

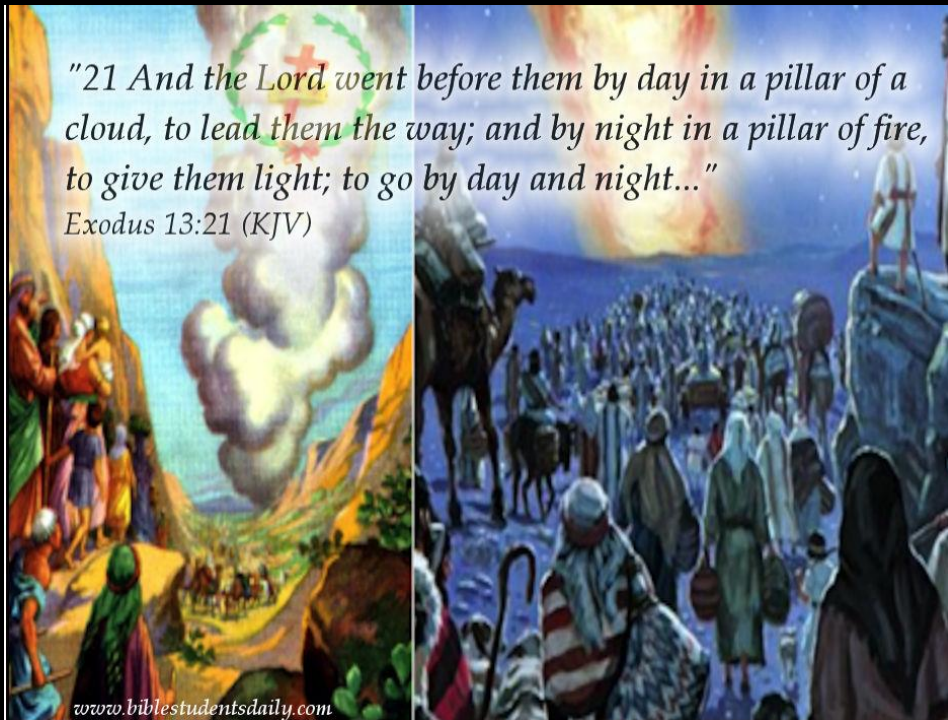
SHEPHERD AND LEADER MOSES

Exodus 14:1-18:27


Key Verse 17: 15

“Moses built an altar and called it THE LORD is my Banner.”

RECALL...



- The Israelites had just left Egypt, led by God's pillar of cloud and pillar of fire (13:21-22)
- So what happens in Exodus 14-18? We might expect victorious direct entry into the Promised Land...

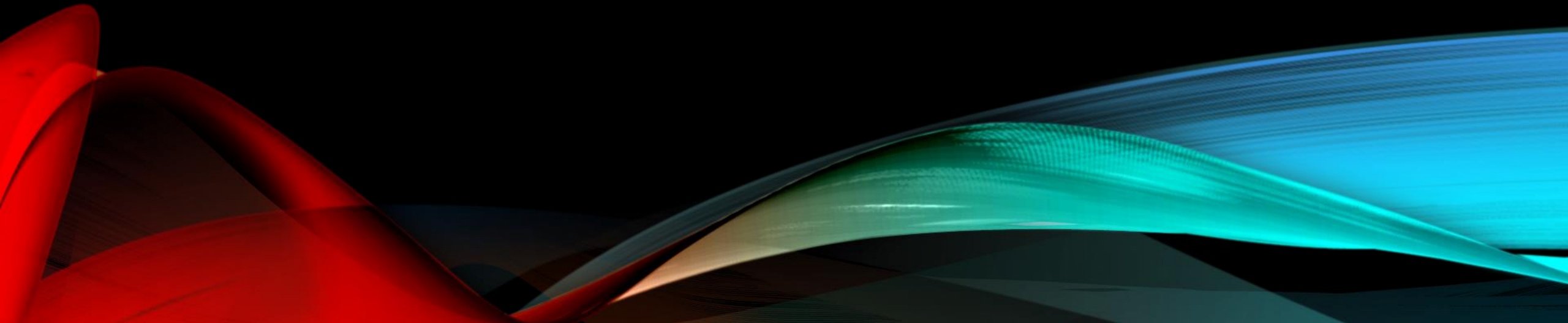
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- But chapters 14-18 are about how God leads his people, and Moses, on a 3-level training course:
 - Chapter 14-15:21: The Red Sea
 - Chapter 15:22-17:8: The Desert
 - Chapter 17:9-15: Surprise attack of the Amalekites



THROUGH THE TRAINING...

