

Intro:

Main Point of Text: God destroys the enemies of His Church, and He always will as He leads them through to final rest.

Sermon Point: *You are winning and you will rest.*

Move 1: Your enemy is always hunting you.

Vs. 8: Amalekites. Gen 36:12, 16: Grandson of Esau with Canaanite wives. Always jealous of Jacob and trying to kill Israel. The first to try after the deliverance. Ps. 83:2-5,7: Amalekites lift up their heads with hatred against God, joining together to cut off Israel as a nation forever. Like pack of lions. Satan like a lion. Rev. 12: waited to devour Christ child at birth; didn't get Jesus, lost war w/ Him, so goes to war with woman/her seed. Same tactic as Amalekites, Deut. 25:18: *They come after the weakest from behind and smote the hindmost of thee, even all that were feeble behind thee, when thou wast faint and weary;* Thus, *Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: Whom resist stedfast in the faith ...* (1 Pt. 5:8-9).

Move 2: You must be ready to fight him, and you must fight him.

God's people must fight. Vss. 9a, 10-12: Self defense required, commanded, means of survival. 1 Sam. 28:18, Saul is given up by God because he did not totally wipe out the Amalekites (Samuel had to finish). Salvation by God. Sanctification you and God. Fight to win! Here's how:

- Recognize what you're up against. Know you're enemy: 1 Pet. 2:11; Eph. 6:11-12.
- Accept you're at war, know you're enlisted, and obey the marching orders of your Superior Officer: 2 Tim. 2:1-5; James 4:7-8.
- Trust your training ("prove"). David had killed lions so knew could kill Goliath.
- Dress for battle, use your weapons: Ephesians 6:11-19.

Move 3: Turn to your elders to help you keep fighting.

Vss. 9b, 10b, 11-12. Moses held up Rod of God, which performed mighty plagues, split the Red Sea, and gave them water from the Rock. People now must fight, but are given a visual reminder that their God gives them the victory. Ministry must be supported by plurality of elders: Aaron, Hur. Troops survive by keeping Christ before eyes. Elders support, like earlier in chapter, and in Ex. 18. Moses wrote the Word and lifted up hands. Main job of elders (Acts 6:1-4). Elders/ministers must hold up people to God, and God to people to know future is certain. Vs. 14-15: memorial of Jehovah-nisi, *the Lord my Banner*: Ps. 60:4-6, 11-12.

Move 4: *Jesus is leading you on to victory.*

Joshua a type of Jesus (same name). Means “the Lord Saves” (Hope of Gen. 49:18; Ex. 14:13; 15:2). Joshua makes war w/ enemies and stands them down: vss. 9a, 10, 13. Will lead into PL, take over by war. Jesus was and is doing: Ps. 2, 110. Ex. 15:3: Lord is a man of War; was Angel of God (Jesus). Rev. 8:3-5: prayers of saints taken by Christ, purified, and cast down on earth as judgments. Lk 18:1: pray so you don’t faint. Keep vision of Rev. 17:12-14 in view. And thus ... *Strengthen ye the weak hands, and confirm the feeble knees. Say to them that are of a fearful heart, Be strong, fear not: behold, your God will come with vengeance, even God with a recompence; he will come and save you.* (Isa 35:3-5) He can give victory through the Sea and through the Dessert. Over the Egyptians and the Amalekites. And Satan himself.

Move 5: *The battle belongs to your Lord, and so do the spoils of war.*

Vs. 9: Rod of God. Vss. 14-16, God will totally annihilate the Amalekites (type of all antichristian forces). Num. 24:20: *And when he looked on Amalek, he took up his parable, and said, Amalek was the first of the nations; but his latter end shall be that he perish for ever.* Will be helpful to remember: Jdg. 3, 6, 7; Num. 14: 39-45. Deut. 25:17-18, they feared not God. Blotted out by Saul and Samuel in 1 Sam 15:2ff (God there says He remember show the Amalekites lied in wait against Israel). Necessary. Psalm 83: remember Amalekites and all nations not under God seek to completely destroy the Church; so God, as promised, wipes Amalekites off face of earth. And everyone else. Result for us like Israelites is rest. Deut. 25:19: *Therefore it shall be, when the LORD thy God hath given thee rest from all thine enemies round about, in the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee for an inheritance to possess it, that thou shalt blot out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven; thou shalt not forget it.* Heb. 4 speaks of a rest yet to have for Christians.

Conclusion:

God wants you to remember. Vs. 14: put in Joshua’s ear.

You will win this fight outside of you. And you will win it within. Keep fighting on both fronts: 1 Cor. 9:27; 2 Cor. 10:3-5.

Matthew 11:12. March on! God swears to give you victory over/eternal rest from your enemies, vs. 16 (hand on seat): Ps. 105:6-11; Gen 12:17; 15; 17:8-18; 22:16-18 (Heb. 6:13-20); Ps. 110:4-7. Isa 45:23 in Phil. 2:9-16 of Christ.

Answer His call to fight and enjoy His rewards: *Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.* (Mat. 11:28).

You are winning and you will rest.