

“Live From the Battlefield” Script Preview #2

(Suddenly shots rings out close by and NED falls to the ground, screaming shrilly.)

NED: Aaaugh! Corporal! Help me!

(MOSS runs to his side and kneels, yelling angrily at an unseen soldier off to one side.)

MOSS: Hey, soldier! Make sure you know what you're aiming at before you start shooting! You're on KP duty for two months! (He examines NED) Did he hit you?

NED: No, I guess he just scared the wits out of me. Was that someone on our side?

MOSS: (Helping NED to his feet) I'm afraid so. We've lost our share to friendly fire.

NED: Friendly fire? If that was friendly, I wouldn't want to get on his bad side!

MOSS; What that means is that sometimes we can be injured by those on our own side when they get careless. (Pointedly) Or we don't have our armor in place!

NED: (Standing now, he looks abashed) Point taken.

MOSS: You can't be neutral anymore, Ned.

NED: (Straightening, he speaks with a dawning determination) I've hovered on the edges for years, reporting and commenting on the efforts of others but never participating myself. I think it's time for a change.

MOSS: (Grabbing his hand and shaking it warmly, smiling) Great! Let's get you some armor. (Pantomiming handling each item as if they were invisible.) Here's the helmet of salvation. Put it on!

NED: (Puzzled) I don't see anything...(He reaches for it and his face shows his amazement.) Wait! I can feel it! It's invisible!

MOSS: Yes, because it's spiritual armor. But "spiritual" doesn't mean it's not real...it's very real and vital in spiritual warfare. Now try it on.

NED: (Taking it, he places it on his head) Fits perfectly! In fact, I can see and hear more clearly with it on!

MOSS: Here's the shield of faith. (Handing it to NED with both hands as if it is large and heavy) It'll protect you from all the fiery darts of the wicked one if you keep it between you and him.

NED: (Placing it on his left arm and holding it up with some effort) Now this is what I call a shield! But it's not easy to lift at all.

MOSS: That's why you have to use it often to build up your strength. The more you use it the lighter it'll get! Next, the breastplate of righteousness. (He helps NED place it on his chest and fasten it in the back.) This is the righteousness of Jesus, imparted to you and tailor made to fit.

NED: Now, this is as light as a feather! (He thumps his chest) But it's solid.

MOSS: Here's the truth, to gird up your loins with...

NED: (Taking it and holding it up uncertainly) Uh...I feel ignorant for asking...but what's a loin and how do you gird it up?

MOSS: (laughing) Lot's of new recruits ask that. That phrase refers to a belt used for tying up your robes so that they wouldn't trip you when running and fighting. The truth will set you free from the entanglements of worldly cares. Now, we don't wear robes much anymore, so think of it as a belt to keep your pants from falling down and tripping you!

NED: Well, that's pretty important! (He puts it around his waist and ties it like a sash.)

MOSS: And here's some heavy-duty boots, which are made of the preparation of the gospel of peace. They'll protect you from the land mines of Satanic confusion.

(NED pulls them on and stands proudly with his feet apart, his fists on his hips.)

NED: Wow! I feel really strong! Let me at 'em!

MOSS: Wait, here's your personal weapon--your own sword of the Spirit. (He hands him a small Bible from the pouch.) Never let anyone steal it from you, and practice using it always. All together, the armor is invincible!

NED: (Looking over his shoulder at his back) Hey, how come there's nothing to protect my back?

(Begin Track 9: music, SFX and CLOSE vocal)

MOSS: Because as soldiers in the Lord's army never retreat. When we've done all we can, we just stand. Jesus does the rest. (In the distance, jets approach. He looks up) And here they come now!

NED: (Looking up) What is it?

MOSS: The angelic reinforcements! (JETS ROAR OVER) Praise the Lord and pass the ammunition! (Everyone stands, rejoicing and cheering, jumping up and down. MOSS rallies his troops.) All right, soldiers! Let's go get 'em for the LORD! (MOSS leads the soldiers in a charge off the stage in the direction they had been firing, all shouting in victory. NED recovers the mic from where he had dropped it.)

NED: (Over the cheers, smiling) Back to you, Walter!

CONCRETE: (continuing from Track #9) And that's the way it is, on the battlefield of the war to end all wars. I'm Walter Concrete. Good night.

THE END