

**ADVERSARIES
OF
GOD'S PEOPLE**

Dr. Dave Lueloff

Adversaries of God's People

There have always been adversaries to the work of God. Our opposition in the New Testament will be:

The Devil:

1 Peter 5:8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

The World:

1 Corinthians 16:9 For a great door and effectual is opened unto me, and *there are* many adversaries.

The Flesh:

Psalms 119:95 The wicked have waited for me to destroy me: *but* I will consider thy testimonies.

It is good to have adversaries – it is an evidence of a work of God:

Philippians 1:28 And in nothing terrified by your adversaries: which is to them an evident token of perdition, but to you of salvation, and that of God.

In the Old Testament, Israel was God's earthly people. As we study of the adversaries of Israel, one can find a direct application to the people of God in the New Testament church age.

This study will cover:

1. Canaanites
2. Philistines
3. Maob & Ammon
4. Ishmael
5. Esau
6. Amalek
7. Egypt
8. Final Triumph of Israel

The Christian life is one of conflict. The adversaries are real and the battle is real. May God give us wisdom to glean from this study of the Old Testament to apply to our lives in a very real way.

1) Canaanites

Descendants of Ham through Canaan Gen. 10:15-19

Canaan was cursed (Gen. 9:20-25).

Gen. 9:22 "And Ham, the father of Canaan, saw the nakedness of his father, and told his two brethren without."

Genesis 9:25 And he said, **Cursed be Canaan**; a servant of servants shall he be unto his brethren.

What was the sin of Ham? Possibly:

1. Laid with Mrs. Noah and Canaan was born
2. Committed a homosexual act with Noah
3. Saw father's nakedness
4. Took coat of authority from Noah

Book of Jasher records that the garment that God had made for Adam & Eve were passed down to Enoch; to Methuselah; to Noah; and now Ham stole these garments. He gave them to Cush, who passed them down to Nimrod. Nimrod became strong when he put on those garments – he became King Nimrod over all the earth.

Why was Canaan cursed?

1. God had blessed Ham (Gen. 9:1) and could not curse him whom He had blessed
2. Whatever the reason – Canaan was cursed
3. This curse is not for black people today
 - Ham had 4 sons – Blacks come from Ham – only 1 son was cursed
 - Canaanites are off the scene later in the O.T.
 - Probably no Canaanites by the time of the N.T.
Simon the Canaanite (Matt. 10:4) probably refers to location rather than race – like Judas Iscariot is literally -- Iscariot = "men of Kerioth."

Who are the Canaanites?

Canaan includes Zidon, Jebusite, Amorite, Girgasite, Hivite, Arkite, Sinite, Arvadite, Zemanite, Hamathhite (Gen. 10:15-18)

Where did they dwell?

Same location as land promised to Abraham (Gen. 10:19). God gave this land to Israel. God allowed Israel to drive out the inhabitants due to the judgment upon their sin (Gen. 15:16)

What was the sin of the Canaanites?

Sin of homosexuality & bestiality

Leviticus 18:20-27 Moreover thou shalt not lie carnally with thy neighbour's wife, to defile thyself with her...Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it *is* abomination. Neither shalt thou lie with any beast to defile thyself therewith: neither shall any woman stand before a beast to lie down thereto: it *is* confusion. Defile not ye yourselves in any of these things: for **in all these the nations are defiled which I cast out before you**: And the land is defiled: therefore I do visit the iniquity thereof upon it, and the land itself vomiteth out her inhabitants. Ye shall therefore keep my statutes and my judgments, and shall not commit *any* of these abominations; *neither* any of your own nation, nor any stranger that sojourneth among you: (For all these abominations have the men of the land done, which *were* before you, and the land is defiled;)

God destroyed people involved in sexual perversion in Gen.6:5-7, 19:13-14,& 24.
The command was to destroy them:

Deuteronomy 7:1-2 When the LORD thy God shall bring thee into the land whither thou goest to possess it, and hath cast out many nations before thee, the Hittites, and the Girgashites, and the Amorites, and the Canaanites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites, seven nations greater and mightier than thou; And when the LORD thy God shall deliver them before thee; thou shalt smite them, *and* utterly destroy them; thou shalt make no covenant with them, nor shew mercy unto them:

Deuteronomy 20:16-18 But of the cities of these people, which the LORD thy God doth give thee *for* an inheritance, thou shalt save alive nothing that breatheth: But thou shalt utterly destroy them; *namely*, the Hittites, and the Amorites, the Canaanites, and the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites; as the LORD thy God hath commanded thee: That they teach you not to do after all their abominations, which they have done unto their gods; so should ye sin against the LORD your God.

