

## The Lord Shall Fight For You You Are Able To Overcome

(Day 7—UB 2000)

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Let's pick up the story of the Exodus and the children of Israel after the Passover, and leaving the Night To Be Remembered. There are definite lessons for us in this last day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread contained in here. God wants us to understand these things year-by-year, in season and out of season, so that we can come to God and really know and grow and understand and live His way.

That's what it's all about. That's the whole thing concerning this. That we come to the point in our lives that we accept the will of God as *our* will. God does not want us to give up our free choice and our own will; He wants us to make His will *our* will. Then we grow:

- in character
- in love
- in fulfilling and doing the things that God wants us to do

We are told that these things that happened to the children of Israel are *examples* for us so that we learn not to do the same thing that they did.

Exodus 13:17: "And it came to pass, when Pharaoh had let the people go, God did not lead them *by* the way of the land of the Philistines although that *was* near..."

The land of the Philistines, if you have in mind if you come down from Palestine on down to Egypt, there is a nice curve that goes right along the Mediterranean Sea. Right along that was the highway that went up to the holy land. Here's a good lesson for us: ***God never takes us the way that we think!***

- Has your Christian life been the way that you thought it would be the day you were baptized? *No, it isn't!*
- Has God led you in a different way for a specific purpose? *Yes!*
- Has it been His way? *Yes!*

*We are to walk in the way of Christ, in the way of the Lord as He leads us!* We are not to walk in *our* way and then ask God to reach down and bless what we do because we have done it.

We're also going to learn another lesson here, which is that there will be trials and tests. These trials and tests, as we will see, are not the ones that we would choose. In our own minds, if we choose the trials and tests you know what we would do. We would choose the ones and say, 'I know I can do this.' You can be guaranteed that's not the one that God's going to give you. He didn't with the children of Israel, even though it was near; even though it was convenient to go by the highway of the Philistines.

"...for God said, 'Lest the people repent when they see war, and they return to Egypt'" (v 17). *Let's equate this with spiritual warfare*, because we'll tie this in a little bit later on. Have a lot of people left because they couldn't endure in the spiritual warfare? *Yes!* So, God took them a different way.

Verse 18: "But God led the people toward the way of the wilderness of the Red Sea. And the children of Israel went up armed... [in their ranks] ...out of the land of Egypt. And Moses took the bones of Joseph with him, for he had strictly sworn the children of Israel, saying, 'God will surely visit you, and you shall carry my bones away from here with you.' And they moved from Succoth... [meaning a place of booths] ...and camped in Etham at the edge of the wilderness. And the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of a cloud to lead them in the way, and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, to go by day and night" (vs 18-21). *Here's another lesson: we are to walk in God's way day and night,*

Verse 22: "He did not take away the pillar of the cloud by day, nor the pillar of fire by night *from* before the people."

So, all 40 years it was there so the people could know that God was present with them. Now today we have something greater than the pillar of cloud and pillar of fire. We have the Holy Spirit *in* us, which let's us know that God is with us, and God is in us.

Exodus 14:1: "And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, 'Speak to the children of Israel that they turn and camp before Pi Hahiroth, between Migdol and the sea, over against Baal Zephon. You shall camp before *it* by the sea.' .... [they were to line

up along the sea] ...for Pharaoh will say of the children of Israel, 'They *are* trapped in the land; the wilderness has shut them in' (vs 1-3)—*you're trapped!*

God will always bring you to a situation *where you have no recourse but to trust in Him!* That's what God wanted to do with the children of Israel. We will see they didn't understand it.

Verse 4: "And I will harden Pharaoh's heart that he will follow them. And I will be glorified through Pharaoh and all his army, so that the Egyptians may know that I *am* the LORD.' And they did so. And the king of Egypt was told that the people fled. And the heart of Pharaoh and of his servants was turned against the people. And they said, 'Why have we done this, that we have let Israel go from serving us?'" (vs 4-5). *We've given up all of our slaves, now we've got to do the work:*

- we have to draw the water
- we have to make the clothing
- we have to prepare the food
- we have to tend to the animals
- we have to do all these things

They had had the live of leisure where they could just sit back and do none of these things, because the children of Israel, as their slaves, did it all for them.