- What is the life of faith like, after salvation?
- This passage teaches us very well the life and faith of shepherd and leader Moses.
- Crash course in spiritual leadership
- The fruit: Moses' confession, „The LORD is my Banner.“ (Ex 17:15)

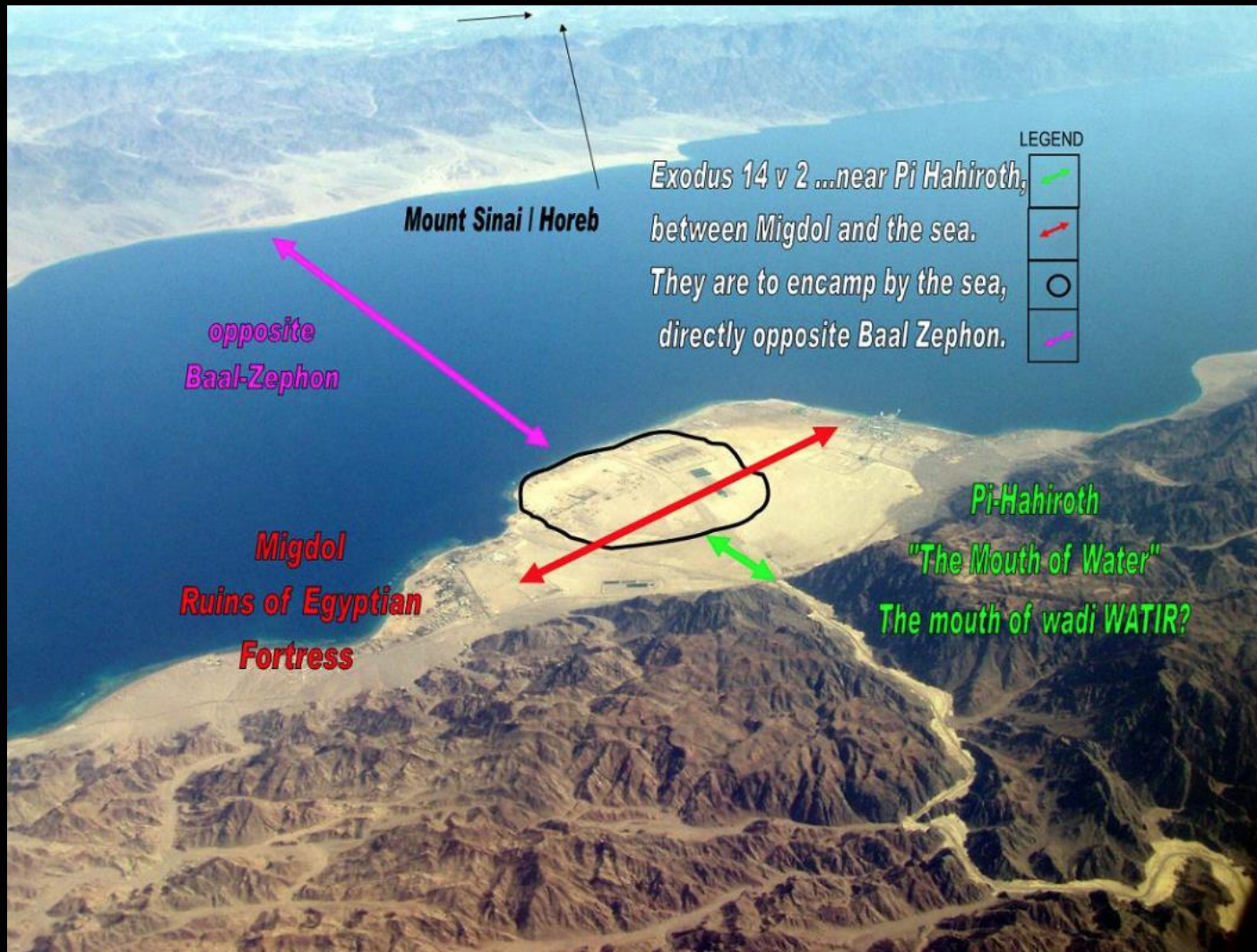
1. ISRAEL CROSSES THE RED SEA (14:1-15:21)