Note: God loved the Canaanites as individuals. Uriah the Hittite was a great, honorable and mighty man. (Ex. 33:2, II Sam. 11:3 -- Hittite from Heth – Gen. 10:15)

God commanded Israel to destroy them. The victory was theirs if they would take it by faith:

Joshua 3:10 And Joshua said, Hereby ye shall know that the living God *is* among you, and *that he will without fail drive out from before you the Canaanites*, and the Hittites, and the Hivites, and the Perizzites, and the Girgashites, and the Amorites, and the Jebusites.

Practical Lesson

Victory for Israel was by faith – our conquering of our adversaries is also by faith. The Christian life parallels the life of the Israelites.

- Unbelief is path of defeat (Josh. 15:63, 17:12)

Judges 1:19 And the LORD was with Judah; and he drave out *the inhabitants of* the mountain; but could not drive out the inhabitants of the valley, because they had chariots of iron.

- Failure to completely destroy brings failure. Luz is example of this. The city of Luz was rebuilt because it was not completely destroyed.

Judges 1:23-26 And the house of Joseph sent to descry Bethel. (Now the name of the city before was Luz.) And the spies saw a man come forth out of the city, and they said unto him, Shew us, we pray thee, the entrance into the city, and we will shew thee mercy. And when he shewed them the entrance into the city, they smote the city with the edge of the sword; but they let go the man and all his family. And the man went into the land of the Hittites, and built a city, and called the name thereof Luz: which *is* the name thereof unto this day.

(Luz was destroyed – but 1 family escaped – and rebuilt Luz:)

When God gives you victory over sin – it must be 100% victory. The story of Luz can parallel the Christian's battle with drugs, alcohol, pornography, gambling.... To not take 100% victory is failure.

We see this unbelief in the phrase, "They did not / could not drive them out."

Promise Given

Joshua 3:10 And Joshua said, Hereby ye shall know that the living God *is* among you, and *that* he will **without fail drive out** from before you the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Hivites, and the Perizzites, and the Girgashites, and the Amorites, and the Jebusites.

Joshua 23:5 And the LORD your God, **he shall expel them** from before you, and drive them from out of your sight; and ye shall possess their land, as the LORD your God hath promised unto you.

Unbelief – Could not drive them out

Joshua 15:63 As for the Jebusites the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the children of Judah **could not drive them out**: but the Jebusites dwell with the children of Judah at Jerusalem unto this day.

Joshua 17:12 Yet the children of Manasseh **could not drive out** *the inhabitants* of those cities; but the Canaanites would dwell in that land.

Judges 1:19 And the LORD was with Judah; and he drove out *the inhabitants* of the mountain; but **could not drive out** the inhabitants of the valley, because they had chariots of iron.

Disobedience - Did not drive out

Joshua 16:10 And they **drave not out** the Canaanites that dwelt in Gezer: but the Canaanites dwell among the Ephraimites unto this day, and serve under tribute.

Joshua 17:13 Yet it came to pass, when the children of Israel were waxen strong, that they put the Canaanites to tribute; but **did not utterly drive them out**.

Warning Given

Joshua 23:11 Take good heed therefore unto yourselves, that ye love the LORD your God. ¹² Else if ye do in any wise go back, and cleave unto the remnant of these nations, *even* these that remain among you, and shall make marriages with them, and go in unto them, and they to you: ¹³ Know for a certainty that the LORD your God will no more drive out *any* of these nations from before you; but they shall be snares and traps unto you, and scourges in your sides, and thorns in your eyes, until ye perish from off this good land which the LORD your God hath given you.