Verse 6: "And he made his chariot ready and took his people with him. And he took six hundred chosen chariots, and all the chariots of Egypt, and captains over every one of them. And the LORD hardened the heart of Pharaoh, king of Egypt. And he pursued the children of Israel, and the children of Israel went out with a high hand" (vs 6-8). *Here comes the enemy after them and we'll see how they reacted and what God did!*

Verse 9: "So, the Egyptians pursued them, all the horses *and* chariots of Pharaoh, and his horsemen, and his army. And they overtook them camping by the sea, beside Pi Hahiroth, before Baal Zephon.... [God knew that they would be overtaken; He did that deliberately] ...And when Pharaoh drew near, the children of Israel lifted up their eyes. And, behold, the Egyptians marched after them. And they were very afraid. And the children of Israel cried out to the LORD" (vs. 9-10).

When you start going through difficulties and trials, the thing we need to understand and realize in this is that *God delivers us out of all of our troubles, all of our trials, everything that we go through!* He is the One that has to fight the battle for us. We have our part; we've got to do the

walking, but God will do the fighting. Let's see what they said.

Verse 11: "And they said to Moses..." Here they were in a bad attitude. Sometimes you wonder:

- Why does God let these things happen.
- Is He God?
- Can He not change things?
- Can He not make it better?
- Why am I in the middle of this trial?

*Here they were being afflicted by the Egyptians coming!* They were afraid they were going to be recaptured, thrown back into slavery into Egypt and so forth. So they complained to Moses.

"... 'Have you taken us away to die in the wilderness because *there were* no graves in Egypt? Why have you dealt this way with us to carry us forth out of Egypt? Did we not tell you this word in Egypt, saying, "Let us alone so that we may serve the Egyptians?"'...." (vs 11-12).

That isn't what they said, they said that the burden is too much, 'help, send a deliverer.' *That's what God did!*

"...For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than that we should die in the wilderness" (v 12).

When you begin comparing your circumstances with circumstances that you think that you would rather have, and your circumstances in a trial are difficult now, then you begin to accuse God, and accuse Him of things that are not true. In the trial *God has promised He will provide a way of escape!* The children of Israel did not understand that. So, God had to show them that He was going to perform a great and a vast miracle to save them from the hand of Pharaoh. When you understand it, being delivered from all of our trials and troubles really amounts to accumulatively a great and a vast miracle on the part of God, because *He wants to fight for you but you have to trust in Him!*

Verse 13. "And Moses said to the people, 'Fear not!.... [the first thing we are to do is to overcome fear] ...**Stand still**... [don't be going in a different way] ...and see the salvation of the LORD, which He will work for you today... [that's why you have to wait on God, *always*] ...for the Egyptians whom you have seen today, you shall never see them again!'"—*because God had a greater plan in mind!* He was going to take care of the enemy. He was going to do them in *His* way.

Verse 14: "**The LORD shall fight for you...**" That is the key thing! That's why you're *to*

*cast all your cares upon Him for He cares for you and He will fight for you!*

“...and you shall be still” (v 14). *In other words, stop your complaining!* Maybe this will help us understand why we need to learn to rejoice in the trials that we go through. It is not because God doesn't love us. ***It is because God does love us and He knows!***

It is because God wants to do us good at our latter end. That's why He took the children of Israel through all the things that He did, as He says, 'do them good at their latter end' (Deut. 8). We need to understand that when we are going through a trial.

- Are you going through a trial right now?
- Do you have a difficulty right now?
- Do you have a problem that needs to be solved?