Practical Study:

Ch.	Verse	Summary
14	1-31	The Crossing of the Red Sea: 1-4: God's instruction and warning: "turn back". 5-9: Pharaoh and army pursues the Israelites 10-12: The Israelites, terrified. 13-14: Moses encourages the people. 15-18: God's rebuke, command, and encouragement. 19-20: the angel and the pillar between the Israelites and the Egyptians. 21-29: The Israelites cross the Red Sea, but the Egyptians are drowned 30-31: the result: the salvation of Israel from Egypt, and the Israelites fear the Lord and trust him and his servant Moses
15	1-21	The Songs of Moses and Miriam: Moses' song: 1-4: The Lord is my salvation 5-10: what God did. 11-18: Who, O God, is like you? 19: What God did 20-21: Miriam's song with the women.
Core		God's love for the Israelites: that they might know him and trust Moses.

14:1-4: GOD'S COMMAND AND PLAN



“Then the LORD said to Moses, ‘Tell the Israelites to **turn back** and encamp near Pi Hahiroth, between Migdol and the sea. They are to encamp by the sea, directly opposite Baal Zephon.’”(14:1-2)

5-9: PHARAOH'S PURSUIT

- Pharaoh and his officials changed their minds
- They pursued with 600 of the best chariots, along with all the other chariots of Egypt, with officers over all of them.
- They overtook the Israelites as they camped by the sea at Pi Hahiroth!



CRISIS?

The two million people of the Israelites, with Moses had...

- Pharaoh and Egyptian chariots were thundering at their backs
- The waters of the Red Sea lapping at their feet.



HOW DID THEY RESPOND?

10-12: The people's response

„...They were **terrified** and cried out to the LORD...It would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the desert!“

13-14: Moses' response

„Moses answered the people, **Do not be afraid. Stand firm** and you will see the deliverance the LORD will bring you today. The Egyptians you see today you will never see again. **The LORD will fight for you; you need only to be still.**“

“Moses answered the people, ‘do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the LORD will bring you today. The egyptians you see today you will never see again.’”
(14:13-14)

- A leader acts differently from people, especially in times of crisis.
- How???

Let's keep this question in mind.



WHY WOULD GOD LEAD HIS PEOPLE INTO SUCH A SITUATION?

- „I will gain glory for myself“ (14:4,17,18)
- „the Egyptians will know that I am the LORD“ (4,18)

WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?

- God told Moses to stretch his hand over the sea to divide it (16)
- The angel of God and the pillar of cloud came between the armies of Israel and Egypt, protecting Israel throughout the night (19-20)
- Meanwhile, a strong wind blew all night and divided the sea

ISRAEL CROSSES THE RED SEA (14:1-15:21)



"And the Israelites went into the midst of the dry sea, and the water was a wall to their right and to their left." (14:22)

The Israelites crossed the Red Sea by faith.

The Egyptians pursued ,but were drowned.

15:1-21: THE SONG OF PRAISE

“Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the LORD: ,I will sing to the LORD, for he is highly exalted. The horse and its rider he has hurled into the sea. The LORD is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation. He is my God, and I will praise him, my father's God, and I will exalt him.” (Ex 15:1,2)



15:21: THE WOMEN'S PRAISE

„Miriam sang to them: „Sing to the LORD, for he is highly exalted. The horse and its rider he has hurled into the sea.““

WHY DID GOD LEAD THE ISRAELITES BACK TO THE RED SEA?

- Our life of faith:
 - After salvation, we must face the Red Sea of our struggle with sin.
 - God wanted to save the Israelites completely from Egypt, hurling Pharaoh and his chariots into the Sea.
 - So also, God wants our complete salvation from sin and Satan. God wants us to know him as our Saviour God.
 - E.g. of Abraham Kim's struggle against sin, and his confession of faith.

HOW COULD MOSES BE SO DIFFERENT FROM THE CROWD?

