

Importance of Fellowship and the Church!

Exodus 17:8-16

(8) Now Amalek came and fought with Israel in Rephidim.

(9) And Moses said to Joshua, "Choose us some men and go out, fight with Amalek. Tomorrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the rod of God in my hand."

(10) So Joshua did as Moses said to him and fought with Amalek. And Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to the top of the hill.

(11) And so it was, when Moses held up his hand, that Israel prevailed;

and when he let down his hand, Amalek prevailed.

(12) But Moses' hands became heavy;

so they took a stone and put it under him, and he sat on it.

And Aaron and Hur supported his hands, one on one side, and the other on the other side;

and his hands were steady until the going down of the sun.

(13) So Joshua defeated Amalek and his people with the edge of the sword.

(14) Then the LORD said to Moses, "Write this for a memorial in the book and recount it in the hearing of

Joshua, **that I will utterly blot out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven."**

(15) And Moses built an altar and called its name, **The-LORD-Is-My-Banner;**

(16) for he said, "Because the LORD has sworn: **the LORD will have war with Amalek from generation to generation."**

A) Amalekites – Descendants of Esau. The heritage and bloodline of Esau's oldest son.

We get a better understanding of what the Amalekites did.

Deu 25:16-19 For all who do such things, **all who behave unrighteously, are an abomination to the LORD your God.** (17) **"Remember what Amalek did to you on the way as you were coming out of Egypt, (18) how he met you on the way and attacked your rear ranks, all the stragglers at your rear, when you were tired and weary; and he did not fear God.**

(19) Therefore it shall be, when the LORD your God has given you rest from your enemies all around, in the land which the LORD your God is giving you to possess as an inheritance, **that you will blot out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven. You shall not forget.**

What may have driven the Amalekites to do such things.

1. Jealousy – Received the paternal blessings
2. Hatred – Deceived his father

B) The Amalekites would be a thorn in the flesh of Israel for a long time. Just like your sinful nature will be a thorn in your spiritual life.

1. The Amalekites attacked Israel when they were weary, tired, and at the back. Your Flesh will attack you when you are weak and weary.

Matthew 11:28-30 Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. (29) Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. (30) For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."

2. The Amalekites joined forces with others to attack Israel in the Book of Judges. Your Flesh will join forces with those things that are worldly.

1 John 4:4 You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.

3. The Amalekites convinced King Saul to be a part of Israel and fight for them. Your Flesh will try to convince you to keep things around and then try to integrate itself into your life.

Romans 12:2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you

may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

4. When Saul died the Amalekite tried to appease David by saying he killed Saul. David killed the Amalekite. Your Flesh will try to overtake your Spiritual lifestyle. Even trying to pretend it is for you or helping you by works.

Galatians 3:3 Are you so foolish? Having begun in the Spirit, are you now being made perfect by the flesh?

5. In the Book of Esther an Amalekite named Haman tried to annihilate the Jews. Eventually your Flesh will want to destroy you all together.

Prayer, fasting, and a fight kept preserved them!

C) Moses sends Joshua to fight the Amalekites then goes up to the mountain and holds the staff up. As long as the staff and hands are up they win.

He gets tired and they let him sit on a rock.

Then his hands get tired and Aaron hold one side and Hur holds the other and they keep Moses hands up and Joshua defeats the Amalekites.

We see strong symbolism and truth in this story.

1. Joshua is the Holy Spirit in our lives; He fights for us!

Galatians 5:16-17 I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. (17) For **the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh;** and these are **contrary to one another**, so that you do not do the things that you wish.

2. This is a tiring battle. Just as Moses sat on the rock, we also must rest on our Rock. **This rock is Christ and His Word.**

Luke 6:47-48 Whoever comes to Me, and hears My sayings and does them, I will show you whom he is like: (48) He is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock. And when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently against that house, and could not shake it, for it was founded on the rock.

3. Aaron and Hur are also the representation of what the Church's foundation is.

Christ – Aaron was the tribe of Levi / Hur was the tribe of Judah

Aaron high priest – Christ is our High Priest.

Hur Military – Lion of the Tribe of Judah and rightful heir.

4. Aaron and Hur hold the hands of Moses. This is the body of Christ, the Church.

Galatians 6:2 Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

Heb 10:24-25 And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, (25) not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

In Conclusion,

Ephesians 6:12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.

We cannot do it alone. We need a Joshua, we need a Moses, we need the Aarons and Hurs, we need the Rock.

All these elements help us ultimately have victory over the Amalekites in our life!