

"Protector"

Exodus 17:8-16; 1 Samuel 17:45

The Names of God

(Psalm 9:10)

Psalm 9:10

¹⁰ And those who know Your name will put their trust in You; For You, LORD, have not forsaken those who seek You.

- **Abraham was tested; Jehovah Jireh = The Lord Will Provide**
- **God's people were disciplined by God; Jehovah Shalom = The Lord is Peace**

God's People Under Attack; Jehovah Nissi = The Lord is My Banner

(Exodus 17:8-16)

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."

Jehovah Nissi is the picture of God that speaks to our identity in Christ as Children of God. When an army would fly a banner or a flag, it would signal the enemy as to who they were fighting for and who was fighting with them. The banner would identify the armies strength. As Joshua and the army of God's people set to do battle, it was clear that God was the general, and God was their strength, and that God would be the warrior and protector of His people in battle because He was the banner over them.

1. Spiritual warfare is real!

(Exodus 17:15-16; Ephesians 6:10-13; Philippians 4:4-8)

Exodus 17:15-16

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."

Spiritual warfare, attacks of Satan and evil, are real. Physical attacks, emotional attacks, relational attacks, ultimately spiritual attacks are to be expected for the follower and non follower of Christ alike.

Ephesians 6:10-13

¹⁰ Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.

¹¹ Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

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*.

¹³ Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

Evil is present around us, and our fallen flesh and the power of Sin lives in us. The power of evil will work to distract us, disable us, and ultimately destroy us. For the non follower, they will seek to keep you from believing and for the follower, they will seek to keep us from effectiveness and abundance.

Philippians 4:4-8

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!

⁵ Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord *is* at hand.

⁶ Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God;

⁷ and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

We must be reminded as believers that greater is He who is in us than He who is in the world and that even the powers of darkness tremble in His name and in His sight.

2. We must battle from a position of strength.

(Exodus 17:8-9; Exodus 4:1-5, 20-21; 2 Corinthians 10:3-5; Ephesians 6:17-19)

Exodus 17:8-9

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."

Exodus 4:1-5

¹ Then Moses answered and said, "But suppose they will not believe me or listen to my voice; suppose they say, 'The LORD has not appeared to you.' "

² So the LORD said to him, "What *is* that in your hand?" He said, "A rod."

³ And He said, "Cast it on the ground." So he cast it on the ground, and it became a serpent; and Moses fled from it.

⁴ Then the LORD said to Moses, "Reach out your hand and take *it* by the tail" (and he reached out his hand and caught it, and it became a rod in his hand),

⁵ "that they may believe that the LORD God of their fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has appeared to you."

Exodus 4:20-21

²⁰ Then Moses took his wife and his sons and set them on a donkey, and he returned to the land of Egypt. And Moses took the rod of God in his hand.

²¹ And the LORD said to Moses, "When you go back to Egypt, see that you do all those wonders before Pharaoh which I have put in your hand. But I will harden his heart, so that he will not let the people go.

The rod of Moses had become the Rod of God. Moses understood that it was not the power of Israel but the power of God that would bring victory.

2 Corinthians 10:3-5

³ For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh.

⁴ For the weapons of our warfare *are* not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds,

⁵ casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ,

Ephesians 6:17-19

¹⁷ And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God;

¹⁸ praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints--

¹⁹ and for me, that utterance may be given to me, that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the gospel,

Where does our strength in battle come from? First and foremost it is in our fellowship with God. The weapons of our warfare are listed above:

- a. Sword of the Spirit which is the Word of God
- b. Pray always, not passively but actively looking for God to prevail.

- c. Engage evil boldly by proclaim the good news of the gospel.

3. We must persevere, often with the help of others.

(Exodus 17:11-13; Galatians 6:1-3, 9-10)

Exodus 17:11-13

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.

The imagery of Moses lifting up his hands with the Rod of God in his hand, is clearly a picture of prayer and dependence on God. As he would persevere in prayer, in worship, in surrender; Joshua and the army of God would prevail. However, as he would tire, or weaken in his flesh, and the arms would drop; the enemy would prevail. It was in these moments that Aaron and Hur, stood in the gap, and held up Moses' arms when he could not, and victory prevailed.

Do you ever get tired in battle? Does your flesh get weak? Does the burden ever get heavy? Maybe the better question is who do you know that is getting weary in the battle?

The body of Christ, the church, exist to worship Christ and to encourage each other.

Galatians 6:1-3

¹ Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who *are* spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted.

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

³ For if anyone thinks himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself.

If you are growing weary, you need to get in a small group, you need to connect yourself with a church, you to find those people who will pray for you and give you Godly counsel.

Church, we need to be looking for those who are struggling, as fellow travelers we need to pray for them, encourage them, support them. It can be tiresome.

Galatians 6:9-10

⁹ And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.

¹⁰ Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith.

Warfare is real
Weapons of God are powerful
We need each other

4. Victory is promised! Give your "Giants" to God.

(Exodus 17:14-16; 1 John 5:4; 1 Samuel 17:19, 37, 45-47)

Exodus 17:14-16

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."

1 John 5:4

⁴ For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world--our faith.

1 Samuel 17:19

¹⁹ Now Saul and they and all the men of Israel *were* in the Valley of Elah, fighting with the Philistines.

1 Samuel 17:37

³⁷ Moreover David said, "The LORD, who delivered

me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear, He will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine." And Saul said to David, "Go, and the LORD be with you!"

1 Samuel 17:45-47

⁴⁵ Then David said to the Philistine, "You come to me with a sword, with a spear, and with a javelin. But I come to you in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied.

⁴⁶ This day the LORD will deliver you into my hand, and I will strike you and take your head from you. And this day I will give the carcasses of the camp of the Philistines to the birds of the air and the wild beasts of the earth, that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel.

⁴⁷ Then all this assembly shall know that the LORD does not save with sword and spear; for the battle *is* the LORD'S, and He will give you into our hands."

Jehovah Tsaba = The Lord Our Warrior

(Psalm 33:16-22)

Where is your hope and rest today? Are getting weary in battle?

Psalm 33:16-22

¹⁶ No king *is* saved by the multitude of an army; A mighty man is not delivered by great strength.

¹⁷ A horse *is* a vain hope for safety; Neither shall it

deliver *any* by its great strength.

¹⁸ Behold, the eye of the LORD *is* on those who fear Him, On those who hope in His mercy,

¹⁹ To deliver their soul from death, And to keep them alive in famine.

²⁰ Our soul waits for the LORD; He *is* our help and our shield.

²¹ For our heart shall rejoice in Him, Because we have trusted in His holy name.

²² Let Your mercy, O LORD, be upon us, Just as we hope in You.

What is your "Giant" today?

Word of God, Pray without ceasing, speak the truth of God, allow others to support you.