*Take it to God and ask Him to work it out His way. But His way and His schedule may be different than yours. So:*

- trust God
- wait on God
- stand still
- don't criticize
- hold your peace

Verse 15: “And the LORD said to Moses ‘Why... [are you complaining] ...do you cry to Me? Speak to the children of Israel that they go forward’”

That's what we want to do in everything that we do. ***Go forward!*** Let God deliver us out of all of our troubles. As I look back and see the things that I've gone through, through the many years since I've been in the Church of God, God has delivered us out of all of our problems. In the final analysis, that has been the best, because just like the children of Israel, when we started out we didn't know where we were going or how God was going to lead us. It's the same way with us today:

- *we walk in faith, not by sight*
- *we walk in the power of God, not by our own*

***That's the whole lesson of this day!*** Here's what God told Moses to do after He told him to go forward:

Verse 16: “And you—lift up your rod, and stretch out your hand over the sea, and divide it. And the children of Israel shall go on dry ground through the midst of the sea. And behold, I *am* about to harden the hearts of the Egyptians, and they shall follow them. And I will get honor for Myself upon

Pharaoh, and over all his army, over his chariots and over his horsemen. And the Egyptians shall know that ***I am the LORD*** when I will be glorified through Pharaoh, his chariots, and his horsemen” (vs 16-18). ***God's way is perfect and complete!***

You would think that Pharaoh would have gotten the point back there when all of the plagues, and all of the signs and wonders were happening before the Passover and before the exodus, but he didn't. So, let's see what happened.

Verse 19: “And the angel of God, who went before the camp of Israel, moved. And he went to the rear of them. And the pillar of the cloud went from in front of them and it stood behind them. And it came between the camp of the Egyptians and the camp of Israel. It was a cloud of darkness to *one*...[to the Egyptians] ...but gave light by night to *the other*... [the children of Israel] ...so that the *two* did not come near one another all night. And Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. ***And the LORD drove the sea back*** with a strong east wind all that night...” (vs 19-21). *So, He blew it back, blew back the sea!*

I've mentioned that it had to be a wide channel for them to walk across in order to get over there in just a few hours, which they did. Going out in a column it would have taken hours and hours for them to get to the other side; as much as 10 hours as we saw when we calculated the moving of the exodus. So, this had to be they were camped along the narrow seashore along the Red Sea, and when God caused the east wind to blow it blew the waters back. Also, I mentioned that perhaps God raised the floor of the seabed to help get the waters to stand on the side and make a wide opening for them to go. Now some people objected to that. I didn't say it as dogma. I just said *maybe* God perhaps did. There's evidence of great movement of the earth in that location of the Red Sea, so perhaps He did. Either way, regardless of how it occurred, the wind blowing and God's miraculous intervention and moving the sea back it stood as walls, and the children of Israel walked in the midst of the sea.

Verse 22: “And the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea upon the dry ground. And the waters were a wall to them on their right hand and on their left.”

Most people have in mind what it was like in the movie The Ten Commandments, and that was all trick photography, and they went down into a narrow channel, whereas this was a wide channel. It's still to the right and it's still to the left, regardless to how wide it is!

Verse 23: “And the Egyptians pursued and went in after them to the middle of the sea, all Pharaoh’s horses, his chariots, and his horsemen. And in the morning watch it came to pass... [this is basically from 3 to 6 in the morning, our time that is speaking] ...that the LORD looked down upon the army of the Egyptians through the pillar of fire and of the cloud, and the army of the Egyptians was thrown into confusion” (vs 23-24). *That’s when they were coming!* They came after them in the morning watch.

Verse 25: “And He loosened their chariot wheels, and made them go heavily, so that the Egyptians said, ‘Let us flee from the face of Israel, for the LORD fights for them against the Egyptians.’”

There they were stuck in the sea, all becoming mud. Took all of the wheels off of the chariots after they pursued in there. This was an early morning event, probably sometime right at sunrise when this occurred, because the night watch is from 3 until 6, so sunrise may have been say maybe 5 o’clock at that particular time, or quarter to 6 as we have it. The children of Israel got across there in a very quick hurry.

Verse 26: “And the LORD said to Moses, ‘Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the waters may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots, and upon their horsemen.’ And Moses stretched forth his hand over the sea. And the sea returned to its strength when the morning appeared. And the Egyptians tried to flee from it... [it was just right there at sunrise, and when it got lighter in the morning then it was] ...And the LORD overthrew the Egyptians in the middle of the sea.... [never to be found again] ...And the waters returned and covered the chariots and the horsemen, all the army of Pharaoh that came into the sea after them. There did not remain so much as one of them” (vs 26-28).

***When God does fight our battle for us, He does it completely. He doesn’t leave us to our own devices!*** We’ll see later on what happens when you use your own devices.

