

The Power Of Covenant Living

Warren Wiersbe - The Hebrew word translated "covenant" has several meanings:

- (1) to eat with, which suggests fellowship and agreement;
- (2) to bind or fetter, which means commitment; and
- (3) to allot, which suggests sharing.

Deut. 25:17-19

17. Remember what the Amalekites did to you along the way when you came out of Egypt.

18. When you were weary and worn out, they met you on your journey and cut off all who were lagging behind; they had no fear of God.

19. When the LORD your God gives you rest from all the enemies around you in the land he is giving you to possess as an inheritance, you shall blot out the memory of Amalek from under heaven. Do not forget!

Amalek = People who wring.

Ex. 17:16 - He said, "For hands were lifted up to the throne of the LORD. The LORD will be at war against the Amalekites from generation to generation."

Gen. 25:34 - Then Jacob gave Esau some bread and some lentil stew. He ate and drank, and then got up and left. So Esau despised his birthright.

Despised = baw-zaw'- to disesteem, to think less of than one should

Ps. 105:37 - He brought out Israel, laden with silver and gold, and from among their tribes no one faltered.

Ex. 15:25-26

25. Then Moses cried out to the LORD, and the LORD showed him a piece of wood. He threw it into the water, and the water became sweet. There the LORD made a decree and a law for them, and there he tested them.

26. He said, "If you listen carefully to the voice of the LORD your God and do what is right in his eyes, if you pay attention to his commands and keep all his decrees, I will not bring on you any of the diseases I brought on the Egyptians, for I am the LORD, who heals you."

Ex. 17:7b - ...the Israelites quarreled and because they tested the LORD saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

Deut 25:18 - When you were weary and worn out, they met you on your journey and cut off all who were lagging behind; they had no fear of God.

Jn. 13:17 - If you know these things, happy are you if you do them.

Weary = unsteady walk

Worn out = at the end of one's strength from being self sufficient and contented with ones lot though it is the most meager.

1Pet. 5:8 – Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.

1Pet. 5:6-7

6. Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time.

7. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

Joshua 1:6 - "Be strong and courageous, because you will lead these people to inherit the land I swore to their forefathers to give them."

Dan. 6:23b - ...And when Daniel was lifted from the den, no wound was found on him, because he had trusted in his God.

It's not knowing about Jesus that gives us a position of Power in his kingdom...

It's having a personal covenant relationship with him!

1Sam. 15:3 - Now go, attack the AMALEKITES and totally destroy everything that belongs to them. Do not spare them; put to death men and women, children and infants, cattle and sheep, camels and donkeys."

1 Sam. 15:9 - But Saul and the army spared Agag (Amalekite King) and the best of the sheep and cattle, the fat calves and lambs--everything that was good. These they were unwilling to destroy completely, but everything that was despised and weak they totally destroyed.

2 Sam 1:13-14

13. David said to the young man who brought him the report, "Where are you from?" "I am the son of an alien, an AMALEKITE," he answered.

14. David asked him, "Why were you not afraid to lift your hand to destroy the LORD's anointed?"

Remember, Amalekites represent anything that should have been destroyed in your life!

What you fail to destroy will destroy you!

There is only one way to destroy the Amalekite from your life...

Keeping in covenant with God!

2 Peter 1:3-11

3 His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence,

4 by which he has granted to us his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become PARTAKERS of the divine nature, HAVING ESCAPED FROM THE CORRUPTION that is in the world because of sinful desire.

5 For this very reason, MAKE EVERY EFFORT to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge,

6 and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness,

7 and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love.

8 For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they keep you from being ineffective or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

9 For whoever lacks these qualities is so nearsighted that he is blind, HAVING FORGOTTEN THAT HE WAS CLEANSED FROM HIS FORMER SINS.

10 Therefore, brothers, be all the more diligent to confirm your calling and election, for if you PRACTICE these qualities you will never fall.

11 For in this way there will be richly provided for you an entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

One final note...

Being in covenant with God also means being in covenant with His Church!

God didn't call us to fight this battle alone!

Ex. 17:8-13

8. The Amalekites came and attacked the Israelites at Rephidim.

9. Moses said to Joshua, "Choose some of our men and go out to fight the Amalekites. Tomorrow I will stand on top of the hill with the staff of God in my hands."

10. So Joshua fought the Amalekites as Moses had ordered, and Moses, Aaron and Hur went to the top of the hill.

11. As long as Moses held up his hands, the Israelites were winning, but whenever he lowered his hands, the Amalekites were winning.

12. 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 the other--so that his hands remained steady till sunset.

13. So Joshua overcame the Amalekite army with the sword.

In vs 12 Aaron and Hur held Moses' hands up and his hands remained steady...

Steady = (Emunah) same word in Hebrew for faithfulness and moral fidelity

In this fight against Amalek we fight together!

In the Church, we want each other to do well!

In the Church, there should be no competition!

We are a covenant people!

Humbly honoring God's covenant brings true success!

We uphold each other's arms!

We help each other stay in a posture of praise and surrender!

That's why the gates of hell will not prevail against who?

The Church!

God designed us to live in the Power Of Covenant Living!