

## Exodus 17:8-16: The LORD Is My Banner.

### I. (8-9) Amalek attacks Israel.

This was an unprovoked attack by the Amalekites against Israel. In response, Moses called **Joshua** to lead the armies of Israel into battle, to defend the nation against the attack from **Amalek, who** was a grandson of Esau ([Genesis 36:12](#)).

[Deuteronomy 25:17-18](#) - *Remember what Amalek did to you on the way as you were coming out of Egypt, how he met you on the way and attacked your rear ranks, all the stragglers at your rear, when you were tired and weary; and he did not fear God.*

They had lived for hundreds of years without war, but now war is going to be part of the journey. **God called it the rod of Moses, and so honored Moses. Moses called it the rod of God, and so honored God.**

### II. (10-13) Israel prevails in battle as Moses's hands were up.

Moses supported the battle behind the scenes, a posture of total dependence on God (worship and prayer). In his early days Moses thought the only way to win a battle was to fight. Now Moses lets Joshua fight while he lifts up his hands.

Aaron and Hur came alongside Moses and literally held his hands up; a picture of teamwork and strengthening one another. God promised that He would **utterly blot out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven.** Esther 3:1 – Haman.

[Isaiah 35:3-4](#) - *Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are fearful-hearted, "Be strong, do not fear! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God; He will come and save you."*

[Hebrews 12:12-13](#) - *Therefore strengthen the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees, and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be dislocated, but rather be healed.*

[Galatians 6:2](#) - *Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.*

[Philippians 1:27-28](#) - *Only let your conduct be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of your affairs, that you stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel, and not in any way terrified by your adversaries, which is to them a proof of perdition, but to you of salvation, and that from God.*

### III. (14-16) The-Lord-Is-My-Banner.

Moses knew that God had given them the much needed victory. As an act of worship he built an altar and praised the name of *Yahweh-Nissi* (**The-Lord-is-My-Banner**).

A banner is symbol on unity and identity. “The Israelites’ saying, “The Lord is my Banner,” was a way of identifying themselves as the unified followers of the Lord God.”

***Psalm 20:5-7** - We will rejoice in your salvation, and in the name of our God we will set up our banners! May the LORD fulfill all your petitions. Now I know that the LORD saves His anointed; He will answer him from His holy heaven with the saving strength of His right hand. Some trust in chariots, and some in horses; but we will remember the name of the LORD our God.*

***Psalm 60:4** -You have given a banner to those who fear You, that it may be displayed because of the truth.*

***Isaiah 11:10** - And in that day there shall be a Root of Jesse, Who shall stand as a banner to the people; for the Gentiles shall seek Him, and His resting place shall be glorious.*

Now the banner calls the nations to the blessings of the Messiah.

In [Exodus 17](#) we see examples of God’s power and man’s obedience. Moses struck the rock; God brought the water. Joshua fought, Moses lifted his hands, God gave the victory over Amalek.