

Winning the War Exodus Chapter 17 Verses 8-16

Ex 17:8 ¶ "Then came Amalek and fought with Israel in Rephidim. (railing along the bottom) **9** And Moses said unto Joshua, Choose us out men, and go out, fight with Amalek: tomorrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the rod of God in mine hand. **10** So Joshua did as Moses had said to him, and fought with Amalek: and Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to the top of the hill. **11** And it came to pass, when Moses held up his hand, that Israel prevailed: and when he let down his hand, Amalek prevailed. **12** But Moses' hands were heavy; and they took a stone, and put it under him, and he sat thereon; and Aaron and Hur stayed up his hands, the one on the one side, and the other on the other side; and his hands were steady until the going down of the sun. **13** And Joshua discomfited Amalek and his people with the edge of the sword. **14** And the LORD said unto Moses, Write this for a memorial in a book, and rehearse it in the ears of Joshua: for I will utterly put out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven. **15** And Moses built an altar and called the name of it Jehovahnissi: (Jehovah is my banner) **16** For he said, Because the LORD hath sworn that the LORD will have war with Amalek from generation to generation."

On their wilderness journey to the land of promise, the Amalekites come out to make war upon Israel. Notice who made war on who. Israel did not choose to go to war against the Amalekites. They are only defending themselves against the Amalekites, who have sought them out to make war. This is the picture of the life of the Child of God, and the church. Satan and the world are always making war against God, Christ, God's church, and God's people. This is why we put on the defensive armor as commanded by God.

Moses commands Joshua to choose out men to go with you and fight for us. A picture of the chosen of God, who are to fight the battles, of the life of a Child of God, on earth. The next day: Moses, Aaron, and Hur (a picture of the trinity of the Godhead) go up to the top of the hill, overlooking the place where the battle is taking place. As they stand upon the hill, Moses holds up the rod of God, and as long as he holds it up Israel prevails in the battle. When Moses's arms get tired and he lets the rod of God down, the Amalekites begin to prevail in the battle.

Therefore, Aaron and Hur have Moses to sit upon a rock and one gets on each side of him, and they hold up the arms of Moses, as Moses holds up the rod of God. Thus, Israel prevails over the Amalekites until the sun goes down. The assistance of Aaron and Hur gives us the picture helping one another in our daily lives. We are to hold up the banner of God, Jesus the Christ, as seen in: ***Col 3:16 "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord."***

"and his hands were steady until the going down of the sun." This gives us the prophetic picture of our divine assistance, Jesus's presence on earth, until the end of time: when the sun shall be forever darkened, and the war against sin and Satan will be completely accomplished.

God commands Moses to write this in a book, as a memorial of what happened this day, and rehearse it in the ears of Joshua. In other words, God wanted the hows and whys of this victory over the Amalekites recorded, so that all Israel, would understand that the battle, the victory, and the glory, were all God's. This book would serve to strengthen Joshua's, and Israel's, faith, and trust in God in the future.

What does this have to do with us today in this age of Salvation by the Grace of God? Well, actually, it has everything to do with living a victorious Christian life. How, you ask?

When you are born again you become a child of God, and you begin your journey, through this wilderness of sin, to the eternal land of promise. As you are led by God through this wilderness of sin, you will be set upon by the enemies of God, and the enemies of God's people, of which the Amalekites are a picture. The enemies of God's people are Satan and his followers. Remember, who attacked and who defended.

This scene is a prophetic picture of the coming of the age of Salvation by Grace, brought to fruition by Jesus Christ on his first coming to earth. Think upon the scene of the cross. Do you see Moses, with his arms stretched out to either side of his body holding the rod of God up? This is a picture of Jesus with his arms stretched out to either side of his body when he was nailed to the cross. Moses's arms tired and he could not hold them up all the time. This is a picture of the mortal body of Jesus upon the cross. His mortal strength flagged upon the cross and it took the nails to hold his arms up. As Aaron and Hur held up Moses's arms, Jesus's mortality was sustained by God the Father, and God the Holy Spirit, until the warfare was accomplished.

Joshua is the same word as Jesus. Thus, we see the scene of the triune God in heaven (up the hill) and Christ on earth (at the bottom) leading the battle to free God's people from their enemies. But how could Moses be a type of Jesus on the hill looking down on the battle of God's people on earth, while Jesus is also on earth (at the bottom) fighting the battle? The divinity of God the Son never left heaven. What do you mean? Jesus, in mortality on earth, never relinquished his eternal divinity which he had in heaven, nor was his eternal presence removed from the eternal heaven. Jesus came to earth in a prepared body, and as God said he was everywhere present and nowhere absent, so Christ is on earth and in heaven at the same time. Now, the prepared body of Jesus is risen immortal and glorified, and seated on the throne of God. The firstfruit as seen in: **1Co 15:20 ¶ "But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept."** The risen body of Jesus is the first to be raised in immortality and ascend into the eternal heaven.

But remember, Moses did not go to the top of the hill alone. Aaron and Hur accompanied him. Jesus Christ did not go to the cross alone, God the Father and God the Holy Ghost accompanied him. First, it is a picture of God the Father and God the Holy Ghost sustaining the mortal life of Jesus until the work of eternal salvation was accomplished. Secondly, this is a picture of the Church of God, whose head is ascended to heaven looking down upon the battles of life being fought by each child of God. Upon what is the Church of God founded? It is the rock, Jesus the Christ. Thus, we see the picture of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit, all in heaven looking down upon the earth. On earth every born-again child of God is indwelt with Christ in them. It is through the strength of Christ in us, sustained and manifested in our lives through God the Father and God the Holy Ghost, which gives us the victory over our enemies in the daily battles of life. As the figures of the triune godhead are coequal, coessential, and coeternal: they are the same in power and purpose, which is for all of God's people to be delivered eternally from the battles of life, and enter into their eternal rest, which has been provided by the finished work of God the Son on earth on the cross.

God the Father had Moses record the battle against the Amalekites in a book, to be rehearsed in Joshua's hearing. Why? To make Joshua, and Israel, know that the battle and victory was the Lord's. God is telling Israel and Joshua that I, God, will put out even the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven. God the Father had Jesus come down to earth and fight the battle against Satan. Jesus was victorious over sin, death, hell, and the grave and God had it recorded in a book, the King James bible, to be rehearsed in the ears of every child of God. Why? So, we know how, and why, we have been chosen to fight the battle and made victorious in our daily lives. Also, to provide the knowledge of the eternal victory that will be wrought by Jesus at the end of time. **"for I will utterly put out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven."** This is God's prophetic message to us: Satan, sin, our inherit sin nature, and all things that are against God and godliness, will be put out of our lives forever.

As it applies to our daily lives: So that we know: it is not by our own power that we have victory over Satan and his minions. The bible teaches us that it is not by our own power that we can overcome the inherited sin nature, which we got from our earthly father, Adam in his fallen in sin state, from which all humanity was born, but it is by the power of Christ in us that we have victory. Remembering this: all our praise and worship will be directed to the source of God's salvation in our lives, to Jesus the Christ. Hallelujah! Amen!