



Exodus 17:8-16

...And Moses built an altar and called its name, The LORD is my Banner (Jehovah Nissi).

1. **Romans 8** begins with “no condemnation for those who are in Christ,” and finishes with, “...in all these things (sufferings, verse 18), we are *more than conquerors*...” The power and authenticity of our faith is revealed in the midst of difficult times. It is, therefore, important that we learn to gain strength from difficulties, something that is learned from repeated failure and success.
 - The victorious life is not the result of human strength or endurance but persistently walking after the Spirit, not after the desires of our sensual nature. (Galatians 5:16-18; Romans 8:3-5)
2. **The purpose of life** is not only *to do* (fill in the blank), but *to become* someone who is ready for eternity. God is creating us to be Kingdom people who actively *possess* His promises and destiny for this life. This requires a warrior’s attitude! (Matthew 11:12; Acts 14:22; 2 Corinthians 10:3-5; Ephesians 6:11-12)
3. **The word for “possess”** is the Hebrew word “yaresh” meaning to occupy by driving out previous tenants and possessing in their place; to seize, to expel, to destroy, to enjoy. (Numbers 33:50-56; Deuteronomy 1:6-8; Joshua 1:1-9) God’s promises, spiritual victory, etc. are never received in their finished form, they are possessed as we occupy territory for the Kingdom (beginning in our own hearts).
 - Scan the code for more information on this topic.
4. The story of **JEHOVAH Nissi** has important lessons for the believer. God’s names reveal a particular aspect of His character and dealings with mankind. Exodus 17:1-16 reveals the compound name, Jehovah Nissi, translated as the LORD (Jehovah) is My Banner. The word Nissi means an ensign or a military standard and literally meant shiny.
 - Israel was engaged in a fierce battle against the Amalakites who were the first to attack Israel as God led them out of Egypt and who were a constant enemy. Israel’s conflict with Amalek began the day Jacob tricked Esau into giving him a bowl of stew for his birthright. (Genesis 25:29-34) Later Esau’s son and his concubine gave birth to Amalek (Genesis 36:12), the father of the Amalakites who, as a whole, represent the forces of this world that stand in opposition to Jehovah.
 - The staff’s authority began as the shepherd’s staff in Midian that had now become the Staff of God. (Exodus 4:1-5) As Moses raised the staff, Israel was winning but when the staff was lowered, Amalek became victorious.



- Exodus 17:1-16 ...*So Joshua defeated Amalek and his people with the edge of the sword... And Moses built an altar and called its name, The Lord is My Banner;...*

Becoming a Kingdom Warrior

1. **God declares Himself to be a Victorious Warrior** in Exodus 15:3 *The LORD (Jehovah) is a warrior; the LORD is His name.* Because of that He desires for us to understand our spiritual battles in light of victory. (Judges 3:1-2)
2. Spiritual warfare is a very real part of **Biblical Christianity** as revealed in Israel's history.
 - Israel had to dispossess all their enemies in order to inherit the Promised Land. (Numbers 33:50-54, QR code)
 - Matthew 11:12 *From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violent assault, and violent men seize it by force (as a precious prize).*
3. Victory requires that we **participate in God's plan.** (Exodus 17:8-9)
 - God's plans are usually greater than our understanding, resources, or abilities. To follow God requires faith. (Hebrews 11)
 - In 1 Chronicles 14:14-16, God tells David to attack when he hears the "rustling above the trees."
 - It is God's intention that no matter what the circumstance, we can stand firm, declaring His victory IN the situation. (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)
4. Victory also necessitates the **help of others** who may "hold up our arms." The Staff was the symbol of God's Presence. When Moses lowered it, the Amalakites were winning. For Israel to win it required the help of Aaron (from the tribe of Levi) and Hur (from the tribe of Judah) who helped Moses raise the Staff of God. (Leviticus 26:7-8; 2 Chronicles 20:20-30; Psalm 133)
 - Intercession and prayerful partnership with leaders who pray for and serve God's people. (Hebrews 13:17)
5. Our participation in and victory over spiritual conflict is a **foreshadowing of God's judgement** against the satanic forces of evil. (Exodus 17:14-16; John 5:28-29; Revelation 20:7-15)
 - God's instruction to Saul to remove Amalek from under heaven (1 Samuel 15) took generations. There were failures and severe consequences, and the Jewish race was nearly exterminated through Haman in the book of Esther. But God...!
6. Our spiritual victories **affect generations** to come.
 - Nehemiah 4:14 ...*Remember the Sovereign Lord, who is great and awesome, and fight for your families, your sons and your daughters, your wives and your homes.*

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Pray for Pastor Jack, Jane, and Jody as they visit the Hopi tribe this Monday, November 6 through Friday, November 10. Scan the code to watch a brief video.

