

A photograph of a desert landscape featuring rolling sand dunes. The sun is high in the sky, creating a bright glow and casting long shadows across the dunes. The sky is a clear, deep blue. The text is overlaid on the center of the image.

# OUR BANNER

EXODUS 17:8-16



**<sup>8</sup> Then Amalek came and fought with Israel at Rephidim. <sup>9</sup> So Moses said to Joshua, “Choose for us men, and go out and fight with Amalek. Tomorrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the staff of God in my hand.” <sup>10</sup> So Joshua did as Moses told him, and fought with Amalek, while Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to the top of the hill. <sup>11</sup> Whenever Moses held up his hand, Israel prevailed, and whenever he lowered his hand, Amalek prevailed. <sup>12</sup> But Moses’ hands grew weary, so they took a stone and put it under him, and he sat on it, while Aaron and Hur held up his hands, one on one side, and the other on the other side. So his hands were steady until the going down of the sun.**

***Exodus 17:8-16***



**13 And Joshua overwhelmed Amalek and his people with the sword.**

**14 Then the LORD said to Moses, “Write this as a memorial in a book and recite it in the ears of Joshua, that I will utterly blot out the memory of Amalek from under heaven.” 15 And Moses built an altar and called the name of it, The LORD Is My Banner, 16 saying, “A hand upon the throne of the LORD! The LORD will have war with Amalek from generation to generation.”**

