in a Broken World

Threats to the People of God Come from Inside and Outside

The Amalekites came and attacked the Israelites at Rephidim. Moses said to Joshua, "Choose some of our men and go out to fight the Amalekites. Tomorrow I will stand on top of the hill with the staff of God in my hands."

Exodus 17:8-16

So Joshua fought the Amalekites as Moses had ordered, and Moses, Aaron and Hur went to the top of the hill. As long as Moses held up his hands, the Israelites were winning, but whenever he lowered his hands, the Amalekites were winning. When Moses' hands grew tired, they took a stone and put it under him and he sat on it. Aaron and Hur held his hands up—one on one side, one on the other—so that his hands remained steady till sunset. So Joshua overcame the Amalekite army with the sword.

Exodus 17:10-13

Then the Lord said to Moses, "Write this on a scroll as something to be remembered and make sure that Joshua hears it, because I will completely blot out the name of Amalek from under heaven."

Moses built an altar and called it The Lord is my Banner. He said, "Because hands were lifted up against the throne of the Lord, the Lord will be at war against the Amalekites from generation to generation."

Exodus 17:14-16

Amalekites

- existed before Abraham's time (Genesis 14:7)
- "first among the nations" (Numbers 24:20)
- largely unknown, desert raiders (Deuteronomy 25:18)
- who set themselves against what God was doing



How Do You See Jesus?

- look for how this story fits into the larger story
 - not enemies
 preventing them
 from leaving
 slavery
 - God fights alone
 - Salvation
 - begin friendship with God
 - free from power of evil

- but enemies preventing them from entering
 - Promised Land

- Israel fights too
- Sanctification
- live life of faith God
- fight presence of evil

Who are the Enemies Today?

For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. ... [and to engage this struggle, you need] the belt of truth ... the breastplate of righteousness ... the gospel of peace ... the shield of faith ... helmet of salvation and ... the word of God."

Ephesians 6:12-17

Who are the Enemies Today?

- World worldviews and systems set against God
- Flesh the part still in you that resists God
- Devil evil spirits and powers opposed to God

Goals:

- deaden your heart toward God
- turn you inward so you're consumed with yourself





The Outcome is Determined Up Above

- Moses invokes the power of God to win the battle
- God commits himself to ridding the world of evil
- Jesus is a better mediator than Moses (Hebrews 3:1–6)

Are You Actively Fighting?

Do You Have More Confidence in Jesus than in the Powers of Darkness