

This is an Allegory. Yeah, I had to look it up.

- An allegory is a story, poem, or picture that can be interpreted to reveal a hidden meaning.
- Pilgrim's Progress is an allegory
- You will meet three main characters...
 - The Voice
 - The Warrior
 - The Nemesis
- It is titled, Out From the Shadows and is a fictitious story with historical truths woven in.
- It is what I will call an Allegoric word of encouragement. It's even possible it's prophetic.

READING

Proverbs 8:22-31

They came by cart, horse, foot, and water. Slowly moving from East to West and North to south-they came in small groups.

The French, Spanish, mobsters, traders, and hopefuls looking for westward expansion. It was a plethora of humanity, with no one staying long.

The pioneers, both the greater-known and lesser-known, traveled through. They thought well of the area, but their work was to explore, not to settle.

For nearly 100 years small groups came and went with only a handful sticking it out. A few purchased land and built homes for their families. It all felt rather unpredictable and unintentional.

Times were changing though. In the mid-1700s it was a place to pass through but by the mid-1800s expansion created a need for more than a fort or settlement. The Town of Kansas was formed with a legal document created from land purchased years

before, now owned by 14 individuals.

A gateway to the West was opening, which included the Town of Kansas. Then our nation hit a tragic moment of brother against brother. Nearly crushing this young new world. This, too, passed.

This land is blessed, it was set aside for great purposes but up to this point, the right people had not arrived. Sojourners, explorers, traders, even usurpers, and evil men had come and gone.

But now, the North had won, the states were no longer divided and new hope was rising. Bridges were built, and new lands were purchased allowing the city to grow. There was something special about this land. It is about the land and, of course, the people who settled here. It was then that the land became known as Kansas City.

There is something that is good to know. Maybe you have seen or experienced this yourself. Often unknown and unseen, a warrior had been dispatched to stand guard over the land. From the early days, this warrior stood firm only coming out from the shadows when trouble arose. Stepping into the midst of trouble the enemy scattered at the sight of this strong and capable warrior.

With the trouble resolved, the Warrior would step back into the shadows, waiting for the Voice to give orders. The Voice is the One whom the warrior must obey but joyfully follows without question. Knowing that when the Voice calls out, it is with purpose for his kingdom. For the Voice has poured into the very soil of this land - promises.

Promises once given can not be taken back. For these promises are part of the earth. They enrich the landscape with beauty and wisdom. These promises have been spoken into being by the Voice himself.

The enemies of the land work hard to steal, kill, and destroy the promises that are buried in the

land. This is why the Warrior has been dispatched. 3

The Warrior has seen many high points and some low points in his assignment over Kansas City. He marvels at how the Voice grants these 'sons of Adam' so much grace. The Warrior knows the kindness of the voice, and he knows the fearsomeness that the Voice carries. Something he sees the sons of Adam and daughters of Eve struggle with. They easily forget both his goodness and his majesty. But they always come back to him. This brings great joy to the Warrior because it brings greater joy to the Voice.

The Warrior has heard, first hand, the voice of the Nemesis. There is no comparison. There is no stronger voice than the One the Warrior follows.

The Warrior has heard his master friend speak and there are none louder or clearer. Like the pure tone of a trumpet piercing through the darkness of night, or the sound of rushing waters, engulfing all the senses. Oh, YES, the Warrior knows the Voice. Having been trained and equipped in preparation for the coming fulfillment of promises. The Warrior waits, expectant for the trumpet Voice to sound the alarm calling the earth's promises to be fulfilled.

The warrior knows the purpose of why he must stand firm. The spear and shield given to all warriors are not for the timid in spirit. These are weapons forged in the glory and presence of the Voice himself. They have flown swiftly and true to meet the demise of the Nemesis's attacks on numerous occasions throughout his assignment.

The Warrior has fought many battles. No greater war did he face than 1900 to 1939 when a major usurper came to build his own Kingdom and destroy the reputation of this called-out city. A battle so intense that the Voice deployed forces to stand with the Warrior.

Side by side they battled for nearly forty years. What the Nemesis forgets, from one generation to

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the next, is the Voice cannot be conquered. This is a major reason the Warrior faithfully serves and stands firm, knowing that the Voice, once being heard and followed, will always be victorious.

Over the past 85 years, the Warrior has rarely stepped out of the shadows. A few times only, to calm a small storm or avenge the greater purpose of the Voices call. Never having to raise his shield more than a moment to extinguish flaming arrows. Never once in these 85 years was it necessary for the spear to be sent forth to defeat the army of the Nemesis. There has been, for the majority of this time, peace and prosperity.

Recently the sun, moon, and earth aligned. A darkness covered the earth, drawing the Warrior from the shadows. Hearing the call of the Voice, the Warrior has come into the pure light of day. Towering over Kansas City as is his right. Releasing a word of hope to all who listen for such things.

Listen to the Warriors cry.

"The Voice cares for you, he loves you dearly, more than you can imagine. The Voice honors those who call on him. He is looking and searching our hearts and minds for those who call on him. Stand, take your place, hold firm to the promises of this land that were given to you by the Voice himself."

Here the Warrior continues;
"I, the Warrior, am a reminder that there are promises in the very soil of the land created from the moment of inception when the Voice proclaimed purposes for Kansas City. The promises of the land are being fulfilled. The Voice does not forget nor will he allow this land, his land, to be destroyed."

As the teller of this tale, I wish to say that the Warrior remains dispatched from the throne of heaven on assignment over Kansas City. Ready, able, and actively scouting to relinquish any foe that comes against the Voices call. Prepared for

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the day, equipped for the outpouring when the Voice brings a clarion call, waking the land to bring forth its promises.

Remember, the natural speaks of the invisible. God's divine nature and eternal power, spoken in the heavens, are displayed on the earth through what he has made. (Rom. 1:20)

Through all things created, he speaks to us of his divine nature and eternal power.

- Read: Proverbs 8:22-31 (TFT)
- Prayers - invite people to come to pray for the promises of God over this Land, Kansas City.