- Moses had faith in God
- So Moses could help the people to obey.
- One man of faith in God is one nation.
- One man, Abraham Kim, one man, Samuel Abraham Chang, can be a source of God's salvation for young people in America, and in Germany!
- May God help each of to meet him as my Salvation, and be used as shepherds

2. GOD'S DESERT TRAINING (15:22-17:7)



	22-27	The people's water problem as they wander in the Desert 22: The Desert of <u>Shur</u> : 3 days, no water. 23-26: God turns bitter water at Marah, sweet. 27: <u>Elim</u> , an oasis
16	1-36	The Lord gives Manna and Quail: 1: The Israelites come to the Desert of Sin 2-3: The people grumble against Moses and Aaron of hunger. 4-5: God's promise and test of bread from heaven. 6-8: Moses rebukes the people 9: Moses has Aaron summon the people 10-12: The Lord promises quail at twilight, bread in the morning. 13-14: quail comes in the evening, manna in the morning 15: The Israelites wonder what the manna is
		16-18: The Israelites to gather 1 <u>omer</u> per person. 19-20: Some disobey, Moses angry. 21-26: Instructions for the Sabbath. 27-30: God rebukes those who disobey the Sabbath command 31: manna description 32-34: Command to preserve an <u>omer</u> of manna 35: they ate manna for 40 years. 36: what an <u>omer</u> is
17	1-7	God gives the grumbling people water from a rock at Rephidim: 1-3: The grumbling of the people of thirst 4: Moses cries out to the Lord 5-6: God gives water from a rock 7: The place is named <u>Massah</u> and <u>Meribah</u>
Core Message		God trains his people to depend on him, the God who always provides.

THE SERIES OF GOD'S DESERT TRAINING

- 15:22: Shur: 3 days' wandering, no water
- 15:23-6: Mara: bitter water
- 15:27: Elim: an oasis
- 16:1-36: Sin: nothing to eat
- 17:1-7: Rephidim: no water

