**Here's the "POINT"!**

**"GOD" (11)**

***"JEHOVAH-NISSI"***, (je-HO-vah nis-SEE), (*"Jehovah*/***GOD is****-****My BANNER"***), (see Ex.14--17:15) raised a ***"BANNER"*** before Israel with *"the ROD* *of Moses"*, from HIS leading them with it from Egypt to the war with ***"Amalek"*** (Ex. 17:9); ***"and Moses said to Joshua, 'Choose us out men and go out; fight with Amalek! Tomorrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the Rod of God in my hand'!"***  (literally --***"the Rod*** (*Banner*) ***of the God"*** (***Elohim***-t*he all powerful Creator*). And here HE finally declared it: (Ex. 17:15)--**"*and* *Moses built an Altar, and called the Name of it 'Jehovah-NISSI* '. . ."**, after the battle was won! And so, Israel was victorious before their ***"BANNER"****--****"The ROD of GOD"!***

But this is not the end of the "*War*"! Paul wrote--***"Now these things were our Examples. . .and they are written for our admonition upon whom the ends of the world are come"***.

(I Cor.10:6-12). Our lesson to be learned here with Israel battling ***"Amalek"***, shows the perpetual "*War*" between *GOD* and *Satan*, *Man* and *Satan*, Good and *Evil*, *Spirit* and *Flesh*! Exodus 17:16 further says--***"Jehovah hath sworn*** (or *'there is a* ***hand LIFTED*** *against the Throne of Jehovah')*  ***that Jehovah will have war against Amalek from generation to generation!"*** Israel was following their ***"BANNER"*;** but Amalek had no *"banner"*! Amalek was like his Granddad, *"Esau"*, who cared not at all for the Spiritual and valued a *"mess of pottage"* over the Spiritual-"*Birthright"*! Such are so many today! Paul warned the Galatian Church against this "*warfare*" in Gal. 5:15-21! John warned against being caught-up with "*the things*" of this world! (I Jn. 2:14-26) And James described the same "*wars. . .among you*. . ."! (Jas 4:1-10). Peter reminded the Church of "*the Battle*" also! (II Pt. 1:1-22). Amalek, indeed, has left his legacy of *"War*" against *"the People"* of GOD--from Israel to *"the N. T. Church"*, even till today! Satan and his "*angels"* have continued the "*warfare"* on every front against any and all who claim "*the Name of Jesus*"!

(Ex. 17:16, I Jn. 5:19, 2:15-17, Ro. 7:7-25, Gal. 5:15-21, Ep. 6:10-18, Col. 1:12-14)

So, the ***"Battle"*** over which **our** ***"BANNER"*** is now***"Raised"*** is as described in those Scriptures. It is *Spiritual*. . . warring against our souls! And, the***"BANNER"*** is changed from ***"The* *ROD of Moses"*** to ***"The CROSS of Christ"*!** Now, sing the Song with true "*understanding*":

*"There's* ***a Royal Banner*** *given for* ***Display****,*

*For the Soldiers of the King!*

*As an* ***Ensign*** *fair, we* ***lift it up*** *today,*

*While as Ransomed ones we sing!*

*Marching on! Marching on!*

*For Christ count everything but loss,*

*For the King of Kings, we'll Toil and Sing--*

*'neath* ***The Banner of the Cross****!" (w) Daniel Whittle*

Our***"BANNER"*** over our ***"Warfare"*** comes more into "focus" as we ***"LOOK UPON"******Jesus*** in John 3:14f-***-"and as Moses lifted up the Serpent in the wilderness, even-so must the Son of Man be lifted up; that whosoever Believeth into Him should not Perish, but have Eternal Life"****.* The Jews understood the Uplifted-***"ROD of Moses"*** and its saving power. They knew the meaning of ***"JEHOVAH-NISSI"*** and HIS ***"BANNER"***-*"lifted-up"* before their forefathers. They knew it stood for their Victory. Who knows what happened to that ***"ROD"***? Perhaps GOD took it at Moses' death, lest the People keep it as an "Idol", even as they did later with the ***"Fiery-Serpent-Rod"***. (II Kg. 18:4) It is so hard for us to know how to use the "Things" GOD uses to fulfill HIS ***"Will"***! So, Jesus now describes another***"BANNER"*** in the wilderness ***"of the Land of Edom"***. There was no water or food, and they ***"loathed this light bread"***! (Here we go again!) Then, GOD sends ***"fiery Serpents"***  to kill them; but ***"Moses prays for them"*** and GOD instructs him to ***"make a fiery Serpent and set it on a Standard"***. According to GOD, all who *"looked upon"* ***"the Brazen-Serpent"***  were saved from the deadly snakes (Num 21).

Now, Jesus told them that ***"as Moses lifted up the Serpent". . ."even-so must the Son of Man be Lifted up"***. HE said--***"whosoever Believeth into Him should not Perish, but have Eternal Life"***! Now this *"Belief*" certainly entails more than a desperate-"*looking"*; but most assuredly a Faithful-Obedience, as the rest of ***"the Gospel"*** teaches! Again, look at how Man has "Idolized" the physical Cross (the ***"Type/Shadow"*** He.10:1) instead of *"Seeing"* its Scriptural and Spiritual ***"Anti-Type/Image"*** of Jesus' ultimate Heavenly ***"Offering of Himself"*** (He.9:26) before GOD's Throne! (He.9:23-28) Man must under-stand that Jesus' ultimate ***"Offering"*** was not on that physical Cross (*"Standard"*); as it was, under the Law, but a physical ***"Type/Shadow"*** of that which was ***"to come"*** (He.-9:11, 10:1) ***"when He Ascended Up on High"*** (Ep.4:8)***"to the Right Hand of God"*** (1 Pt.3:22) to ***"Offer Himself"*** (He.9:28, 10:10)--the True ***"BANNER"*** of ***"JEHOVAH-NISSI"***! (Lev.17) So, Jesus stressed the parallel of the "*Serpent-Standard"* being "*raised*" on the pole, with **HIS** being ***"Lifted Up"*** on ***"the Cross"***! HE also taught that HIS ***"Disciple"*** (***"Believer"***) must ***"take up his cross"*** (Mt. 16:24). Paul declared that he was ***"crucified with Christ. . ."*** (Gal. 2:20). And, he described that Spiritual *"Crucifixion"* in *Rom. 6:3-4:* ***"Know ye not that so many of us as were Baptized into Jesus Christ, were Baptized into His Death? Therefore we are Buried with Him by Baptism into death*** (i.e.*, our death to sin*)*,* ***that like as Christ was Raised-up from the Dead, by the Glory of the Father, even-so, we also should walk in newness of Life!"***. . .just like it says--***". . .Looking unto Jesus. . ."****!* (He.12:2*)*

Indeed, **Jesus**, on HIS ***"Cross"***, as HE said--***"And I, if I be 'LIFTED UP' from the Earth, will Draw all men unto ME"*** *(Jn.12:32);* is ***"JEHOVAH-NISSI"*** 's final ***"BANNER/-STANDARD"*** for our ***"Victory" over Death, Hell and the Grave***! (1 Cor.15; vss 54-57)

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