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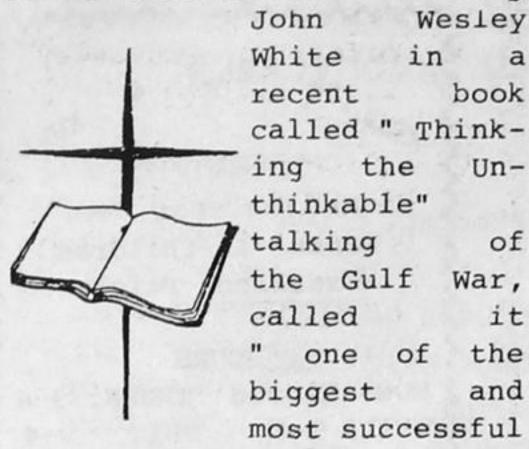
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War,

Reverend Robert Sibley



in human history". Armistice continues Day to point our generation to the high cost of war. Many lament and criticise war, yet few really think through their belief on fill our minds with violence, then marvel acting someone out what is within. The bible tells us in James 4:1 What causes wars and what causes fighting among you? It is not your passions that are at war in your members?" The real cause of was in not the external triggers, but the basic sinful nature of mankind.

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trade

Is it contradictory to go to war and yet say you serve and love the Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ? Should we be pacifist or is there such a thing as a just war, How many times over can a person be killed?

Does the escalation in arms stockpiling provide a legitimate, justifiable deterrant, thus securing peace? What type of war would you support? Many of the ethical questions surrounding war are real issues a large precentage of our world are regularly struggling with and will be of serious consequence to all of us.

The bible does give a unified and sure direction for our decisions. First we must distinguish between its teachings on private and public duties. Never does the bible advocate taking the law into our own hands. One may choose for himself to turn the other cheek as Jesus said Matthew 5:38-48, but he must not call such action godly or love if it requires hime to forsake his responsibilities to stand for justice and protect those he is accountable

for. 1 Timothy 5:8. In fact, just war participated in (and sometimes led) by men of faith is spoken of in very positive terms in Herbews 11:32-34. The author, extolling the virtues of faith concludes by saying, "What more shall I say? For would time fail me concludes by saying, " What more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Sampson... David, Samuel and the prophets who through faith subdued kingdom's, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the

of lions, mouths quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, became valiant in battle, turned to flight the armies of the aliens." Notice v. 35-39 the toture and imprisonment they endured, yet would not betray or easy deliverance. seek Why? The Bible says their faith made them strong.

The Revelation 19:11 the Prince Himself is described as coming back to this earth on a white horse. " And he who sat on him called faithful and true and in rightoeusness he judges and makes war." then, what about admonition Christ's to one's enemies and good them? to one needs to read Romans 12&13 as a whole to see the boundaries set on type and extent of war. In summary notice some

principles; it must be a righteous reason and purpose that is the result of the last resort. Secondly, to must controlled or proportionate and discriminate. Thirdly,

it must be predictable, a good prospect that is for victory. Luke 14:31-It is to be limited to the punishment of evil innocent blood shed 6:16-17) and (Proverbs must be therefore we today about concerned the capability of nuclear and continue to warfare the pin point advocate techniques accuracy bombs these placing that innocent blood shed.

It seems to me that the nuclear race could provide not only the obvious deterrant, but less ultimate destruction of innocent lives when the principles of God's Word are followed. We are called to be peace-We thank those makers. provided have who our present freedom to live and develop rightousness. Our personal conduct and beliefs are vital to the of future generoutcome ations.

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