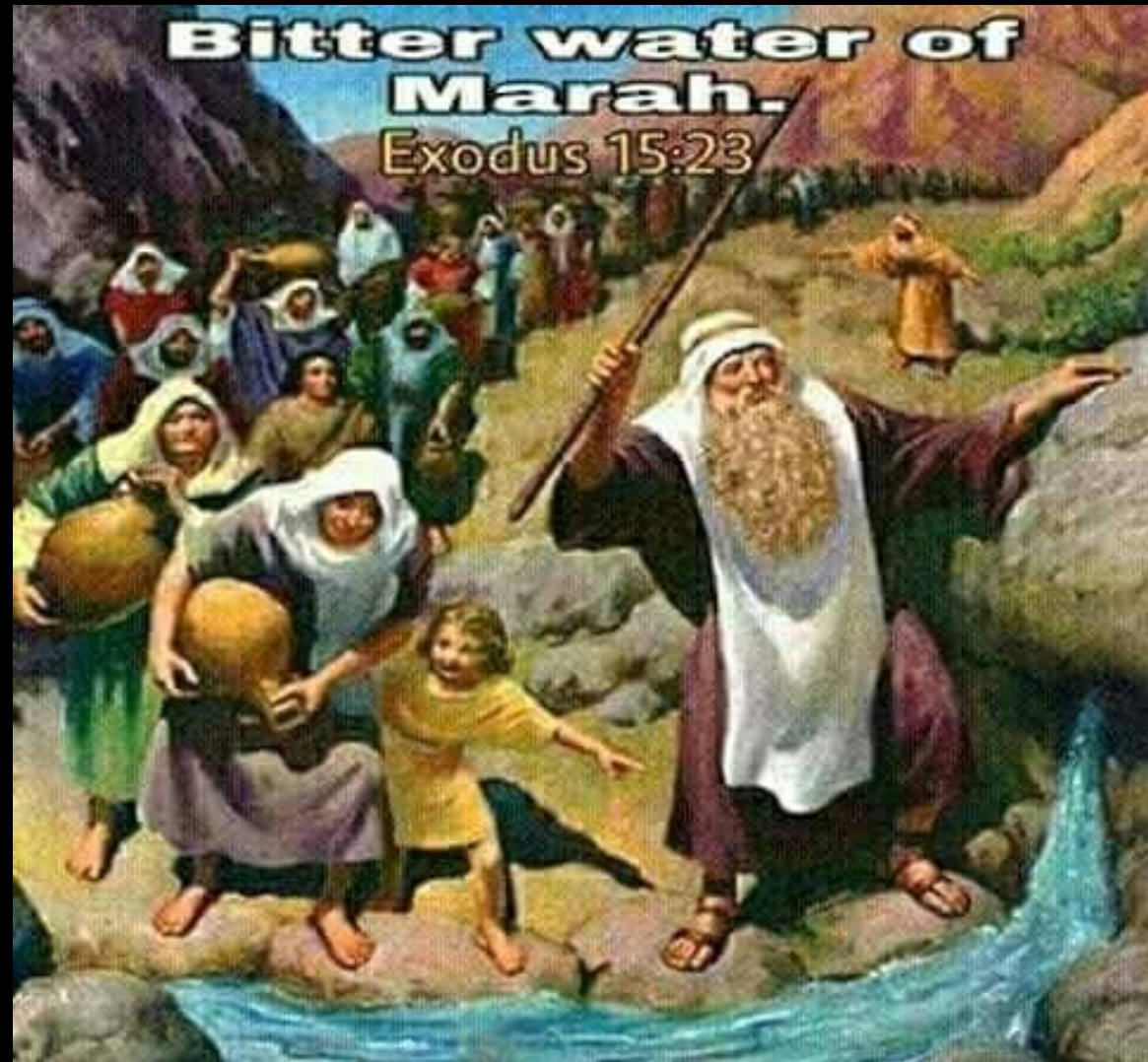
SHUR

- “For three days they traveled in the desert without finding water.” (15:22b)



MARAH

“When they came to Marah,
they could not drink its
water, because it was
bitter.” (15:23)



MARAH

- “Then Moses cried out to the LORD, and the LORD showed him a piece of wood. He threw it into the water, and the wood became sweet.” (Ex 15:25a)



ELIM (15:27)



DESERT OF SIN (16:1-36)

- “In the desert the whole community grumbled against Moses and Aaron. The Israelites said to them, ‘If only we had died by the LORD’s hand in Egypt! There we sat around pots of meat and ate all the food we wanted, but you have brought us out into this desert to starve this entire assembly to death.’” (Ex 16:2-3)



GOD GIVES THE ISRAELITES MANNA & QUAIL

"Then the LORD said to Moses, 'I will rain down bread from heaven for you. ...'" (16:4a)

"I have heard the grumbling of the Israelites. Tell them, 'At twilight you will eat meat, and in the morning you will be filled with bread. Then you will know that I am the LORD your God.'" (11-12)



GOD GIVES THE ISRAELITES MANNA & QUAIL

Manna began the next morning,
and every morning for the next 40
years!

2 million Israelites X 2.25
kg/day/person = 4,500 tons of
manna per day = 30 cargo planes
per day.

X40 years: 65 million tonnes of
bread from heaven.

God's faithfulness and abundant
grace.

Accessible by those who follow
his instructions!



GOD'S TEST: „WHETHER THEY WILL FOLLOW MY INSTRUCTIONS“ (4B)

- Gather daily (4), each morning (21)
- 1 omer per person (16)
- Keep none of it until morning (19)
- Gather twice as much on the 6th day, and none on the 7th day (5)
- Keep the Sabbath day holy, as a day of rest. (23-30)



REPHIDIM (17:1-15)

- "They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. So they quarreled with Moses and said, 'Give us water to drink.'" (17:1b-2a)
- "And he called the place Massah and Meribah because the Israelites quarreled and because they tested the LORD saying, 'Is the LORD among us or not?'" (17:7)



REPHIDIM (17:1-15)

- "Then Moses cried out to the LORD, 'What am I to do with these people? They are almost ready to stone me.'" (17:4)



REPHIDIM

"The **LORD** answered Moses..."
(17:5)

Take some of the elders with him

Strike the rock at Horeb

Water will come out for the people to drink.





THROUGH GOD'S DESERT LEADING WE CAN SEE...

- The Israelites' sin: godlessness and unbelief
- Moses' shepherding: through prayer
- God's answer and perfect provision each time, through Moses' obedience

WHY DESERT TRAINING?

