

Exodus 17:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Moses said unto Joshua, Choose us out men, and go out, fight with Amalek: to morrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the rod of God in mine hand.

Analysis

And Moses said unto Joshua, Choose us out men, and go out, fight with Amalek—This is Joshua's first appearance, immediately in military role. His name יְהוֹשֻׁעַ (Yehoshua, 'YHWH is salvation') prefigures Jesus (Greek form of Joshua) who conquers enemies. The command to 'choose men' establishes military organization—faith includes strategy, not presumption. Moses' declaration 'to morrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the rod of God in mine hand' introduces the intercessory dimension: Joshua fights while Moses prays. This dual action pictures Christ's work: He conquered death (Joshua's battle) while interceding for His people (Moses' prayer). Victory requires both militant action and prevailing prayer (Eph 6:12-18).

Historical Context

This battle at Rephidim was Israel's first military engagement since leaving Egypt. The victory established Joshua as military leader who would later conquer Canaan.

Related Passages

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How does Joshua's name ('YHWH is salvation') prefigure Jesus' work of conquering enemies?
2. What does the dual action of Joshua fighting and Moses praying teach about spiritual warfare?

Interlinear Text

אָמַר	וַיֹּאמֶר	מֹשֶׁה	אֶל	יְהוֹשֻׁעַ	בְּחַר	לָנוּ	אֶנְשֵׁי יָם
said		And Moses	H413	unto Joshua	Choose us out	H0	H376
H559		H4872		H3091	H977		
עַל	נֶאֱבַר	אֲנִי	מָחָר	בְּעֶמְלֵק	הַלָּחֶם	וַיֵּצֵא	אֶת
	I will stand		H595	to morrow	fight	and go out	
H5921	H5324			H4279	H3898	H3318	
בְּיָדִי	הָאֵלֹהִים	וּמִטָּה	הַגִּבְעָה	רָאשׁ			
in mine hand	of God	with the rod	of the hill	on the top			
H3027	H430	H4294	H1389	H7218			

Additional Cross-References

Exodus 24:13 (References God): And Moses rose up, and his minister Joshua: and Moses went up into the mount of God.

Exodus 4:20 (References God): And Moses took his wife and his sons, and set them upon an ass, and he returned to the land of Egypt: and Moses took the rod of God in his hand.

Deuteronomy 32:44 (References Moses): And Moses came and spake all the words of this song in the ears of the people, he, and Hoshea the son of Nun.

Exodus 4:2 (Parallel theme): And the LORD said unto him, What is that in thine hand? And he said, A rod.