Verse 29: “But the children of Israel walked upon dry land through the middle of the sea. And the waters were a wall to them on their right hand and on their left. So, the LORD saved Israel that day out of the hand of the Egyptians. And Israel saw the Egyptians dead upon the seashore. And Israel saw that great work which the LORD did upon the Egyptians. And the people feared the LORD, and believed the LORD and His servant Moses” (vs 29-31).

Of course, they had quite a day of celebration, saying that God is a man of war, He has destroyed the Egyptians and He has saved us.

We need to have the same thing happen to us. We need God to intervene and fight our battles for us. Let’s see what happened when God told them to go in and look about the land. We find something here that’s very important and a tremendous lesson for us; a very important thing concerning the children of Israel and their relationship to God.

Let’s see the example here of how this would fit to us, and understand how it is that if we try and do it ***our way***, and we don’t believe God, then God is going to bring more difficulty upon us. That’s certainly something that we don’t want. ***IF*** we do it willingly God’s way, and we do it in a way that pleases Him, ***THEN He will fight our battles for us!***

Num. 13—here in we have the spies coming back and giving their report, and to assess about going into the ‘promised land.’ It tells how they came back, and they showed them all the fruit of the land. As a matter of fact, they said it was a land flowing with milk and honey.

Numbers 13:28: “However, the people that dwell in the land *are* strong, and the cities *are* walled, very great. And also we saw the children of Anak there.... [those were the giants] ...The Amalekites dwell in the land of the south, and the Hittites, and the Jebusites, and the Amorites dwell in the mountains. And the Canaanites dwell by the sea and by the riverside of Jordan.’ And Caleb stilled the people before Moses and said, ‘Let us go up at once and possess it, for we are well able to overcome it.’” (vs 28-30). *Caleb knew that with the help of God and the power of God they would be able to overcome all difficulties!*

Verse 31: “But the men that went up with him said, ‘We are not able to go up against the people, for they *are* stronger than we.’ And they brought up an evil report of the land which they had scouted out to the children of Israel, saying, ‘The land through which we have gone to scout it out, *is* a land that eats up those who live in it. And all the people whom we saw in it were men of great stature. And there we saw the giants, the children of Anak of the giants. And we were in our own sight like grasshoppers... [compared to them] ...and so we were in their sight’” (vs. 31-33).

Rather than saying, ‘Why you men, you brought this evil report. Now why do you do this?’ What happened? This is what happens when we look

to the circumstances and *our own means of doing things*.

- we get discouraged
- we complain
- we criticize

But more importantly when that happens, ***God is not with us to fight our battles for us!*** That's what we need to understand in it.

Numbers 14:1: "And all the congregation lifted up their voice and cried. And the people wept that night. And all the children of Israel murmured against Moses and against Aaron...."—*probably shaking their fists and crying to one another*; mothers saying their children are going to die, and we're just too weak; we don't have any weapons!

- How are we going to fight these cities against the giants, they're all walled up?
- How are we going to do it?"

"...And the whole congregation said to them, 'Oh that we had died in the land of Egypt! Or, Oh that we had died in the wilderness!'" (v 2). *That is a tremendous accusation against God!*

Whatever the trials or difficulties that come along, accept them as part of the thing that God is bringing you through. God had a greater plan for them. God could have overcome it, ***but they didn't want to trust God!***

You know it's very much like the Church today. The Church today gave up on the Sabbath and the Holy Days and began to do as the world does to call it a curse. Now look what has happened to them.

- God has left them
- God has rejected them
- God will not help them
- God will not fight their battles for them

*just like here with the children of Israel!*

Verse 3. "And why has the LORD brought us into this land to fall by the sword so that our wives and our children should be a prey? Would it not be better for us to return to Egypt?" And they said to one another, 'Let us make a leader, and let us return to Egypt'" (vs 3-4). *I mean, a full-fledged rebellion going on here!*

Verse 5: "And Moses and Aaron fell on their faces before all the assembly of the congregation of the children of Israel. And Joshua the son of Nun, and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, of those that searched the land, tore their clothes. And they spoke to all the company of the children of Israel saying,

"The land which we passed through to scout out is an exceedingly good land. If the LORD delights in us, then He will bring us into this land and give it to us, a land which flows with milk and honey. Only do not rebel against the LORD, neither fear the people of the land, for they are bread for us. Their protection has *been* removed from them, and **the LORD is with us. Do not fear them**" (vs 5-9).

