

## **WAR & WORSHIP**

*Exodus 17: 8 – 16*

### **SERMON SUMMARY**

Each one of us is fighting in the same war between the Kingdom of God and the Kingdom of Man. The Kingdom of God is characterized by what God wants to do in you, with you, and through you. The Kingdom of Man is characterized by what the world is trying to demand of you. The war is real, and the battle is hard fought. BUT, victory is offered to us with the power and presence of God. If we fight in a posture of surrender, depending on God to fight for us through the person and work of Jesus Christ, then and only then can we be confident in the Kingdom of God's final and eternal triumph. And, when we know God's power and presence is in the battle, it frees us to live lives of worship declaring 'The Lord is my Banner.'

### **QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER...**

1. Where is the Kingdom of Man attacking the Kingdom of God in your life right now? Where is there conflict between what God is trying to do in your life and what the world is trying to demand of you?
2. Read Exodus 17:8-11. What do you notice about Mose's plan? Why was the staff of God so important in this battle? Discuss: In moments of war, is your immediate reaction to try and fight alone, or are you quick to call on God to fight for you? Give some real-life examples from your life.
3. What would it look like to rely on the power and presence of God in the midst of war? How can we know that God is fighting for us?
4. What would it look like to live in a posture of surrender? What are some hurdles to this type of lifestyle? What have you found makes it easier? Do you have any stories of God moving after your surrender to Him?
5. Moses said, "The Lord is your Banner" (verses 15-16). What does that title evoke? What makes the imagery so powerful?
6. Bonus: take 5 minutes to answer: If there was a show on Netflix about my life, what would that show be about? What scenes would be most important? Do you think you need to start writing a new script?

## BIBLICAL TEXTS CITED

*<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. <sup>13</sup> And Joshua overwhelmed Amalek and his people with the sword. <sup>14</sup> 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." <sup>15</sup> And Moses built an altar and called the name of it, The LORD Is My Banner, <sup>16</sup> saying, "A hand upon the throne<sup>[a]</sup> of the LORD! The LORD will have war with Amalek from generation to generation." (Exodus 17: 8 – 16)*

*<sup>12</sup> For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. (Ephesians 6: 12)*

*<sup>15</sup> He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him. (Colossians 2: 15)*

## SERMON ONLINE...

<https://www.genesisthejourney.com/sermon/war-and-worship/>