Warning Not Heeded

Judges 2:2 And ye shall make no league with the inhabitants of this land; ye shall throw down their altars: but ye have not obeyed my voice: why have ye done this? ³ Wherefore I also said, I will not drive them out from before you; but they shall be *as thorns* in your sides, and their gods shall be a snare unto you. ⁴ And it came to pass, when the angel of the LORD spake these words unto all the children of Israel, that the people lifted up their voice, and wept.

Judges 2:20 And the anger of the LORD was hot against Israel; and he said, Because that this people hath transgressed my covenant which I commanded their fathers, and have not hearkened unto my voice; ²¹ I also will not henceforth drive out any from before them of the

nations which Joshua left when he died: ²² That through them I may prove Israel, whether they will keep the way of the LORD to walk therein, as their fathers did keep *it*, or not. ²³ Therefore the LORD left those nations, without driving them out hastily; neither delivered he them into the hand of Joshua.

Unbelief, Disobedience, Compromise

Judges 1:19 And the LORD was with Judah; and he drove out *the inhabitants of the mountain*; but could not drive out the inhabitants of the valley... And the children of Benjamin did not drive out the Jebusites that inhabited Jerusalem; but the Jebusites dwell with the children of Benjamin in Jerusalem unto this day.

Judges 1:27 Neither did Manasseh drive out *the inhabitants of Bethshean and her towns, nor Taanach and her towns, nor the inhabitants of Dor and her towns, nor the inhabitants of Ibleam and her towns, nor the inhabitants of Megiddo and her towns*: but the Canaanites would dwell in that land. ²⁸ And it came to pass, when Israel was strong, that they put the Canaanites to tribute, and did not utterly drive them out. ²⁹ Neither did Ephraim drive out the Canaanites that dwelt in Gezer; but the Canaanites dwelt in Gezer among them. ³⁰ Neither did Zebulun drive out the inhabitants of Kitron, nor the inhabitants of Nahalol; but the Canaanites dwelt among them, and became tributaries. ³¹ Neither did Asher drive out the inhabitants of Accho, nor the inhabitants of Zidon, nor of Ahlab, nor of Achzib, nor of Helbah, nor of Aphik, nor of Rehob: ³² But the Asherites dwelt among the Canaanites, the inhabitants of the land: for they did not drive them out. ³³ Neither did Naphtali drive out the inhabitants of Bethshemesh, nor the inhabitants of Bethanath; but he dwelt among the Canaanites, the inhabitants of the land: nevertheless the inhabitants of Bethshemesh and of Bethanath became tributaries unto them.

The theme of the book of Joshua is that the children of Israel when forth “Conquering and to conquer.” Judges is a book of failure through compromise.

This scenario takes place in the lives of many Christians. God gives us the blueprint for victory over sin in Romans chapters 6 to 8. The victory is ours by faith. When we sin, we fail in unbelief. God brought Israel out of Egypt so He might bring them into the promised land of Canaan.

Deuteronomy 6:23 And he brought us out from thence, that he might bring us in, to give us the land which he swore unto our fathers.

God has given salvation for an individual so they might not only leave the world behind, be delivered from sin, but also to experience an abundant life with the Lord Jesus Christ.

Galatians 1:4 Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father:

John 10:10 ...I am come that they might have life, and that they might have *it* more abundantly.

Some Christians cannot be happy because they have one foot in the church and one foot in the world. God did not save us to make our life miserable, He saved us so that we would – by faith – grow as Christians and have life more abundant.

The Christian life is paralleled in the path from Egypt to Canaan.