Verse 10: "But all the congregation said to stone them with stones. And the glory of the LORD appeared in the tabernacle of the congregation before all the children of Israel. And the LORD said to Moses, 'How long will this people provoke Me? And how long will it be before they believe Me, for all the signs which I have shown among them? I will strike them with the pestilence and will disinherit them, and will make of you a greater nation and mightier than they'" (vs 10-12).

Well the long and the short was that Moses intervened and said, 'No, don't do that lest the heathen say you brought them out here to kill them.' God is longsuffering, merciful and kind, but what He's going to render judgment. He is going to take their judgment and put it upon their heads: ***all that rebelled, and all that complained against God would die in the wilderness and the children, which they said God was going to kill, He was going to let them live!***

Everyone over 20-years-old died in the remaining 38-½ years of wandering in the wilderness, because He gave a year for each day that they were searching out the land: 40 days. He gave a day of judgment against them that they *in disbelieving God* their carcasses would fall in the wilderness. Rather than fighting for them ***God fought against them***, and that's a tremendous lesson we need to learn. ***IF*** we don't let God fight our battles for us, and we take it into our hands, ***God is going to fight against us!*** We need to understand that in our Christian life of overcoming.

Let's see a summary of it and what they did, and here's a good example of the sorrow of the world, a carnal repentance, *which God will not accept*.

- once you reject God like they did
  - once you refuse to do the will of God
  - once you disbelieve God
  - once you reject His help
  - once you turn against Him
- and*
- God decides to give you judgment
  - God decides to fight against you

***Unless there is complete and total repentance and acceptance of the will of God, it is going to be an utter disaster!*** Look what happened here now when they said that they are going to go up.

Deuteronomy 1:41: “And you answered and said to me, ‘We have sinned against the LORD; we will go up and fight according to all that the LORD our God commanded us.’....”

Here’s the lesson: ***there comes a point when it can be too late!*** This sounds an awful like similar to the Parable of the Ten Virgins (Matt. 25). Five were wise, five were foolish, and here are the foolish of Israel. They said, ‘We’ll do it.’

“...And when each one of you had buckled on his weapons of war, you were ready to go up into the hill. But the LORD said to me, ‘Say to them, **“Do not go up, nor fight, for I am not among you...”**” (vs 41-42).

When you disbelieve God and you don’t trust in Him, *and you go by your own devices*, which all of us have done:

- Did God prosper it? *No!*
- Did God bless it? *No!*
- Did it fall flat on its face? *Yes!*
- Did we have to really then repent of it afterwards? *Absolutely!*

It’s the same thing here. ***God already rendered the judgment!*** It was too late for the sorrow of the world. It was too late to say, ‘We will obey.’ ***God had already given His judgment!*** He said, ‘I’m not with you.’

Verse 43: “So, I spoke to you. And you would not hear, but rebelled against the commandment of the LORD, and went presumptuously up into the hill. And the Amorites who lived in that mountain came out against you and chased you, even as bees do, and destroyed you in Seir, to Hormah. And you returned and wept before the LORD. **But the LORD would not hearken to your voice, nor give ear to you**” (vs 43-45).

Now you see what happens when you try and do your own way against the will of God, when you don’t let God fight your battles for you

Psa. 34 is kind of the theme of this last day of Unleavened Bread. ***God will fight your battles for you!*** This is great and marvelous. Therefore, we don’t have to worry. When a trial or difficulty comes, instead of accusing God, getting mad, getting all carnal and going out seeking to do your own will,

and you become discouraged and don’t pray and don’t study, that is the precise time

- to pray
- to study
- to draw close to God

*and say:*

- O God, I know this is a problem and difficulty and here’s the trial that is facing me
- please help me
- please give me wisdom and understanding
- please deliver me from these things
- please make a way of escape according to Your promise
- I’m trusting in Your Word

If you do that, isn’t that a much different approach to it than complaining and saying, ‘O God, why this, another trial to go through.’

