environments.

By visiting PAWS and spending time with Pat Derby and Ed Stewart, the children witness first-hand Pat and Ed's unwavering demonstration of kindness, patience and unconditional love toward the animals. The children explore new ways of thinking about their own world and ultimately they learn how to think about themselves more compassionately. The unique experience at PAWS benefits the children by boosting their self-esteem and personal confidence and by showing them a more productive and kinder lifestyle. It benefits the animals too.

By educating our young people to the suffering of wildlife in captive situations, it opens their minds to the concept of wildlife conservation and environmental preservation. These are key topics that children need to understand in order to make their own world a more positive place in which to live, grow, and to become positive contributors to our society.

After one elephant experience, a child remarked that he felt that the elephants represented him. He saw the elephant as majestic and powerful and was able to relate those positive attributes to humans who unlock their potential - and he was finally able to relate those positive attributes to himself. Another child exclaimed that "animals have best friends," one mentioned that "animals are just like humans - they need respect too," and still another child added that she learned that animals weren't things, but that they were living beings with feelings and families.

With Southwest Airlines as a charter sponsor, the children fly in to the Sacramento Airport where their chaperones rent vans and drive to ARK 2000. The recent Project One Song visit on April 24th included helping Pat and Ed with elephant foot soaks. Of course, these pachy pedicures were a big hit with both the kids and the elephants. The children then learned more about PAWS' rescued tigers. The day also included making elephant treat bags.

There were nine children visiting in this group and PAWS has nine elephants, so each child had their own elephant and each prepared a wonderful afternoon snack bag for their elephant. The snack bag included carrots, veggies and an ele favorite - popcorn. Wanda and Gypsy chirped and trumpeted their approval of the delicious and lovingly-prepared snacks. And according to the PAWS' Pachy Press, The One Song "chefs" will be awarded a whopping Nine Stars for their culinary achievements!

After a bountiful vegetarian lunch on top of ARK 2000's Indian Hill each child wrote two special cards. One card was to United States Secretary of Agriculture, Tom Vilsack, pleading with him to send Queenie to the PAWS sanctuary. The other card was to United States President Obama's daughter, Malia. The children learned about Malia's commitment to helping tigers and they were excited to invite her to come visit the tigers at PAWS.

PAWS has collaborated with the One Song Education program for over five years and is proud to be a partner with Project OneSong. Initial plans have begun to construct a Project One Song Campground and Educational Center. For more information, please visit www.OneSong.org. To view a video of Project OneSong's visit to ARK 2000, see <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ph95ek9qYIc>

POWER OF PRAYER

Someone has said if Christians really understood the full extent of the power we have available through prayer, we might be speechless. Did you know that during WWII there was an advisor to Churchill who organized a group of people who dropped what they were doing every day at a prescribed hour for one minute to collectively pray for the safety of England, its people and peace?

There is now a group of people organizing the same thing here in America. If you would like to participate: Every evening at 9:00 p.m. Eastern Time, (8:00 p.m. Central), (7:00 p.m. Mountain), (6:00 p.m. Pacific), stop whatever you are doing and spend one minute praying for the safety of the United States, our troops, our citizens, and for the return to a Godly nation. If you know anyone else who would like to participate, please pass this along. Our prayers are the most powerful asset we have.

Receive 10% off your cruise fare when you book any cruise with Carnival Cruise Lines® sailing now through December 2010. Call 1-800-953-5511 and mention online appreciation code CA1231-10. Must be booked by 7/31/2010.