2) Philistines

They are descendants of Ham through Mizraim Gen. 10:6-14

Gen. 10:13-14 Mizraim begat Ludim, and Anamim, and Lehabim, and Naphtuhim, and Pathrusim, and Casluhim, (out of whom came Philistim,) and Caphtorim

They were part of the land that Israel was to conquer:

Joshua 13:1 Now Joshua was old *and* stricken in years; and the LORD said unto him, Thou art old *and* stricken in years, and there remaineth yet very much land to be possessed. ² This *is* the land that yet remaineth: all the borders of the Philistines, and all Geshuri, ³ From Sihor, which *is* before Egypt, even unto the borders of Ekron northward, *which* is counted to the Canaanite: five lords of the Philistines; the Gazathites, and the Ashdothites, the Eshkalonites, the Gittites, and the Ekronites; also the Avites...

It is possible that the Philistines are a people that today are off the scene:

Amos 1:8 And I will cut off the inhabitant from Ashdod, and him that holdeth the sceptre from Ashkelon, and I will turn mine hand against Ekron: and the remnant of the Philistines shall perish, saith the Lord GOD.

Zephaniah 2:5 Woe unto the inhabitants of the sea coast, the nation of the Cherethites! the word of the LORD *is* against you; O Canaan, the land of the Philistines, I will even destroy thee, that there shall be no inhabitant.

This future prophecy is not necessarily referring to Philistines as a people, but as a location (Zeph. 2:1-7)

Present day Palestine.

Historically, the Romans destroyed the Jewish State of Judea and killed or exiled its entire people. The Romans wanted to wipe away all remembrance of a connection between the Jews and their land, so they re-named all of it 'Palestina' in honor of the Philistines. The inhabitants of Palestine are not the lineage of the Philistines.

Practical lessons learned from the Philistines:

1. Victory is by persistence and being filled with the Spirit.
2. Defeat is through sin.
3. The adversary is a giant.

Persistence

The Philistines were an adversary to Isaac, they had stopped and filled their wells.

Genesis 26:14-22 For he had possession of flocks, and possession of herds, and great store of servants: and the Philistines envied him. For all the wells which his father's servants had digged in the days of Abraham his father, the Philistines had stopped them, and filled them with earth. And Abimelech said unto Isaac, Go from us; for thou art much mightier than we. And Isaac departed thence, and pitched his tent in the valley of Gerar, and dwelt there. And Isaac digged again the wells of water, which they had digged in the days of Abraham his father; for the Philistines had stopped them after the death of Abraham: and he called their names after the names by which his father had called them. And Isaac's servants digged in the valley, and found there a well of springing water. And the herdmen of Gerar did strive with Isaac's herdmen,

saying, The water *is* ours: and he called the name of the well Esek; because they strove with him. And they digged another well, and strove for that also: and he called the name of it Sitnah. And he removed from thence, and digged another well; and for that they strove not: and he called the name of it Rehoboth; and he said, For now the LORD hath made room for us, and we shall be fruitful in the land.

Inconvenient adversary – a pain, a bother – they hindered the work by stopping up wells
Solution – dig another well, tell the Lord; dig another well, tell the Lord...
Devil gets victory when you are fighting over a well. Today there are over 6 billion people lost – and some Christians are entangled over water!

When a battle occurs, we need to keep our eyes on the task the Lord has given us while we are dealing with the inconvenience of the adversary.

For Further Study of Philistines:

Spirit of Lord

Samson Judges 13:24-25, 14:6, 14:19, 15:13-16

The Spirit of the Lord came upon Samson and gave him some tremendous victories. The flesh is opposite and contrary to the Spirit. (Gal. 5:16-23) Samson's downfall came through the flesh.

The Holy Spirit:

- Indwells John 14:16-17, Gal. 4:6
- Leads & Guides Lk. 4:1, 4:14, John 16:13
- Seals Eph. 4:30
- Secures Eph. 1:14
- Helps Preachers Isa. 61:1

Defeat through Sin

The Philistines defeated Israel and had taken the ark. I Sam. 4-5.

