

Exodus 17:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

So Joshua did as Moses had said to him, and fought with Amalek: and Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to the top of the hill.

Analysis

So Joshua did as Moses had said to him, and fought with Amalek: and Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to the top of the hill—Joshua's obedience without question models military discipline and faith. The separation of roles—Joshua in valley fighting, Moses on mountain interceding—establishes the warfare pattern: believers fight earthly battles while Christ intercedes in heavenly places (Heb 7:25). The presence of Aaron (priest) and Hur (otherwise unknown, possibly Miriam's husband) provides support for Moses' intercession. The 'top of the hill' (רֹאשׁ הַגִּבְעָה, rosh hagiv'ah) gives oversight of battle while positioning Moses' lifted hands toward heaven. This prefigures Christ's ascension: He withdrew from earthly conflict to intercede on high.

Historical Context

This battle pattern—military engagement below, intercession above—became model for Israel's future warfare. Victory depended on both earthly action and divine intervention through prayer.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. How does Moses' intercession on the mountain picture Christ's heavenly intercession for believers?
2. What does separation of roles (Joshua fights, Moses prays) teach about body of Christ functioning together?

Interlinear Text

וַיַּעַשׂ	כַּאֲשֶׁר רַ	אָמַר	לוֹ	וּמֹשֶׁה	לְהִלָּחֵם	
did	So Joshua	H834	had said	H0	and Moses	to him and fought
H6213	H3091		H559		H4872	H3898
בְּעַמֶּלְקִי	וּמֹשֶׁה	אָהֳרֹן	וְחֹרֵ	עָלָה	רַ אֵשׁ	הַגִּבְעָה:
with Amalek	and Moses	Aaron	and Hur	went up	to the top	of the hill
H6002	H4872	H175	H2354	H5927	H7218	H1389

Additional Cross-References

Exodus 24:14 (Parallel theme): And he said unto the elders, Tarry ye here for us, until we come again unto you: and, behold, Aaron and Hur are with you: if any man have any matters to do, let him come unto them.