- What if you have trials all the rest of your life?
- What are you going to do?
- Get mad and give up on God?
- Are you going to throw away eternal life because you have trials?

That’s the lesson of the children of Israel. They threw away the opportunity to enter into the ‘promised land,’ because they didn’t believe God. They had repentance that was too late and too sorry and ineffective.

Psalms 34:4: “I sought the LORD, **and He answered me...** [in your trial and time of troubles ***seek the Lord***] ...and **delivered me** from all my fears. They looked to Him and were radiant; and their faces were not ashamed. This poor man cried, and the LORD heard, and **saved him out of all his troubles**. The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear Him and delivers them” (vs 4-7). *The angel of the Lord is not around those who:*

- criticize Him
- ridicule Him
- complain
- don’t trust God
- disbelieve Him

***You drive away the Spirit of God! You drive away the angels of God!***

Verse 8: “O taste and see that the LORD is good...”—*this is tasting God by living and experience!* This is the Feast of Unleavened Bread. This is the whole Feast where we ***taste the way of God and live by it!*** We see that it is

- good
- right
- perfect
- wholesome
- the way that God wants

***If we have some trials that come along we have the greatest guarantee God will fight for us and deliver us out of all of our problems and troubles!***

Verse 15: “The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous...” *God is looking down here and He knows your circumstances! He knows the difficulties and things you’re going through!*

“...and His ears are open to their cry. The face of the LORD is against those who do evil...” (vs 15-16)—*and that’s what the children of Israel did!* They did evil so God had to end up fighting against them! Isn’t that something? What an absolute irony it is that the very people of God whom God said, ‘I will fight for you,’ ***disbelieved Him to the extent that He had to fight against them*** and become their enemy. Now what a shame that is. Brethren, may that not happen to us.

“...to cut off the memory of them from the earth. The righteous cry, and the LORD hears, and **delivers them out of all their troubles**. The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves those who are of a contrite spirit” (vs. 16-18). *That’s how we need to take these things and go through these things.*

Not with the attitude that carnal Israel had. That’s why it says even concerning the Sabbath with the Sabbath song: ‘Today, if you will hear His voice, harden not your hearts as in the day of the provocation.’ (Psa. 95).

- Will you open your heart?
- Will you open your mind?
- Will you ask God to give you a contrite spirit and a willing mind to serve Him?

Verse 19: “Many are the afflictions of the righteous...” We’re going to see that that is because we live in a world that is sinful all around us. We live in a world that is controlled by Satan the devil, and he is there to do things. He is there to turn things upside down against us.

“...but **the LORD delivers him out of them all**” (v 19). That’s three times that we are told God delivers us out of all our trials. Do you believe God? *If you do, God will fight your battles and deliver you, and He will save you!*

Verse 20: “He keeps all His bones; not one

of them is broken. Evil shall slay the wicked; and those who hate the righteous shall be condemned. The LORD redeems the soul of His servants; and none of them who take refuge in Him shall be condemned” (vs 20-22).

Now the whole part of the Feast of Unleavened Bread is to:

- get out sin
- get out vanity
- get out the self
- get out the self-willedness
  - to put in the unleavenedness of Christ
  - to put in the will of God
  - to put in the faith of God
  - to put in the trust of God
  - to put in the hope of God

***and let Him deliver us!*** That’s what the whole Feast of Unleavened Bread is about. On this last day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread it’s an important and a tremendous thing that we do.

There are many other examples that we could go through showing how God delivered Hezekiah. What God did with the repentance of Josiah. What God did for those who truly followed God. How God intervened and even helped Elijah recover from his discouragement so that he could continue and do the things that God wanted him to do. There are so many things, and so many lessons.

Psalms 18:1: “I love You, O LORD, my strength.” That’s why David was a man after God’s heart. He loved Him! He looked to Him! Granted, David had his sins and his problems just like we do. But if your heart is right and your attitude is right, notice:

Verse 2: “The LORD is my Rock...” That’s what Jesus said He was in the New Testament. We have to build on that Rock.

