



“Victory Through Prayer” (Exodus 17:8-16)

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Intro: Tonight we come to a fascinating text, and one that has tremendous practical application. Read the text.

The Amalekites were descendants of Esau (Gen.36:15). Esau was a godless man (see Heb.12:16).

The Amalekites were fierce enemies of Israel (Num.14:36-45; Judges 6:33; I Sam.14:47-48; 15:7; 30:1-4ff).

We have a very real enemy to overcome.

- I Peter 5:8 Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour.
- Eph.6:13...put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.

Essentials for Victory

- A Realization That The Physical Battle Of The Christian Life Is Won Only Through Spiritual Means.
 - See Col.1:20-23
- Spiritual armor (Eph.6)
- Absolute dependence on prayer (Eph.6:18; Luke 5:15-16; I Thess.5:17)
- A Clear Mind
 - I Peter 4:7 The end of all things is near. Therefore be clear minded and self-controlled so that you can pray.
 - Acts 24:16 So I strive always to keep my conscience clear before God and man.
 - Rom.13:5 Therefore, it is necessary to submit to the authorities, not only because of possible punishment but also because of conscience.
 - Psalm 66:18 If I had cherished sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened.
 - See I Peter 3:7
- Self-Control

- The weakness of my flesh must be overcome
- Peter, James, & John sleeping when they should have been praying (Mark 14:32-42, note v.38).
- See I Cor.9:27; I Tim.4:8
- Support
 - A rock to rest upon (Luke 22:31-32)
 - Hebrews 17:25 Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them.
 - Psalm 61:1-3 Hear my cry, O God; listen to my prayer. From the ends of the earth I call to you, I call as my heart grows faint; lead me to the rock that is higher than I. For you have been my refuge, a strong tower against the foe.
 - The Holy Spirit (Rom.8:26-27)
 - Others who will lift me up (Deut.9:20; Eccl.4:12b)

Practical Advice

- Begin each day with prayer
 - Jesus' example (Luke 5:15-16; Mark 1:35)
 - Psalm 5:3; 88:13
- Practice praying throughout the day (See Nehemiah 1:1-5a)
- Pray before every meal
- Pray using Scripture as a guide and example
 - Lord's Prayer; Eph.1:17-19; Col.4:3-4; Jesus' prayer for Peter, Luke 22:31-32; I Tim.2:1-3; II John 2; Eph.3:14-19; I Cor.1:4; Rom.1:8-10; Neh.6:9; Ezra 8:21-23.
- Vary positions in prayer (kneel, stand, lay prostrate, lift your hands, etc.)
- Stay alert
- Journal
- Develop & maintain self-control