



**Searching for a Winner: Review: Economy of Force; The Wisdom & Courage of Front Rankers
Illustrate the Sophisticated Believer**

- 30) In fact, the Lord, as is illustrated by Leonidas, is at the front of the column in the first rank. He in fact is riding point ahead of us.
- 31) Our Lord's demonstration of personal integrity plus the absence of fear among believers results in victories in the Invisible War.

Thieme, R. B., Jr. *Freedom through Military Victory*. 3d ed. (Houston: R. B. Thieme, Jr., Bible Ministries, 1996), 41:

During training soldiers come to respect unit leaders and adopt their beliefs about how to fight. They also embrace their leader's professional values of loyalty, responsibility, and selfless service. These shared beliefs and values become norms and standards that influence discipline, cohesiveness, and the will to fight. [*FM-100, Military Leadership*. (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office), 82.]

- 32) The Spartan hoplites had total respect for Leonidas and subscribed with confidence to the training he had endorsed and which they had inculcated.
- 33) The *promachoi* [*πρόμαχοι*], the front-rankers, had previously demonstrated the system effectual on the battlefield and thus had developed wisdom to go along with their training which produced for them an even greater confidence in subsequent battles.
- 34) This reputation of wisdom and battlefield courage was absorbed by the rear ranks of hoplites and resulted in the mental attitude of *exoterike harmonia*, an "outer harmony" that united the mental and physical assets of every member of the phalanx so that, when the trumpets sounded and the pipers played the paean of Castor's Battle-March, they all moved out as one unified mass.
- 35) As good soldiers for Christ we are compelled to train in the classroom of Christianity, learning how to concentrate our mass into an economy of force.
- 36) Our weapons are the doctrines of the Word of God. Our tactics involve the utilization of the four spiritual mechanics in the double column advance. Our fighting ability is dependent upon the size of our doctrinal inventory and its deployment by means of the three spiritual skills. Our discipline is based on spiritual asceticism which isolates distractions so that our top priority of learning doctrine is not affected. Our morale is founded on a mental attitude of *esoterike harmonia* and expressed in our behavior patterns, character traits, and lifestyle.