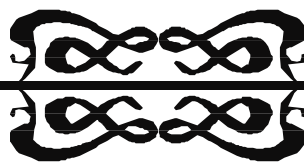


The Battle with Amalek

A Kingdom at Stake

A mini-study in the
Understanding the Bible Series



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Welcome

You may be wondering: “Who in the world is Amalek?” And “Why am I about to do a study on a person who is only mentioned a handful of times in the Old Testament?” Perhaps you have never even heard the name, Amalek.

As to *who is Amalek?* Amalek is an Old Testament character who is descended from Abraham through Isaac’s son Esau. In fact, he is Esau’s grandson, as you will discover in Lesson Two. And Amalek was the first to wage a battle against the Children of Israel after they came out of bondage on their trek to the Promised Land.

As to *why you are studying a person who is only mentioned a handful of times in the Old Testament* — well, perhaps the Lord has led you to do this study for the purpose of teaching you about a type laid out in Scripture, which is intended in the antitype to teach us about a daily battle that rages within every Christian. It is a picture of the battle between the flesh and the spirit. And frankly, *because of what is at stake*, it is very important that every Christian become aware of this daily battle.

A kingdom is at stake. And ignorance is *not* bliss. Ignorance will be no excuse. Ignorance is not the safeguard.

As this story depicts, only days out of Egypt the Children of Israel had come to a place called Rephidim. (The word *rephidim* means *a place of beds*, and perhaps could be understood as a place of rest — surely a place of *premature rest*, as this was not the land wherein they were to rest from their enemies.) It was here at Rephidim that was the site of the first battle with Amalek. And the tactic that the Amalekites used was to attack from the rear the weak and faint-hearted. Their guard was down. They were not expecting such an attack.

When we read about this battle in Scripture perhaps we should see a flashing light above these passages in Exodus 17, and Deuteronomy 25:17-19 —

WARNING! WARNING! **You are about to be attacked unwittingly!**

Wholehearted commitment to understanding the things surrounding this battle is a worthy goal. May I encourage you to fully commit to study well? Hopefully at the end of these four weeks, you will know the strategy of this enemy and will be able to know how to do battle against such a formidable foe. Perhaps you will understand how to protect yourself.

And please don’t forget — there truly is a kingdom at stake!