The problem was not in the ark

Dagon I Sam. 5:2-4

Emerods as judgment I Sam 5:6-7, 5:9

The problem was sin I Sam. 2:16-17, 2:22

Adversary is a Giant

Description of the giant. I Sam. 17:4-7

The challenge I Sam 17:8-9

David:

Man of Character I Sam. 17:26

Man of Principle I Sam. 17:29

Learned to Trust God I Sam. 17:34-36 - one victory at a time

Battle is the Lord's I Sam. 17:45-47 - God of the man w/ a sling (not God of the sling)

Lord defeats Giant I Sam. 17:49-51

Seek the Lord for wisdom and His timing in victory. II Sam. 5:17-25

There is always another giant to face. II Sam. 21:19-21

3) Moab & Ammon

Abram & Lot parted ways. Lot pitched his tent toward Sodom – he chose the lust of the eyes.

Genesis 13:8-13 And Abram said unto Lot, Let there be no strife, I pray thee, between me and thee, and between my herdmen and thy herdmen; for we *be* brethren. *Is* not the whole land before thee? separate thyself, I pray thee, from me: if *thou wilt take* the left hand, then I will go to the right; or if *thou depart* to the right hand, then I will go to the left. And Lot lifted up his eyes, and beheld all the plain of Jordan, that it *was* well watered every where, before the LORD destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah, *even* as the garden of the LORD, like the land of Egypt, as thou comest unto Zoar. Then Lot chose him all the plain of Jordan; and Lot journeyed east: and they separated themselves the one from the other. Abram dwelled in the land of Canaan, and Lot dwelled in the cities of the plain, and pitched *his* tent toward Sodom. But the men of Sodom *were* wicked and sinners before the LORD exceedingly.

Lot enjoyed Sodom (Gen. 19:1). He lingered when told to leave (Gen. 19:15-16)

God delivers him from the wrath of God. Gen. 19:22,

God will deliver all saved at the Rapture – (I The. 1:9-10, 5:9)

Lot lost his testimony (Gen. 19:14)

Lot lost his wife (Gen. 19:26)

Lot gained two children by incest.

Moab was the firstborn, Ammon born next (Gen. 19:30-38)

Moab & Ammon:

Enemies of Israel in time of Judges Judges Ch 3 & 11

Enemies in days of King Saul I Sam 14:47

Enemies in days of King David II Sam. 8:1-2, I Chr. 18:11

References to Moab & Ammon - Isa. 15-16 / Jer. 48-49:6 / Eze. 25:1-11 / Amos 1:13-2:3

Prophecies:

- Jer. 48:40-44 - 1500 years after the fact – Jeremiah tells of this adversary.
- Zeph. 2:8-11 – This is a future prophecy. Some 4100 years later, Ammon & Moab are still adversaries to Israel.

Ammon & Moab will be destroyed as Sodom & Gomorrah.

Abraham & Lot were in the exact same environment in Gen. 13. They each made choices.

Abraham became a “Friend of God.”

James 2:23 And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of God.

Lot became an “Enemy of God.”

James 4:4 Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.

Lot, by drunkenness and an act of incest, produced two children that would be adversaries for centuries to come.

4) Ishmael

God promised a child to Abraham & Sarah (Gen. 13:16, 15:2-5). Both were physically incapable of reproducing.

Hebrews 11:11 Through faith also Sara herself received strength to conceive seed, and was delivered of a child when she was past age, because she judged him faithful who had promised.

Romans 4:19 And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sara's womb:

In unbelief, they added sin (adultery) to sin (unbelief).

Genesis 16:1-4 Now Sarai Abram's wife bare him no children: and she had an handmaid, an Egyptian, whose name was Hagar. And Sarai said unto Abram, Behold now, the LORD hath restrained me from bearing: I pray thee, go in unto my maid; it may be that I may obtain children by her. And Abram hearkened to the voice of Sarai. And Sarai Abram's wife took Hagar her maid the Egyptian, after Abram had dwelt ten years in the land of Canaan, and gave her to her husband Abram to be his wife. And he went in unto Hagar, and she conceived: and when she saw that she had conceived, her mistress was despised in her eyes.

Ishmael was their first-born. Isaac was born 13 years later – the 2nd born. Isaac was their 'only begotten son' – a type of Christ.

