

# Toughness Not Roughness

Parents know the difference between tough love and rough treatment. Children and the immature can't tell the difference. Parents find the thought of rough treatment inappropriate, but they understand the necessity of tough love because of the recalcitrant nature of humanity. Those without parenting experience find both these offensive. Anything that impinges on their selfishness and their quest for a peaceable, lazy life is not tolerated. However, warm-fuzzies, spoiling and parental doting are entirely appropriate to them.

This immature mindset has invaded the *ekklesia* from home and from society to the detriment of the Body of Christ.

There are 2 similar phenomena in the *ekklesia* that are causing, and will increasingly cause division. These are: spiritual toughness and soulish roughness.

## **Don't mistake spiritual toughness for soulish roughness.**

There's a new generation of spiritual people being raised up who will operate in the toughness of the OT prophets like Elijah. These people are going to speak things as they are given the words from the Spirit and they will cause many to be offended. The offence will come from the hearer's soul because they have been corrected of error or shown to be out of line. The offence will also come because of the anointing on the words these people speak which will convict hearers so that they resist with their soul and mind, producing offence in them.

These 'tough' people will operate in the sphere of the apostolic and the prophetic. They will not necessarily be apostles and prophets, but they will carry 'weight' that none will be able to deny. The weighty words they speak are the "sword of the Lord"<sup>1</sup> which is sent out for the King's purposes and they will do its intended job.<sup>2</sup>

These 'strongmen' speak *rhema*. They know that the "word of the Lord" is the *rhema* that he speaks. They know that *rhema* is produced in the speech of those who hear clearly from the Spirit and speak it with no mixture. They know that they are speaking to the spirit in others and that only genuine spiritual believers can hear exactly what they are saying and can discern their intent.

Here's a prophetic word from early 2017 about these people who are being raised up:

**VIDEO: Charlie Shamp - "The Sword of Elisha".....[10:00-53:17]**  
[m.facebook.com/story.php?story\\_fbid=10206808360686577&id=1802676077](https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=10206808360686577&id=1802676077)

I believe that Smith-Wigglesworth was a forerunner of this type of operator. He displayed the glory of this mode of operation.

Currently, we don't have this powerful facility available to us, so we tend to foolishly improvise and add soul to our words to make them more forceful or powerful. This is out of frustration from not being able to achieve what we know we should be able to attain.

So, although I have been told the following by the Lord: "*Watch how you treat people. Cease being so gruff. It's good to be apostolic, but gruffness does not convey who I am to those around you. Love and gentleness must always surface in every situation. Be kind and loving to everyone and watch your attitudes*"<sup>3</sup>, there is still the spiritual necessity for strong words to be delivered. The delivery must be delivered as above, but it must retain the King's strength, without any roughness. The anointing on it will do what's required, without any need to embellish it from the soul.

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1 – Revelation 1:16; 19:15

2 – Isaiah 55:11

3 – My prophetic journal 28-5-2017

We must not succumb to Western society's sensitivity that only accepts something that's 'warm and fuzzy'. We pick this up unknowingly because our culture has impregnated us with its norms and values. We must be bigger than this, because sons of the Kingdom don't get offended by anything. They administrate every circumstance and situation to work through it for the sake of the Kingdom. When tough words are delivered, they sense the spirit behind it. If it's of soulish spirit, the words are rejected and any situation arising is handled with the 'arm of the Lord'<sup>4</sup>. If words presented have the tell-tale 'weight' of the Spirit of the Living God on them, these are received and acted on accordingly.

There's no place for wimps in this stage of the Kingdom's advancement that's manifesting on the Earth right now. This is why we must quickly grow up and mature in the things of the Spirit and of the Kingdom. The immature will stumble and fall away as we move into this new phase of the Kingdom on Earth.

**IMPORTANT: A new regiment in the army of the Kingdom is rising. The saint's job is to foster the emergence of these troops, not hinder their establishment.**

Laurence

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