

THE NECESSITY OF NEEDINESS

EXODUS 17:8-16

⁸ At Rephidim, Amalek came and fought against Israel. ⁹ Moses said to Joshua, "Select some men for us and go fight against Amalek. Tomorrow I will stand on the hilltop with God's staff in my hand." ¹⁰ Joshua did as Moses had told him, and fought against Amalek, while Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to the top of the hill. ¹¹ While Moses held up his hand, Israel prevailed, but whenever he put his hand down, Amalek prevailed. ¹² When Moses's hands grew heavy, they took a stone and put it under him, and he sat down on it. Then Aaron and Hur supported his hands, one on one side and one on the other so that his hands remained steady until the sun went down. ¹³ So Joshua defeated Amalek and his army with the sword. ¹⁴ The Lord then said to Moses, "Write this down on a scroll as a reminder and recite it to Joshua: I will completely blot out the memory of Amalek under heaven." ¹⁵ And Moses built an altar and named it, "The Lord Is My Banner." ¹⁶ He said, "Indeed, my hand is lifted up toward the Lord's throne. The Lord will be at war with Amalek from generation to generation."

Beginning Reality:

Following Jesus means "opposition" is not an if, but a "when."

2 TIMOTHY 3:12 "In fact, all who want to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted."

Verses 8-9:

Big Picture -- The opposition of sin and evil are _____ by God's grace and power.

Israel's Picture -- The only true protection and provision Israel had was _____.

Our Picture -- God desires our _____; He doesn't require our _____.

Key Truth -- When God allows us to face opposition it's an opportunity for Him to _____ and draw us closer to Him.

Verses 10-13:

Big Picture -- Jesus, alone, is the _____ and does not grow weary on my behalf.

Israel's Picture -- Realizing God is our only source of deliverance completely _____ our source of confidence.

Our Picture -- Christ-centered focus and community _____ my strength and _____.

Key Truth -- God's people only find _____ when He is their focus and motivation.

Verses 14-16:

Big Picture -- Jesus IS the _____ where we find rescue, safety and protection.

Israel's Picture -- Trusting God was a confession for _____, not only a battle cry for war.

Our Picture -- Just like the victory is not ours neither is the _____ we leave with our lives.

Key Truth -- Failing to _____ the _____ God has won for us ensures that we will always struggle to truly trust Him.

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⁸ At Rephidim, Amalek came and fought against Israel. ⁹ Moses said to Joshua, "Select some men for us and go fight against Amalek. Tomorrow I will stand on the hilltop with God's staff in my hand." ¹⁰ Joshua did as Moses had told him, and fought against Amalek, while Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to the top of the hill. ¹¹ While Moses held up his hand, Israel prevailed, but whenever he put his hand down, Amalek prevailed. ¹² When Moses's hands grew heavy, they took a stone and put it under him, and he sat down on it. Then Aaron and Hur supported his hands, one on one side and one on the other so that his hands remained steady until the sun went down. ¹³ So Joshua defeated Amalek and his army with the sword. ¹⁴ The Lord then said to Moses, "Write this down on a scroll as a reminder and recite it to Joshua: I will completely blot out the memory of Amalek under heaven." ¹⁵ And Moses built an altar and named it, "The Lord Is My Banner." ¹⁶ He said, "Indeed, my hand is lifted up toward the Lord's throne. The Lord will be at war with Amalek from generation to generation."

Beginning Reality:

Following Jesus means "opposition" is not an if, but a "when."

2 TIMOTHY 3:12 "In fact, all who want to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted."

Verses 8-9:

Big Picture -- The opposition of sin and evil are defeated by God's grace and power.

Israel's Picture -- The only true protection and provision Israel had was God alone.

Our Picture -- God desires our obedience; He doesn't require our ability.

Key Truth -- When God allows us to face opposition it's an opportunity for Him to reveal His strength and draw us closer to Him.

Verses 10-13:

Big Picture -- Jesus, alone, is the better Savior and does not grow weary on my behalf.

Israel's Picture -- Realizing God is our only source of deliverance completely reorients our source of confidence.

Our Picture -- Christ-centered focus and community determine my strength and direction.

Key Truth -- God's people only find true victory when He is their focus and motivation.

Verses 14-16:

Big Picture -- Jesus IS the banner where we find rescue, safety and protection.

Israel's Picture -- Trusting God was a confession for each day, not only a battle cry for war.

Our Picture -- Just like the victory is not ours neither is the legacy we leave with our lives.

Key Truth -- Failing to remember the victories God has won for us ensures that we will always struggle to truly trust Him.