Hebrews 11:17-18 By faith Abraham, when he was tried, offered up Isaac: and he that had received the promises offered up his only begotten son, Of whom it was said, That in Isaac shall thy seed be called:

Both Isaac and Christ were the by-product of a supernatural birth.

Ishmael was father of 12 princes - Gen. 17:20. "All Arabs, after the example of Mohammed, claim descent from Ishmael" (Davis Bible Dictionary).

The first-born is passed over – the 2nd birth is emphasized (John 3:3-8):

Adam - son of God Luke 3:38

Christ – Son of God Mark 1:1

Esau 1st born

Jacob 2nd birth

Ishmael 1st born - "after the flesh" Gal. 4:19

Isaac 2nd birth - "after the Spirit"

You have a 1st birth – physically

Do you have a 2nd birth? – spiritually

Born after the flesh = “wild man”

Genesis 16:11-12 And the angel of the LORD said unto her, Behold, thou *art* with child, and shalt bear a son, and shalt call his name Ishmael; because the LORD hath heard thy affliction. And he will be a wild man; his hand *will be* against every man, and every man's hand against him; and he shall dwell in the presence of all his brethren.

“Wild” – every other place in O.T., this word refers to a ‘wild ass.’ Literally this would be interpreted, “a wild ass man.” Hebrew dictionary states that this word figuratively means, “of willfulness, of lust.”

As in: Hosea 8:9 For they are gone up to Assyria, a wild ass alone by himself: Ephraim hath hired lovers.

Adversaries will unite against common foe or they will just unite

Genesis 28:6 When Esau saw that Isaac had blessed Jacob, and sent him away to Padanaram, to take him a wife from thence; and that as he blessed him he gave him a charge, saying, Thou shalt not take a wife of the daughters of Canaan...⁸ And Esau seeing that the daughters of Canaan pleased not Isaac his father; ⁹ Then went Esau unto Ishmael, and took unto the wives which he had Mahalath the daughter of Ishmael Abraham's son, the sister of Nebajoth, to be his wife.

Nehemiah 4:7 But it came to pass, *that* when Sanballat, and Tobiah, and the Arabians, and the Ammonites, and the Ashdodites, heard that the walls of Jerusalem were made up, *and* that the breaches began to be stopped, then they were very wroth.

Luke 23:11 And Herod with his men of war set him at nought, and mocked *him*, and arrayed him in a gorgeous robe, and sent him again to Pilate. ¹² And the same day Pilate and Herod were made friends together: for before they were at enmity between themselves.

Practical Lessons

- Ye must be born again.
- The flesh is a wild man
- Overcome adversaries by Walking in the Spirit
- Who will unite against us:
 - Devil & World
 - World & Flesh
 - Devil & Flesh

5) Esau / Edom (Mt. Seir) Gen. 25:21-25, 36:1-9

Abraham's son Isaac and Rebekah have twins – Jacob & Esau

Esau made bad choices:

- Gave up spiritual blessing for food Gen. 25:30-34
- Esau marries Hittite (Canaanite) Gen. 26:34 then
- Esau marries Ishmaelite Gen. 28:8-9
- Allows hatred and anger to rule Gen. 27:41-42
- Enemy of Israel in time of Red Sea crossing Ex 15:14-15
- Enemy of King Saul I Sam. 14:47-48
- Enemy of King David I KI 11:15-16
- Enemy of King Solomon I KI 11:14

Edom's hatred toward Israel:

- 1) Edom's passive cruelty
Obadiah 1:11-12 In the day that thou stoodest on the other side, in the day that the strangers carried away captive his forces, and foreigners entered into his gates, and cast lots upon Jerusalem, even thou *wast* as one of them. But thou shouldest not have looked on the day of thy brother in the day that he became a stranger; neither shouldest thou have rejoiced over the children of Judah in the day of their destruction; neither shouldest thou have spoken proudly in the day of distress.
- 2) Edom's active hatred:
Psalm 137:7 Remember, O LORD, the children of Edom in the day of Jerusalem; who said, Rase *it*, rase *it*, *even* to the foundation thereof.

