

SPARE NO ARROW

Jeremiah 50:14 (NASB) ¹⁴ “Draw up your battle lines against Babylon on every side,
All you who bend the bow;
Shoot at her, do not be sparing with *your* arrows,
For she has sinned against the LORD.

நீங்கள் எல்லாரும் பாபிலோனுக்கு விரோதமாய்ச் சுற்றிலும்
அணிவகுத்து நின்று, வில்லை நானேற்றி, அதின்மேல் அம்புகளை
எய்யுங்கள்; அம்புச்செலவைப் பாராதேயுங்கள்; அது, கர்த்தருக்கு
விரோதமாய்ப் பாவஞ்செய்தது.

A few days back my sister sent me an encouraging mail, asking me not to stop writing, but to keep on shooting the arrows. She recounted the incident that happened between Elisha and Joash. This is the passage.

¹⁴When Elisha became sick with the illness of which he was to die, Joash the king of Israel came down to him and wept over him and said, “My father, my father, the chariots of Israel and its horsemen!” ¹⁵Elisha said to him, “Take a bow and arrows.” So he took a bow and arrows. ¹⁶Then he said to the king of Israel, “Put your hand on the bow.” And he put his hand *on it*, then Elisha laid his hands on the king’s hands. ¹⁷He said, “Open the window toward the east,” and he opened *it*. Then Elisha said, “Shoot!” And he shot. And he said, “The LORD’S arrow of victory, even the arrow of victory over Aram; for you will defeat the Arameans at Aphek until you have destroyed *them*.” ¹⁸Then he said, “Take the arrows,” and he took them. And he said to the king of Israel, “Strike the ground,” and he struck *it* three times and stopped. ¹⁹So the man of God was angry with him and said, “You should have struck five or six times, then you would have struck Aram until you would have destroyed *it*. But now you shall strike Aram *only* three times.(II Kings 13,14-19).

It is so true that our God has given us weapons of war (Ephesians 6,17) and He wants us to keep on shooting. But sometimes like the king of Israel, we are so stingy and strike it only thrice. It is true we give up too soon. Actually the day my sister sent the message I was wondering whether I should keep on shooting the word of God. It was taking much time and I wasn't sure whether it is useful or not.

And today I came across this verse in Jeremiah where the Lord asks everyone to draw their bow against Babylon, which is the picture of satanic kingdom. The Lord tells us not to worry over the number of arrows which are sent. The Tamizh version is much better. It reads, அம்புச்செலவைப் பாராதேயுங்கள்; Do not mind about spending the arrows, but keep on shooting.

The Lord also expects us to keep on shooting His word, which is the double edged sword, so that the enemy is defeated again and again. We should not stop praying, we should not stop preaching, we should not stop singing, we should not stop writing whatever the situation be. Even if we do not see any results, it just doesn't matter. All it matters is that we keep on shooting arrows unmindful of how many arrows we have shot.

My dear friend, whatever ministry the Lord has given you, keep on doing it. Keep on shooting the arrows. Do not be worried about the expenditure of arrows. The supply will match the demand. Keep shooting the arrows in Jesus Name.