



Moses As Intercessor
By Rev. Pat Frame

Moses was a tremendous intercessor. Remember how he ‘battled it out’ with Pharaoh, as God dealt with the idols of Egypt. Also, his wife Zipporah interceded for him when the Lord was about to kill him due to his disobedience over circumcising his son. The story of the exodus is full of examples of God answering Moses as he prayed, but one example particularly stands out in this context.

In Exodus 17:8-13, 15-16 we read that the Amalekites – an ancient enemy of Israel – attacked the Israelites at Rephidim:

*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.” So, Joshua fought the Amalekites as Moses had ordered, and Moses, Aaron and Hur went to the top of the hill. As long as Moses held up his hands, the Israelites were winning, but whenever he lowered his hands, the Amalekites were winning. 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 already till sunset. So, Joshua overcame the Amalekite army with the sword ... Moses built an altar and called it *The Lord is my Banner*. 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.”*

Wow! While Joshua and some of the men went to do battle with the Amalekites, others were interceding for them and it was a CORPORATE thing. Moses was not alone – Aaron and Hur were with him, holding up his arms. What a responsibility Moses must have felt. Every time he lowered his arms things changed on the battlefield for the worse. It is tiring to hold up your arms for any length of time. Imagine what it would be like if someone’s life depended on you keeping your arms up, never mind a whole army. Moses, Aaron and Hur were no less part of the battle than the men on the battlefield itself. Their participation, their intercession, was crucial to the outcome of the battle. Joshua and his men finally overcame the Amalekite army – but at points in the battle (when Moses lowered his arms) the Amalekites were winning. Undoubtedly some of Joshua’s men were at least wounded in that battle. Individual prayer should be part of our daily walk with the Lord; a relationship without communication is not a relationship at all. There is, though, strength in corporate prayer. There is nothing more thrilling than a prayer time with others when you are flowing together in the Holy Spirit and KNOW that you are touching Heaven. Jesus Himself said, “*Again, I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything you ask for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them.*” (Matthew 18:19-20). Moses, Aaron and Hur certainly experienced the truth of this!.



Intercessors need to be informed. They do not only need to have the glowing reports – they need to know the difficulties, the obstacles, the pressures. The wonderful part is that the intercessors can join in the thanksgiving when victory comes as essential players in the event. Beloved, do not underestimate the importance of ‘just’ praying! The teams on the field, the ones

who are in the heat of the battle, need you to be interceding for them as Joshua needed Moses. This is a high and holy calling – not the ‘leftovers’ or the bottom rung on the ladder. The intercessors are of as much worth – if not more – than those on the field. Put simply: - no prayer – no fieldwork.

True intercession is costly. It takes sacrifice, time, energy and emotion and, most importantly, commitment. Moses got weary – he first had to sit down; he then had to have his arms held up for him. It was physically, spiritually and emotionally demanding. Moses was not a novice in intercession but still he felt the strain of it.