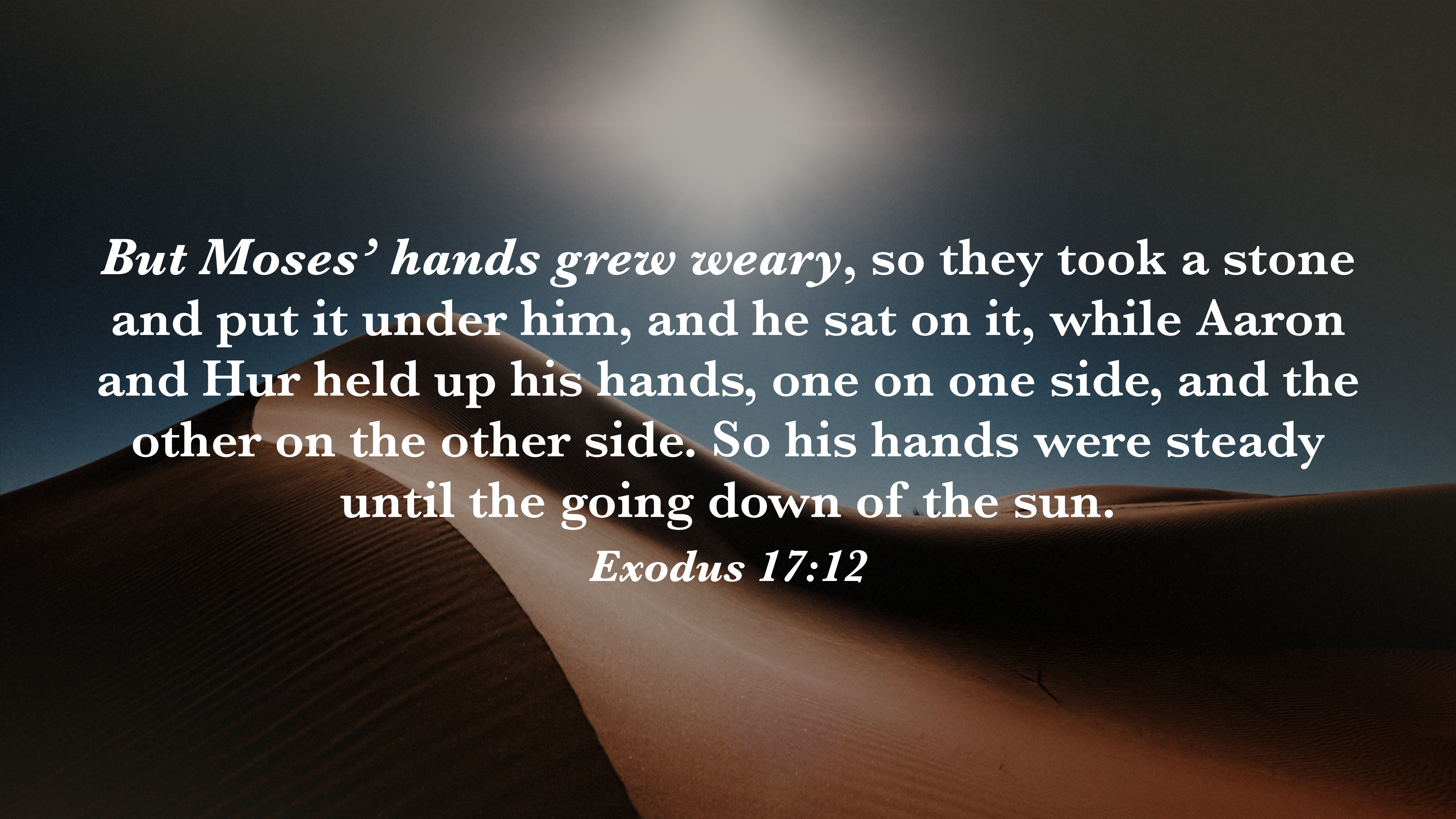
***Exodus 17:8-16***



## Exodus 17:8-11 *The Battle*

- [8] The Amaleks were descendants of Esau, making this conflict a familial one.
- [9] Moses' staff was used as a symbol of prophetic authority, thus indicating to Joshua the divine nature of the battle.
- [10] So that Moses would not become overly conceited, it was clear from the beginning that even he would need help.
- [11] This was confirmed by the fact that what little he contributed to the battle would come at a cost.

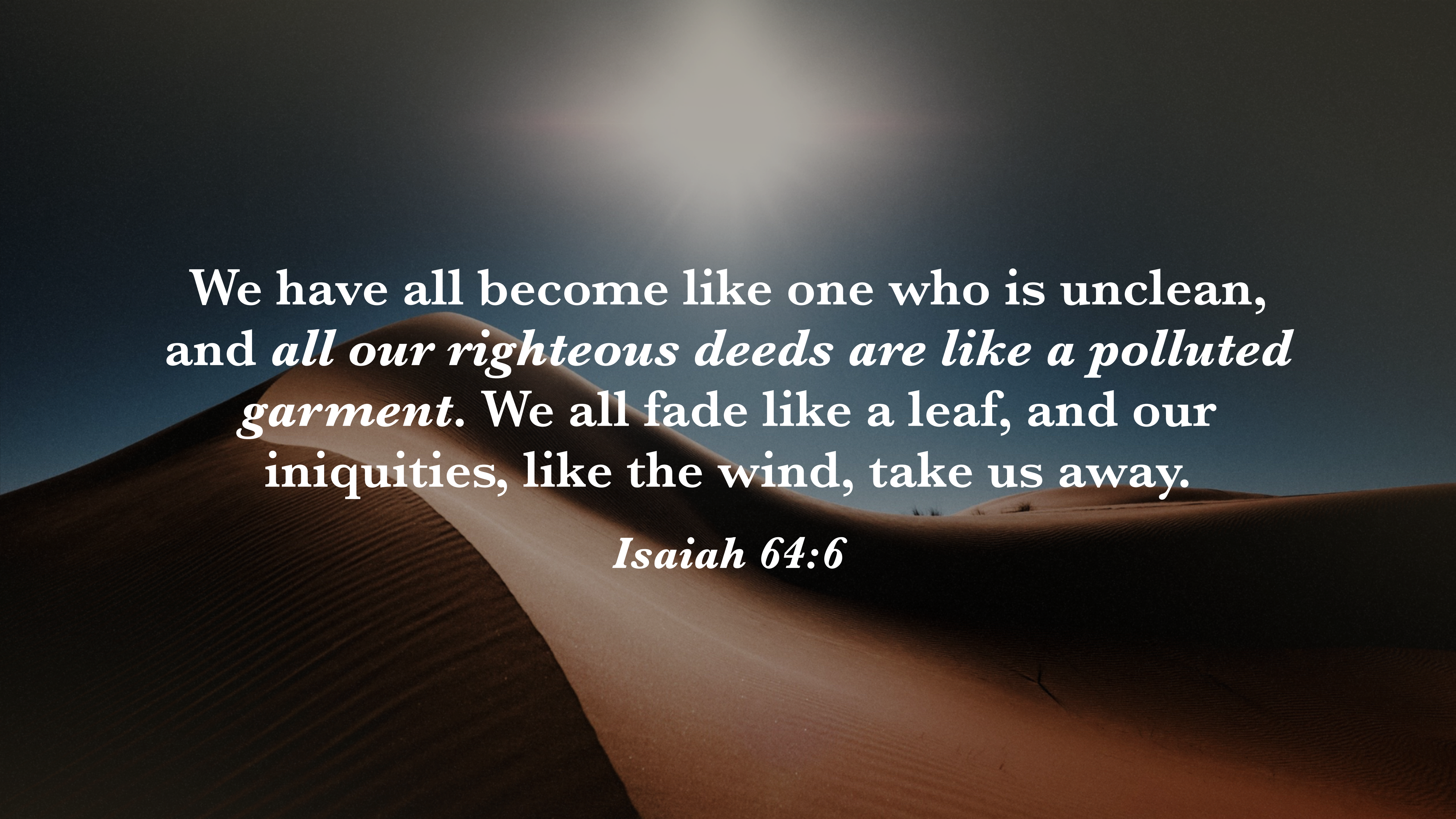


A photograph of a desert landscape with rolling sand dunes. The dunes are in the foreground and middle ground, with a clear blue sky in the background. The lighting suggests a bright day, possibly late afternoon or early morning, given the context of the text.

