

Preparation for Your Promised Land

Our Mission: To take as many people to Heaven as we can before we die. Period.

1. The battle you are in prepares you for the battles to come.

While the people of Israel were still at Rephidim, the warriors of Amalek attacked them. **Exodus 17:8 NLT**

2. God uses battles to make you prominent.

Moses commanded Joshua, "Choose some men to go out and fight the army of Amalek for us. Tomorrow, I will stand at the top of the hill, holding the staff of God in my hand." So Joshua did what Moses had commanded and fought the army of Amalek. Meanwhile, Moses, Aaron, and Hur climbed to the top of a nearby hill. **Exodus 17:9-10 NLT**

3. Your battle isn't about your battle...it's about you submitting under God's authority.

As long as Moses held up the staff in his hand, the Israelites had the advantage. But whenever he dropped his hand, the Amalekites gained the advantage. Moses' arms soon became so tired he could no longer hold them up. So Aaron and Hur found a stone for him to sit on. Then they stood on each side of Moses, holding up his hands. So his hands held steady until sunset. As a result, Joshua overwhelmed the army of Amalek in battle. **Exodus 17:11-13 NLT**

"What if they won't believe me...?" ...the LORD asked him, "What is that in your hand?" "A shepherd's staff," Moses replied. "Throw it down on the ground," ...Moses threw down the staff, and it turned into a snake! ...Then the LORD told him, "Reach out and grab its tail." So Moses..grabbed it, and it turned back into a shepherd's staff in his hand. **Exodus 4:2-4 NLT**

David: "I am a shepherd for my father's sheep. Whenever a lion or a bear came and carried off a sheep from the flock, I went after it, struck it, and rescued the sheep from its mouth...I have killed lions and bears, and this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them because he has challenged the army of the living God." David added, "The LORD, who saved me from the lion and the bear, will save me from this Philistine." **1 Samuel 17:34-35 GW**

The LORD is my shepherd; I have everything I need... Even if I walk through a very dark valley, I will not be afraid, because you are with me. Your rod and your shepherd's staff comfort me. **Psalms 23:1,4 NCV**

4. Remember and remind yourself of the past victories.

After the victory, the LORD instructed Moses, "Write this down on a scroll as a permanent reminder, and read it aloud to Joshua: I will erase the memory of Amalek from under heaven." Moses built an altar there and named it Yahweh-nissi (which means "the LORD is my banner"). He said, "They have

raised their fist against the LORD's throne, so now the LORD will be at war with Amalek generation after generation." **Exodus 17:14-16 NLT**

Conclusion: God has already prepared the land for us, He's now preparing us for the land.

Message Notes: The Holy Bible, New Living Translation, God's Word translation, New Century Version. The Anchor Yale Bible Dictionary.