

Hands Lifted up to God (Exodus 17:8-16)

- Israel was learning by hard experience, that the just shall live by faith
- 17:1-15 they had to learn to trust the leaders God had given to them
- God's children are called to war: war is really spiritual in nature
- Next lesson to be learned: "God is the only One who can win the war"
- God's enemies are lurking in the dark; the weapon we have is prayer

I. The War Is Spiritual (17:8)

- Israel's enemies are the Amalekites, they attack unprovoked (17:8)
- Real battle God's people face is spiritual in nature (Col 2:15; Eph 6:12)

II. A Praying Prophet (17:9-16)

- Israelites fought with real weapons, but the war was fought in prayer
- 17:9,10 Joshua fought Amalek; Moses on the hill to pray (v.11,15,16)

III. The Hidden Power of Prayer

- Even if we fight like Joshua, we won't win unless we pray like Moses
- Standing where every one could see: message was we win with prayer

IV. The Effectiveness of Corporate Prayer

- Moses was a great man of prayer, but his hands grew tired (17:12)
- Need a better mediator (Heb 7:25). Aaron & Hur helped Moses (17:12)

V. God's Banner, The Cross

- God wanted Moses to make sure Israel did not forget their help (14-16)
- Moses summarized what Israel learned from the battle "**the LORD our banner**"(15,16). Jesus is that banner above His people today