***But Moses' hands grew weary, so they took a stone and put it under him, and he sat on it, while Aaron and Hur held up his hands, one on one side, and the other on the other side. So his hands were steady until the going down of the sun.***

***Exodus 17:12***



A photograph of a desert landscape featuring rolling sand dunes. The dunes are illuminated by a bright light source, likely the sun, creating a gradient from dark shadows to bright highlights. The sky is a clear, deep blue. The overall mood is serene and vast.

We have all become like one who is unclean,  
and *all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment*. We all fade like a leaf, and our  
iniquities, like the wind, take us away.

*Isaiah 64:6*







**21 And Jesus asked his father, “How long has this been happening to him?” And he said, “From childhood. 22 And it has often cast him into fire and into water, to destroy him. But if you can do anything, have compassion on us and help us.” 23 And Jesus said to him, “If you can! All things are possible for one who believes.” 24 Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, “*I believe; help my unbelief!*”**

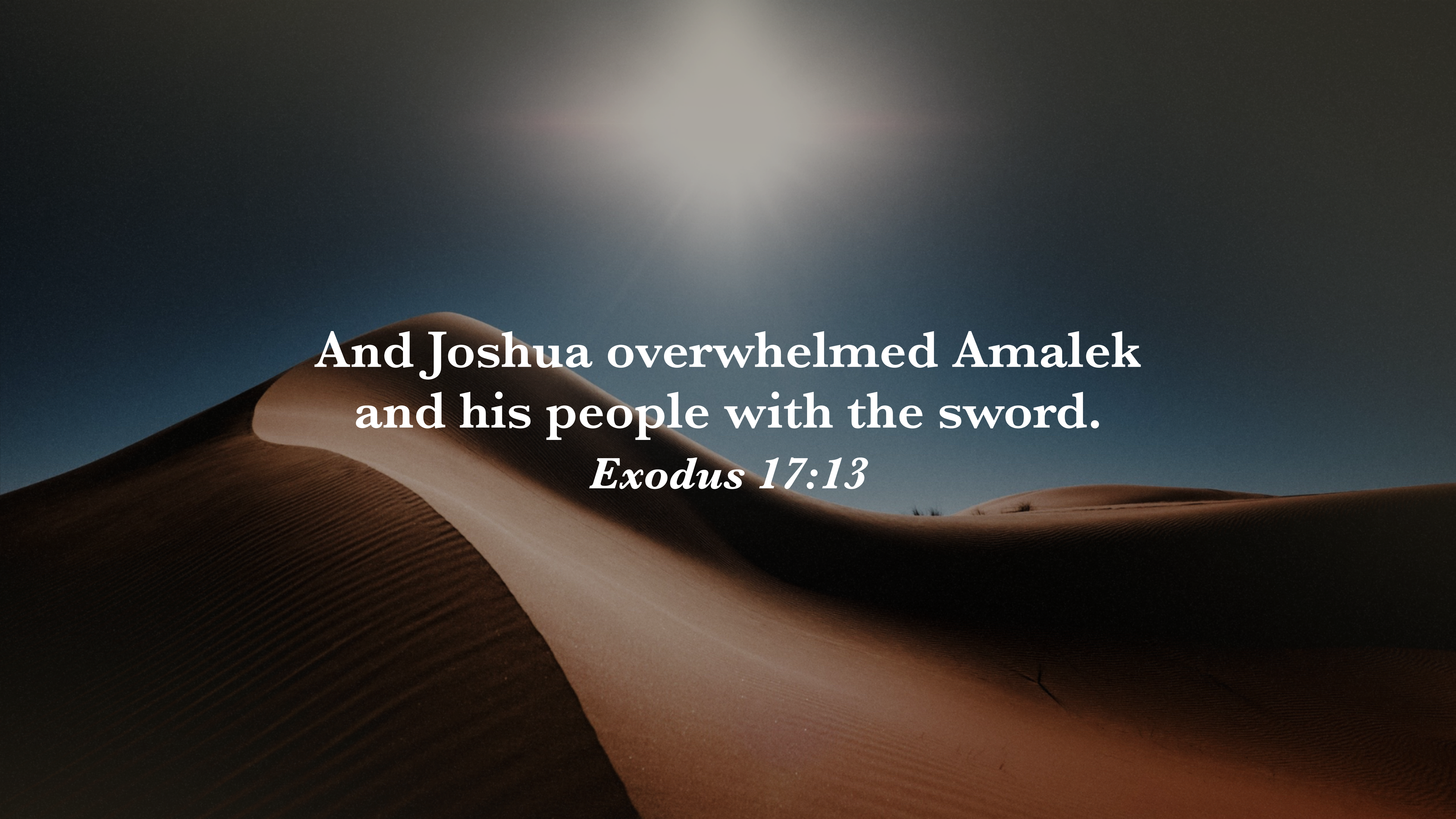
***Mark 9:21-24***



A close-up photograph of a hand reaching out over a desert dune. The hand is positioned in the foreground, with fingers slightly curled. The background shows a vast, undulating desert landscape under a bright, hazy sky, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The overall mood is one of hope and invitation.

**Our good works do not save us  
BUT  
God still invites us to work alongside Him.**



A photograph of a desert landscape featuring rolling sand dunes. The sun is high in the sky, creating a bright, hazy glow. The dunes are illuminated from the side, showing their texture and shadows. The overall scene is serene and vast.

**And Joshua overwhelmed Amalek  
and his people with the sword.**

*Exodus 17:13*



**<sup>11</sup> Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse!  
The one sitting on it is called Faithful and True, and in  
righteousness he judges and makes war. <sup>12</sup> His eyes are like a  
flame of fire, and on his head are many diadems, and he has a  
name written that no one knows but himself. <sup>13</sup> He is clothed  
in a robe dipped in blood, and the name by which he is called  
is The Word of God. <sup>14</sup> And the armies of heaven, arrayed in  
fine linen, white and pure, were following him on white  
horses. <sup>15</sup> From his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to  
strike down the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of  
iron. He will tread the winepress of the fury of the wrath of  
God the Almighty. <sup>16</sup> On his robe and on his thigh he has a  
name written, King of kings and Lord of lords.**

