

AMALEK

Exodus 17

Joshua fighting Amalek is a picture of this ongoing war of the Christian with his sinful self. The Amalekites represent the evils of our flesh and Joshua represents the Spirit of God striving against them.

The Christian is to take the offensive on the sinful nature when it raises its ugly head. He must subdue it and put it to death. Read Col. 3:5; Rom. 8:13.

The believer, even though he may be mature, is no match for the flesh. The only guarantee for victory over our sinful desires is by continually lifting up our hands and taking up the sword.

The lifting up of our hands symbolizes invoking God's omnipotence in prayer; whereas the taking up our sword symbolizes the effective handling of God's Word.

Uplifted Hands

As long as Moses had his hands up, and the rod of God was visible, the Israelites were winning. Whenever Moses lowered his hands, and the rod was out of view, the Amalekites were winning.

When we fail to look to God with persistent pray, sinful flesh prevails. But when we keep fervently praying the Spirit prevails. 1 Timothy 2:8, *"Therefore men, pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands."*

Prayer means dependency on God. Someone aptly said, *"Prayer is the slender nerve that moves the muscle of omnipotence."*

Moses on the hill, praying, is a beautiful picture of our heavenly Moses, Christ our High Priest, praying to the Father on our behalf. Hallelujah! His pierced hands will never hang.

Unsheathed Swords

Hebrews 4:12, *"The Word of God is living and active, sharper than any double-edged sword."* Our sinful nature will be kept in check when we are filled with the Word of His grace. Scripture should permeate every aspect of the believer's life and control every taught, word, and deed. Jesus confronted the devil with, "It is written."

"Little of the Word with little prayer is death to spiritual life, and much of the Word with little prayer gives a sickly life. Much prayer with little of the Word gives emotional life. But a full measure of both the Word and prayer each day gives a healthy and powerful life" (Andrew Murray).

Theology and kneelogy are inseparable for God's mighty men of valour. The chief causes of spiritual defeat are prayerlessness and the lack of in-depth Bible study. Terrible sins to hang on to for any child of God!

