

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, that 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.

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

They were an army large in number who 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 are seldom seen again.

Yet in the midst of sorrow, greatness always seeks to shine,
And their example brings 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