***Revelation 19:11-16***







**<sup>7</sup> But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us. <sup>8</sup> We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; <sup>9</sup> persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; <sup>10</sup> always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies. <sup>11</sup> For we who live are always being given over to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh.**

***2 Corinthians 4:7-11***



A photograph of a desert landscape featuring rolling sand dunes. The sun is high in the sky, creating a bright, hazy glow. The dunes are illuminated from the side, showing their undulating shapes and the fine texture of the sand. The overall tone is warm and serene.

**A victory to God does not always  
look like a victory to us.**



## Exodus 17:14-16 *The Victory*

- [14] God's wrath against Amalek was such that He levels a unique curse against them.
- [15] "Banner" means "sign of presence". The altar was named to indicate God's clear presence in the battle. A banner directs, indicates, and commands.
- [16] God makes it clear that this is not a battle between Israel and Amalek, but between God and Amalek. It is not their battle, but His.



A photograph of a desert landscape featuring rolling sand dunes. The dunes are illuminated by a bright sun, creating a strong lens flare effect in the upper center of the frame. The sky is a clear, pale blue. The overall mood is serene and expansive.

**Our battles are NOT God's battles,  
but God's battles may become our battles.**



# Our Battles

- **Power:** *“I must have control, I must be stronger than others; I can only be safe in this broken and messed up world if I have the power to exert my will over it.”*
- **Fame:** *“I must become well known, I must go viral; I will only be immortal if the whole world knows my name and remembers me forever.”*
- **Wealth:** *“I must be rich, I must be financially secure; My worth, my security, my purpose and my meaning is bound up in my bank account.”*
- **Pleasure:** *“I must feel good, I must be entertained; I can only be fully fulfilled as a human being through food, drink, sex, and constant enjoyment.”*



# God's Battles

- **Ministry:** *Matthew 28:19-20* Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”
- **Faithfulness:** *Colossians 3:12* Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience.
- **Hardships in Life:** *Matthew 6:31-33* Therefore do not be anxious, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ <sup>32</sup> For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. <sup>33</sup> But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.
- **Temptation to Sin:** *Galatians 5:17* For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do.



A photograph of a desert landscape featuring rolling sand dunes. The sun is high in the sky, creating a bright, hazy glow. The dunes are in the foreground and middle ground, with their ridges and shadows clearly visible. The overall tone is warm and serene.

**The only place to find  
God's Banner is in God's Word.**