

RAISE YOUR HANDS IN VICTORY!

Exo 17:11 And so it was, when Moses held up his hand, that Israel prevailed; and when he let down his hand, Amalek prevailed.

It was not long after Israel was delivered from Egypt that they encountered an enemy which came against them. A group called Amalek came out to fight Israel in the wilderness. Amalek means "a people who licks up" This enemy of Israel is a type of our enemy Satan and his demon horde. Satan goes about as a roaring lion seeking those who he can devour and lick up. It is interesting to note how Israel won the first battle they ever faced. They did not win because of their skill, armor, numbers, strategy, strength, or effort. They won by uplifted hands!

Exo 17:8 Now Amalek came and fought with Israel in Rephidim.

Exo 17:9 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."

Exo 17:10 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.

Exo 17:11 And so it was, when Moses held up his hand, that Israel prevailed; and when he let down his hand, Amalek prevailed.

Exo 17:12 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.

Exo 17:13 So Joshua defeated Amalek and his people with the edge of the sword.

Israel's part was to go out and withstand the enemy. Moses went up on top of a hill and lifted up the rod of God in his hands. When Moses lifted up the rod Israel prevailed. When Moses let the rod drop down out of sight then Amalek got the upper hand on Israel. We find in New Testament that what was written in the Old Testament was to teach us about Christ and the New Covenant. [Romans 15:4] The wood rod in Moses' hand which God used to work miracles by was a symbol and type of the cross. It is by the cross that He has brought deliverance to His people. Notice that when Moses lifted up the rod on the top of a hill then Israel prevailed against their enemy. This shows us the way we experience victory against the enemy today. When we lift up

the cross and finished work of Christ then the enemy will flee from us. As Moses stood on top of a hill, Jesus went to the top of the hill of Calvary and died on the cross. Moses lifted up both hands to hold up the rod. This shows us the position we must take to see victory in our lives. When we raise our hands up to God in praise and thanksgiving for what He has already done and provided at the cross we lift up the cross and Christ's finished work. Our position in which glorifies God and the work of Jesus is with uplifted hands in praise! The enemy will flee before our praise.

Psa 8:2 Out of the mouths of babes and unweaned infants You have established strength because of Your foes, that You might silence the enemy and the avenger.

This verse is quoted by Jesus in the New Testament but instead of strength Jesus uses the word praise. [Matt 21:16] When we praise God in faith for what He has done and promised we gain strength and our praise will silence the enemy and avenger! Many people need to stop praying about problems they have prayed about over and over and they need to start praising God that He has provided the answer by the shed blood of Jesus. There is nothing that the cross and the blood of Jesus has not obtained for us- righteousness, freedom, healing, provision, favor, and peace in spirit, soul, and body. If the enemy is attacking you in one of these areas you will not find victory in trying to overcome by your own effort and merits. You will see victory when you lift up your hands and uplift the finished work of the cross.

Sometimes we grow weary in our faith life just like Moses got weary holding up the rod. Moses needed help holding up the rod! Aaron and Hur came and held up his arms so it would not fall down. Sometimes we need to have others to strengthen our arms by lifting us up in prayer. If you feel weak in faith have a Christian brother and sister pray for you. It is interesting to see what Aaron and Hur means. Their names mean "teacher" and "freedom". Together they are "the teacher of freedom". The "teaching of freedom" kept up Moses arms so that the rod of God's deliverance and victory stayed lifted up. When we get weak in faith we need to start meditating in the letters written to the church in the New Testament. This is the teaching of grace or freedom which will strengthen our faith and instruct us on what God has done to us, for us, and promises to do for us through us.

No matter what is coming against you, the cross of Jesus has made provision for your victory. This does not mean that you do not have a part to play. You need to do all thing things in the natural that is your responsibility.

Israel had to go out and withstand the enemy but they experienced victory because the rod was lifted up and kept in sight, not because of their fighting prowess or their own merits. We need to do the practical things the Word tells us to do, but it is important to know that victory does not come because of what we do but what Jesus has done. It will not come based upon our merits or because we deserve it. As you do what you know to do in the natural, lift up your hands and thank God for the victory provided through the cross and you will see your enemy flee from you! When Israel won the battle they called God Jehovah-Nissi- God my victory! You need to proclaim today that Jesus is your victory in the midst of your battle! Lift up your hands in praise and thanksgiving and spend time letting Word of God teach you grace and watch your enemy fall before you! Raise your hands in victory!