16:4: „Then the LORD said to Moses, „I will rain down bread from heaven for you. The people are to go out each day and gather enough for that day. In this way **I will test them and see whether they follow my instructions.**“

"Remember how the LORD your God led you all the way in the desert these forty years, to humble you and to test you in order to know what was in your heart, whether or not you would keep his commands. **He humbled you, causing you to hunger and then feeding you with manna**, which neither you nor your fathers had known, **to teach you that man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD...**" (Deut 8:2-3)

WHY DESERT TRAINING?

- Because man does not live on bread alone, but on God's word...
- The world is a spiritual desert. Even with physical food and water, people starve and die of thirst.
- This is the famine that God spoke of in Amos 8:11-13: „not a famine of food or a thirst for water, but a famine of hearing the words of the LORD. Men will stagger from sea to sea and wander from north to east, searching for the word of the LORD, but they will not find it. In that day ,the lovely young women and strong young men will faint because of thirst.““



THROUGH DESERT TRAINING

- God taught the Israelites, through Moses, that life comes from obeying his word!
- God was raising them as a kingdom of priests, who can teach the way of life to others.
- How is God raising us as a kingdom of priests?

SOURCE OF LIFE IN THE SPIRITUAL DESERT

- Jesus said, “whoever drinks the water **I** give him will never thirst.” (Jn 4:14a) “**I am the bread of life.** He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty.” (Jn 6:35)
- And Peter confessed, “Lord, to whom shall we go? **You have the words of eternal life.**” (Jn 6:68)

WHY DESERT TRAINING?

- e.g. God's training for the Bolivian Cho's
 - M. Esteban Cho was paralyzed with fear because of material problem.
 - He held on to God who provides as the basic faith in God.
 - Through this, God raised M. Esteban and Paulina Cho as fearless mother and father for dying young people in Bolivia!
 - God helped Ester Cho undergo desert training in Bolivia to teach her that man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. (Dt 8:3) God is raising her as a royal priest, shepherd and Bible teacher for dying young people in Bolivia, Korea, and to the ends of the earth.

ONE ~~MEDICAL DOCTOR~~ BIBLE TEACHER

- I know one medical doctor, who decided to devote himself to be a Bible teacher and spiritual leader like Ezra, based on Ezra 7:10.
- Why?
- Because what Europe really needs is not more medical doctors or politicians. Europe needs Bible teachers!
 - What does North America need?
 - South America?
 - Asia?
 - Middle East?
 - Africa
 - Australia?



WHY DESERT TRAINING?

TO RAISE A KINGDOM OF PRIESTS AND HOLY NATION!

May God raise us as life-giving Bible teachers and shepherds!

3. THE LORD IS MY BANNER (17:8-18:27)



	8-16	The Israelites defeat the Amalekites at Rephidim: 8: The Amalekites attack 9-13: The Israelites' two-front fight and victory 14-16: They commemorate the event
Core Message		God gave the Israelites victory against the Amalekites, and the confession, "The LORD is my Banner."
18	1-27	Jethro's Advice for Moses 1-7: Jethro, Zipporah, and his sons come to Moses in the desert 8-12: Jethro praises God 13-18: Jethro observes Moses' work 19-23: Jethro's advice to raise other judges 24-27: Moses listens to Jethro's advice.
Core Message		A leader should pray for the people, teach them, and raise others to share the load.

17:8 The Amalekites made a surprise attack against the Israelites.

They were a former slave people. This was their first war. They had no army that could fight the fierce Amalekites.