Future Prophecy – Jer. 49:13-14 & 17-18

Edom as Sodom & Gommorah (See Obadiah 18-21, Joel 3:19)

Esau is placed there by purposes of God

Mal. 1:1-5 / Rom. 9:4-13

Poetic Justice - Found in Obadiah:

Obadiah 1:15 For the day of the LORD *is* near upon all the heathen: as thou hast done, it shall be done unto thee: thy reward shall return upon thine own head.

Baxter writes: "Edom had indulged in treachery against Judah (vs.11-12); therefore Edom should perish through the treachery of confederates (vs 7). Edom had seized the chance to rob Judah (vs.13); therefore Edom should be robbed even till his hidden things or treasures, were searched out (vs.5-6). Edom had lifted the sword and shown violence against Judah (vs.10); therefore Edom should perish by slaughter (vs.9). Edom had sought the utter destruction of Judah (vs. 12-14); therefore Edom should be utterly destroyed (vs.10,18). Edom had even sought to hand over and dispossess the remnant of the invaded Jerusalem (vs.14); therefore, in the end, the remnant of Jacob should possess the land of Edom (vs.19)."

If cursed – no amount of security can help. Rev. 6:15-17, Mal. 1:4

If blessed – no amount of hatred / enemy can stop you (Num 22:12)

6) Amalekites I Chr. 1:35-36, Ex. 17:8-14

Amalek is grandson of Esau. The Amalekites fought with Israel in Ex. 17.

Amalek is a picture of the flesh – a constant foe:

Exodus 17:16 For he said, Because the LORD hath sworn *that* the LORD will have war with Amalek from generation to generation.

1) The victory is won in the spiritual realm

Hands of Moses held up – while Joshua fought in battle. Victory is found on top of hill.
(Rom. 6:6, 6:11-12, Rom. 7:24-25)

2) God commands total and complete death (of Amalekites / of flesh)

Deuteronomy 25:19 Therefore it shall be, when the LORD thy God hath given thee rest from all thine enemies round about... *that* thou shalt blot out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven...

1 Samuel 15:3 Now go and smite Amalek, and utterly destroy all that they have, and spare them not; but slay both man and woman, infant and suckling, ox and sheep, camel and ass.

1 Samuel 15:9 But Saul and the people spared Agag, and the best of the sheep, and of the oxen, and of the fatlings, and the lambs, and all *that was* good, and would not utterly destroy them: but every thing *that was* vile and refuse, that they destroyed utterly.

1 Samuel 15:13 And Samuel came to Saul: and Saul said unto him, Blessed *be* thou of the LORD: I have performed the commandment of the LORD. ¹⁴ And Samuel said, What meaneth then this bleating of the sheep in mine ears, and the lowing of the oxen which I hear?

Saul did not defeat and obey the Lord. It was an Amalekite that killed him (II Sam. 1:4-10)

The flesh must be crucified for victory.

Galatians 2:20 I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

3) The Amalekites (the flesh) attack weak and vulnerable areas

Deuteronomy 25:17 Remember what Amalek did unto thee by the way, when ye were come forth out of Egypt; ¹⁸ How he met thee by the way, and smote the hindmost of thee, *even all that were feeble* behind thee, when thou *wast* faint and weary; and he feared not God.

Attacked the women & children when King David was gone:

1 Samuel 30:1 And it came to pass, when David and his men were come to Ziklag on the third day, that the Amalekites had invaded the south, and Ziklag, and smitten Ziklag, and burned it with fire; ² And had taken the women captives, that *were* therein: they slew not any, either great or small, but carried *them* away, and went on their way.

4) Amalekites / the flesh never gives up

They are a constant foe and have slain some great men (II Sam. 1:13-27).

Amalekites – a constant foe is Israel

Flesh - a constant foe of the Christian

7) Egypt Ex. 6:10-11

Egypt is mentioned 611 times. It is a picture of the world. Pharaoh is a picture of the devil. Egypt is associated with Sodom in Rev. 11:8. Hagar was an Egyptian – Gen. 16:1-3.

