Around 2000 years ago, The Great Julius Caesar set off from Rome with his men and ships to England in an attempt to conquer the country. As the roman ships drew near, the English could be seen preparing eagerly for battle with tens of thousands of soldiers as compared to Caesar’s who had roughly about 5000 men on board. Fear came upon the Romans as they knew they were going to be vanquished. They marched off their ships in an attempt to probably die honorably.

But according to Legend, Caesar is said to have made a daring move by commanding his men to burn their own ships with which they came with after moving off from it. Sounds crazy right?

Caesar knew his men feared and might retreat if the battle got tough and so he decided that they burnt their ships so that if they are pushed back, it would be into the sea and thus to be pushed back would be to perish. So therefore their only aim if they wanted to live was to fight and stay alive.

In all there was only one thing Caesar needed, **COMMITMENT**.

There was a time when we wallowed in sin as animals playing in mud but then not out of compulsion or intimidation but by our own free will we decided it was time we became translated from the power of he who through bondage had subjected us to it into another kingdom which is of light (Colossians 1:13). Therefore, having knowledge that our old man was crucified with Jesus, that body of sin has obviously been done away with (Romans 6:6). But it seems we would want to retreat and go back into the sea for that former old man which has already been done away with. Sin was an obvious failure for us and it was what God was hoping we would not dwell in but we would rather learn something from but it appears we show no commitment to our quest towards salvation.

It is obvious we are starting to retreat just because we are being pushed back by the jabs of the devil been hurled at us, worldly desires (1 John 2:15) and the struggles on earth. But unfortunately, the truth is that we are and would always be surrounded by the jabs and fiery darts once we are in the world; you move forward you would face them, you retreat you meet them the more. Let us therefore then strive and force our way through by taking up for ourselves the battle artillery prescribed for Christians (Ephesians 6:13-18) for the
crown of life awaits us eagerly (2 Timothy 4:7-8)!

This is not the first time the world is waging war against Christians, since the time of the first century through the time of John's revelation till now and since the devil rests not (1 Peter 5:8), it is incumbent on us that we also rest not. In John's apocalypse in the letter to the church at Pergamos (Revelations 2:13), we read of Antipas being martyred in the battle between good and bad, the world against Christians but in verse 10, we are admonished to stay faithful until death and in the end receive the crown of life. The word until used in the verse is from the Greek word akh'-ree which means to the very bottom or to the uttermost, which means stand committed even at the point of death.

We must stay committed to God and burn the ship that carried us and our inequities and look ahead hoping to conquer sin and not let the vice versa happen for if the vice versa happens, what we see behind us is the Kingdom of Darkness with its arms wide opened to receive all those who would retreat. Even if we do sin, we have an arbitrator who seeks to settle the dispute or rife created between us and God if and only if we are willing to plead with Him. (1 John 2:1-2).

I love you but God loves you most.

Amankwaah Benjamin, Ghana West Africa.