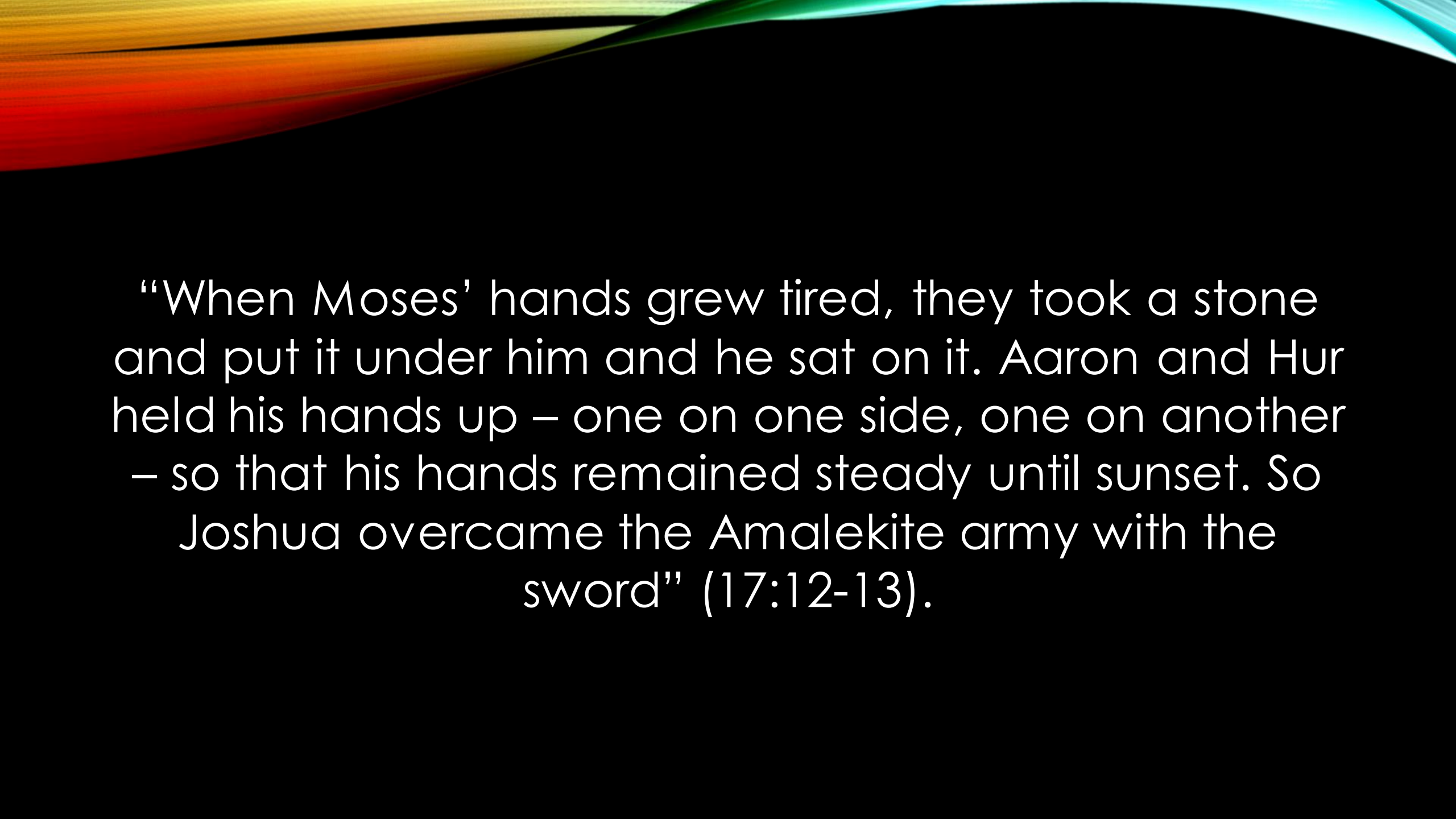
Moses laid out a two-front strategy:

- He sent Joshua against the Amalekites with chosen men, even though they were unprepared, undisciplined and too weak.
- Meanwhile, Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to a hill to pray.

3. THE LORD IS MY BANNER (17:8-15)

“As long as Moses held up his hands, the Israelites were winning, but whenever he lowered his hands, the Amalekites were winning” (17:11).





“When Moses’ hands grew tired, they took a stone and put it under him and he sat on it. Aaron and Hur held his hands up – one on one side, one on another – so that his hands remained steady until sunset. So Joshua overcame the Amalekite army with the sword” (17:12-13).