Israel was brought out of Egypt / Christ was called out of Egypt (Hosea 11:1, Matt. 2:15)
The Christian is called out of the world – I Jn. 2:15-17.

Future of Egypt:

Ezekiel 29:10 Behold, therefore I *am* against thee, and against thy rivers, and I will make the land of Egypt utterly waste *and* desolate, from the tower of Syene even unto the border of Ethiopia. ¹¹ No foot of man shall pass through it, nor foot of beast shall pass through it, **neither shall it be inhabited forty years.** ¹² And I will make the land of Egypt desolate in the midst of the countries *that are* desolate, and her cities among the cities *that are* laid waste shall be desolate forty years: and I will scatter the Egyptians among the nations, and will disperse them through the countries. ¹³ Yet thus saith the Lord GOD; At the end of forty years will I gather the Egyptians from the people whither they were scattered: ¹⁴ And I will bring again the captivity of Egypt, and will cause them to return *into* the land of Pathros, into the land of their habitation; and they shall be there a base kingdom.

The children of Israel being delivered out of Egypt parallels the Christian life.
Deuteronomy 6:23 And he brought us out (From Egypt)...that he might bring us in (To Canaan)

- The Israelites were shepherds – an abomination to the Egyptians (Gen. 46:32-34). The Christian will not fit in in this world.
- Egypt was a place of slavery – sinners are slave to sin (John 8:32-34).
- Battle was between Pharaoh and Moses over Israel is a picture of the battle between the Devil & Christ over a sinner needing to be saved.
- Deliverance was by the blood of the Lamb applied (I Cor. 5:7)
- People soon forgot God (Ex.14:10-12, 16:3, 17:3-4)

Two choices – Faith or Fear

Fear: Remember Egypt better than it was Numb. 11:5-6
Focus on past rather than what God has in store
Stay in comfort zone
Fear paralyzes
Fear prevents eternal things from happening

Faith: Moves forward Ex. 14:13, Numb. 13:30-31
Delivers from bondage Gal. 5:1, John 10:10

1 Corinthians 10:6 Now these things were our examples, to the intent we should not lust after evil things, as they also lusted.

1 Corinthians 10:11 Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come.

8) Final Triumph of Israel

Old Testament prophecies are fulfilled literally. Much of the O.T. is not understood because much of it is yet unfulfilled. Israel will be re-gathered, restored, victorious, and Jerusalem will be the central focus of the world. King Jesus will reign from there.

Israel is a most hated nation. Modern-day Israel is only about 60 miles long by 20 miles wide, and yet it is a world power. The Muslims desire to 'drive Israel into the Sea.' Israel is a supernatural nation. Mark Twain was an agnostic and God-rejecter. This is what he wrote:

'The Jews constitute a tiny percentage of the human race. Properly the Jew ought, hardly to be heard of; but he is heard of, has always been heard of. He is as prominent on the planet as any other people, and his commercial importance is extravagantly out of proportion to the smallness of his bulk. His contributions to the world's list of great names in literature, science, art music, finance, medicine and abstruse learning are also way out of proportion to the weakness of his numbers. He has made a marvelous fight in this world, in all the ages; and has done it with his hands tied behind him. He could be vain of himself, and be excused for it.

The Egyptian, the Babylon and the Persian rose, filled the planet with sound and splendor, then faded to dream-stuff and passed away; the Greek and the Roman followed, and made a vast noise, and they are gone; other peoples have sprung up and held their torch high for a time, but it burned out, and they sit in twilight now, or have vanished. The Jew saw them all, beat them all, and is now what he always was exhibiting no decadence, no infirmities age, no weakening of his parts, no slowing of his energies, no dulling of his alert and aggressive mind. All things are mortal but the Jew; all other forces pass, but he remains.'

What is the secret of their immortality? They are the God-preserved supernatural Jew.

The born-again Christian is a supernatural creature. He too will be hated by many yet will also be victorious. One day, this child of God will rule and reign with the Lord Jesus Christ forever.

The conflicts in this study can give us wisdom and insight into the conflicts we will face. May it be a blessing to all who read and study.