

THE BATTLE WITH AMALEK



Passages to Study: Exodus 17:8-16, Dt. 25:17-19, 1st Peter 2:11-12.

Read with the class: Exodus 17:8-16.

Texts for memorization:

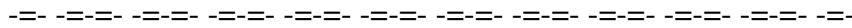
Younger: Heb. 7:25. “(Jesus) is able to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by Him”

Older Heb. 7:25

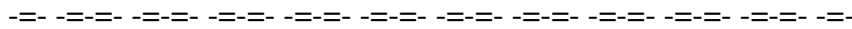


OBJECTIVES: To teach that:

1. One of our enemies is the flesh, which wars against the soul for the purpose of hindering the progress of the believer. (1^o Peter 2:11)
2. We can seek God’s help in prayer against the enemies of the soul.
3. It is difficult to pray for long periods about a particular matter; we need the help and support of others.
4. Warn about the dangers of lagging behind instead of keeping up with others who are making progress in the way.
5. God’s marvelous grace was a constant help to Israel in their difficulties.



Note: The unconverted student should know that he has enemies who do not want to see him saved. He also should know that once he is converted, those same enemies don’t want him to progress in his new life. However once saved by the grace of God, divine power is available to protect him and to help him live a victorious life. Prayer is one of the “weapons” the believer has for the battle.



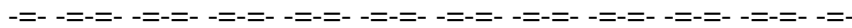
SCENE No. 1. VISUAL AIDS: Figures of the crossing of the Red Sea, with the guiding and protective pillar of cloud, the manna, the bitter water made sweet, and water coming from the rock. This will serve as a review of the care God has to His people.

DEVELOPMENT:

- The Israelites faced a number of difficulties during their journey toward Canaan.
- In all these experiences, God protected them.
- For protection against the sun’s heat, and guidance as they travelled to Canaan, God provided a cloud.
- He provided water from the rock.
- He also gave them physical protection on their journey. There was an enemy nearby, a king called Amalec along with his army.
- Despite their murmuring, God gave His people manna for bread.

Apl. God did not care for them because they deserved it, but because of His grace.

Cmt. With so much emphasis on having a good self-image, the sinner becomes convinced of his own virtues and believes the advertising that says: “You deserve it”. Such an attitude blinds the person who thinks God is “obliged” to give him abundant blessing without recognizing that we owe existence to God’s mercy.



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SCENE No. 2. VISUAL AIDS. The Israelites travel through the desert, carrying their belongings while the Amalekites spy on them, waiting for the moment to attack.

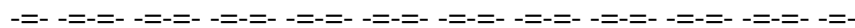
DEVELOPMENT:

- One day the Amalekites attack, falling upon the least protected group of the Israelite travelers, the stragglers who have fallen behind.
- It is the weaker ones who trail behind, tired and burdened. (Dt. 25:17-19).
- The Israelites need someone to defend them.

Apl. When a person is recently saved, he/she is exposed to three main enemies who once sought to keep him or her from Christ: 1) The devil; 2) the world: and 3) the flesh.

- Amalek is a figure of the flesh. This application is made for the following reasons:
 - a. He was the first enemy to attack after the Israelites had been freed from slavery.
 - b. He attacked from behind, going after the weakest of the number.
 - c. Had intercession not been made by Moses on the mountain, there would have been no victory for Israel on the battlefield. (See the next scene to develop this idea.)
 - d. God decreed the extermination of Amalek. Ex. 17:14, as must be experienced in the life of the redeemed.

Cns. The flesh can not enter heaven. God did away with it at the cross. Gal. 2:20. Rom. 7:1-6.



SCENE No. 3. VISUAL AIDS: On the battlefield, the Amalekite army fights the Israelites while on the mountaintop, Moses prays with hands uplifted supported by two men.

DEVELOPMENT:

- Moses has the rod with him, not because it has any power in itself, but because it is a reminder of each of the miracles God has done on behalf of His people.
- Apl. The trial provides an opportunity to prove God’s faithfulness, and the rod reminds him of God’s power in the experiences of the past.
 - This will help Moses to continue to trust God in the present and for the future. (Rom.5:3,4).
 - Moses, with the help of Aaron y Hur, remains in the presence of God, while the battle rages below..
 - The Christian’s battle against the flesh has two aspects: a. The battle itself and, b. The intercession of others, praying to God.
 - Intercessory prayer is seen in the support of the two “brothers”, (Aaron y Hur), who hold up Moses’ hands, while Joshua and others face the enemy. Cmp. Rom. 15:30; James 5:16; Col. 1:3; 1 Tes. 5:17.

Cns. To be exercised in prayer requires diligence.

Apl. Constant exercise in prayer is tiring, and the help of others is necessary.

Cmt. For unsaved children, stress the effectiveness of prayer in the life of the believer.

Cns. When Christians gather together to pray, they show their fellowship and mutual support of each other.