“...and my Fortress, and my Deliverer; my God, my Rock **in Whom I take refuge**... [notice how trust in God and responsiveness from God go hand-in-hand] ...He is my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my high tower. I will call on the LORD, Who is worthy to be praised, so shall I be saved from my enemies. The cords of death hemmed me in, and the floods of ungodliness assailed me. The cords of the grave surrounded me; the snares of death confronted me. In my distress I called on the LORD, and I cried to my God; He heard my voice out of His temple, and my cry came before Him into His ears.... [then God acted in such a way] ...Then the earth shook and trembled; and the foundations

also of the hills ...”(vs 2-7)—*and showed how all it was that God intervening to help and fight for David!*

Let’s come over here and see the lesson that is learned from this, v 21: “For I have kept the ways of the LORD, and have not wickedly departed from my God... [David trusted in Him] ... all His ordinances were before me... [never took his mind off of God’s way] ...and I did not put away His statutes from me. I was also blameless before Him, and I kept myself from my iniquity” (vs 21-23).

Verse 27: “For You will save the afflicted people, but the haughty eyes you will bring low... [the high and mighty are coming down] ...for You will light my lamp; the LORD my God will make my darkness light... [in other words, make a way to show you the way] ...for by You I have run through a troop; and by my God I have leaped over a wall” (vs. 27-29).

That is showing that he was able to accomplish what would be considered by other people impossible, you see. Nothing is impossible with God. *All things are possible!* God can help! God can deliver! **God will!** But it is His will to put us through the trials and the difficulties that we go through so that:

- we can learn character
- we can learn trust
- we can learn humility
- we can learn the total Christian life of unleavenedness before Him

Here’s what he learned, v 30: “As for God, **His way is perfect**; the Word of the LORD is tried. He is a shield to all those who take refuge in Him.”—*a defense!* **If you don’t trust in Him He won’t defend you!**

Verse 31: “For who is God besides the LORD? Or, who is a Rock except our God? The God who girds me with strength and makes my way perfect, Who makes my feet like hinds’ feet, and sets me on my high places. He trains my hands for battle, so that my arms can bend a bow of bronze. You have also given me the shield of Your salvation; and Your right hand has held me up, and Your gentleness has made me great” (vs. 31-35).

We will see how that applies in just a little bit in the New Testament. Psa. 27 is another one showing God:

- intervening
- helping
- delivering

- fighting

*looking to God in everything, and in every way!* And if we do that then God will surely be with us in everything.

When you go before God and present to Him a problem that you have, get the encouragement from the Psalms so that you can have this attitude also so that will glorify God. Look at it as a challenge to you individually that **God will fight your battle for you!** There are some things that you cannot figure out on your own. There are many times when we go through trials that if we try and work it out our way, it’s not going to work just like it didn’t work with the children of Israel. Notice David’s attitude here:

Psalm 27:1: “The LORD is my Light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?...” *The truth is, you don’t have to be afraid of anything or anyone or any circumstances!* What you need to do is worship God in awe and fear and love from the heart.

Verse 2: “When the wicked, my enemies and my foes, came upon me to eat up my flesh, they stumbled and fell. Though an army should encamp against me, my heart shall not be afraid; though war should rise against me, even then I will be confident. One thing I have desired from the LORD, that I will seek after...” (vs 2-4).

Here’s how you keep your perspective always: **You keep your eye on the ultimate goal just like David did!**

- Why are you here?
- Why has God called you?
- Where are you going?
- What is God going to give you?

Notice, he answered it right here, v 4: “One thing I have desired from the LORD, that I will seek after... [in all these trials and difficulties] ...that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in His temple, for in the time of trouble He shall hide me in His pavilion, in the secret place of His tabernacle He shall hide me; He shall set me upon a rock” (vs 4-5). *That’s what to look to; that’s the kind of attitude that we need!*

Verse 6: “And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies round about me; therefore, I will offer sacrifices with shouts of joy in His tabernacle. I will sing; yea, I will sing praises unto the LORD. Hear, O LORD, when I cry with my voice; and be gracious unto me and answer me” (vs 6-7)—*and He did!*

