

Overcoming in a world of terror

“This is a great day,” commented Maj. General Caldwell early last month to a news conference in Baghdad, as the photo of Abu Musab al-Zarqawi’s dead body was unveiled. It was a great day indeed. Only 4-hours earlier, American jets had pinpointed Zarqawi’s “safe” house and dispatched him to a sooner-than-expected *rendezvous* with his promised virgins. Imagine his disappointment!

Wars are remembered by the major battles – Trafalgar, Waterloo, Bunker Hill, Iwo Jima and Omaha Beach – to name a few. Every war has a turning point, which usually involves a change of strategy.

With the zapping of Zarqawi, perhaps it’s time for a change of strategy. The Islamofascists use the element of surprise for a host of reasons. Obviously they would never succeed if they advertised in advance where they intended to strike. In Kenya and Tanzania they struck U.S. Embassies in 1998 within minutes of each other. On 9/11 in New York, Washington and Pennsylvania and again on 7/7/05 in London they struck multiple targets virtually simultaneously.

If surprise is the new reality in war, then we must make certain they understand how it feels to be unexpectedly on the receiving end. This will expose their weakness.

Because they are terrorists and “*shoot from the shadows*” there is a myth that they are invincible. Actually, they are a relatively small group of desperate and deranged men who live on hate and love death. We must find them and win them to Jesus Christ, or kill them. There is really no other way. It’s actually a life or death matter for all concerned.

We have reached this desperate impasse in part because we as Christians have not been obedient to the Great Commission, “*Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel.*” Instead, we have chosen the easy and comfortable path. Muslims feel confident they will win because Allah is on their side – but Allah is not Jehovah.

We must lead them to Jesus Christ who said, “*All power [authority] in heaven and on earth has been given unto Me.*” On the basis of His power and authority, we are commanded to “Go...and preach the Gospel.” Generally speaking we have not been obedient. Now, in this war on terrorism, we are reaping the consequences of our disobedience. We’re locked in a death-threatening struggle

between two competing concepts of who God is. We’ve never been in a situation like this before. Like Peter, walking on the water, we’ve taken our eyes off of Jesus and we’re sinking. Like the Apostle fisherman of old, we must cry, “Lord, save me!” **He will!**

America is seen worldwide as apologetically backing away from its Christian roots. We’ve taken the Bible and prayer out of our public schools; the Ten Commandments out of our Courts and revisionist history books have removed all evidence of Christian heritage and influence by our Founding Fathers. Our lawmakers are even confused over a simple definition of “marriage.” The Islamic conclusion: now is the time to strike.

We are faced with an implacable foe, fired by an intolerant fanatical idealism that demands our annihilation. From their

perspective there is no place for reasonable negotiation, it is simply “Death to the infidel” – that’s us!

We desperately need revival. There are pockets of revival breaking out in many parts of the world. In those areas, Islam is in retreat. When it is demonstrated that Allah cannot protect his followers, they turn to the One source that can. We are seeing this in Africa.

Nehemiah rebuilt the walls of Jerusalem with a weapon in one hand and a work tool in the other. Either we sit back and wait for them to get their hands on WMDs and use them on us, or we take the battle to them now, starting with specific and strategic targets and make it clear that we intend to escalate on our unannounced time table. Advise the Arab capitals what to expect if they do not voluntarily and with great expedience hand over the radical elements they have so far felt safe in harboring. Make it abundantly clear that they are no longer safe. Zarqawi serves as a useful example.

The liberals and their hate-America friends will whine and wring their hands, but we’re almost five years into a Muslim-initiated war, and there is no option short of victory. Jesus Christ said, “*In the world, you shall have tribulation [trouble]: be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.*” That is the message every Muslim needs to hear.

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