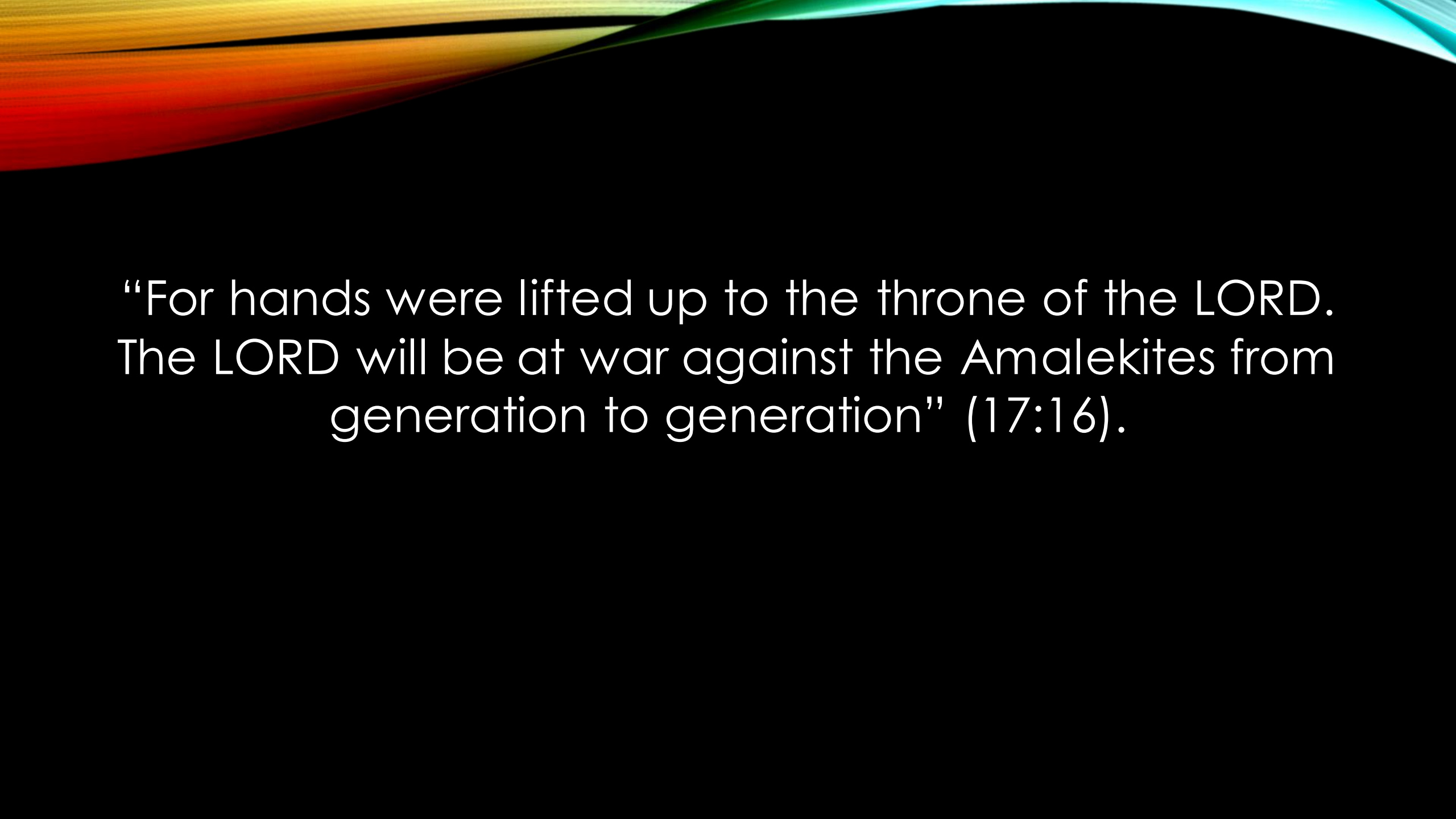


3.


“And Moses built an altar and called it: The LORD is my banner” (17:15).

3. THE LORD IS MY BANNER (17:8-15)

- "The LORD is my Banner"
 - A sign of victory in spiritual warfare
- The LORD is my victory! I trust in the name of the LORD
- The LORD is my commander, I will obey him!
- It is a confession that came out of prayer



“For hands were lifted up to the throne of the LORD.
The LORD will be at war against the Amalekites from
generation to generation” (17:16).

- 
- We are also in a spiritual warfare
 - Fight or die.
 - We are inheritors of a spiritual legacy.
 - How to fight? Prayer. “The LORD is my Banner” is a confession that comes out of prayer!
 - Pray for group members, siblings, friends, young people.



CONCLUSION

- Through this passage, God is raising us as shepherds and leaders like Moses, who can lead the young people of this generation through the Red Sea, the desert, and through spiritual warfare.
- May God help us to fight with full trust in him, his word, and prayer!
- May God help each one of us to have the deep confession, “The LORD is my Banner”.