Here's what it's going to result in, v 11: "Teach me Your way, O LORD..." *That's the whole theme of the Feast of Unleavened Bread!* Not our way, which is filled with sin and leaven, *but God's way, which is filled with righteousness and unleavenedness!*

"...and lead me in a level path because of my enemies. Deliver me not over to the will of my enemies... [God won't do that if you're trusting in Him] ...for false witnesses have risen up against me, and he that breathes out violence.... [these are part of the words of Christ] ...I would have fainted unless I had believed that I would see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living. Wait for the LORD..." (vs 11-14). Same message as Exo. 14: **'Stand still, see the salvation of the LORD.'**

Verse 14: "Wait on the LORD; be of good courage, and He shall make your heart strong; yea, wait, I say, *wait* on the LORD."

Now let's come to the New Testament and see the battles that we are to fight. These are the battles concerning Satan and the world, which we need to overcome, and the battles concerning the self, and how we overcome the self.

Let's see the battles that we are fighting, because Satan is fighting against the Church. He's accusing us day and night before our God. He is accusing us of all of our sins and all of our weaknesses, but we overcome him with the blood of the Lamb, and the word of our testimony, and we love not our lives unto death. ***That's how we overcome!***

Eph. 6—here are the tools that we are to use in this battle, and notice how similar this is to Exo. 14 when Moses told the people to 'stand still, see the salvation of the LORD.' Who was coming after them but Pharaoh and all of his soldiers! That's just like Satan and all of the demons. So, we have the parallel: Old Testament and New Testament.

Ephesians 6:10—Paul says: "Finally, my brethren, be strong in *the* Lord..."

- you may be weak in the flesh
- you may be old
- you maybe feeble

***but you can be strong in the Lord!*** That's how to do it!

- don't rely on your own strength
- don't rely on your own devices
- don't rely on your own ways

*because if you do **then** you are a ready target for Satan to pick you off!*

"...and in the might of His strength. Put on the whole armor of God..." (vs 10-11)—that whole armor of God comes

- from prayer
- through study
- through fasting
- through living
- through letting the Holy Spirit lead you

*That whole armor is called a panoply, it covers you just like an all encompassing shield and here's what it does!*

"...so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil... [or the subtleties that he has, that he brings upon you] ...because we are not wrestling against flesh and blood..." (vs 11-12)—*because we have our own flesh and blood to battle against in other people that we have to also be confronted with to overcome in our relationships with people!* Sometimes that will happen! But we are battling against or wrestling against:

"...but against principalities... [those are the chief demons of Satan the devil] ... **and against powers, against the world rulers of the darkness of this age...**" (v 12).

As we go down through this occult age, which is coming and building up to the time of the end where the whole world is going to worship Satan the devil, ***we are going to be walking in a world of darkness more than ever before*** and:

- we need the light of God
- we need the protection of God
- we need the power of God
- we need to have the whole defense of God covering us

**"...against the spiritual power of wickedness in high places"** (v 12).

There are two ways to translate this: against wicked spirits in high places, which is true. They are the ones who are leading the institutions of the world. Satan rules the world. Also, this is against wickedness of spiritualities. In other words, not only just the demons, but wicked spiritual attitudes that are out there.

Here's what we are to do, 13: "Therefore, take up the whole armor of God..." ***We are to be actively involved in this:***

- not complaining
- not going against God

- not feeling sorry for ourselves

***But looking to God in strength and hope, knowing that He will fight our battles for us!***

“...so that you may be able to resist in the evil day... [any day that you’re having a trial and difficulty, not just the time of the end] ...and having worked out all things, to stand” (vs. 13). Just like Moses told the children of Israel, ‘**Stand still and see the salvation of God!**’

Verse 14: “**Stand**, therefore, having your loins girded about with Truth...” Take the Word of God and make it such a part of you that it is just like your loins are covered with Truth, *because*:

- you know all the laws of God
- you know all the commandments of God
- you know the Truth of God
- you know the Truth of the plan of God
- you know the Truth of the salvation of God
- you know the Truth of your ultimate destiny

Let that strengthen you because your loins are very important because an enemy can come in and with an arrow, just like it happened with Josiah, right into a weak part where the armor wasn’t and he died.

Likewise an arrow, or putting a knife under the fifth rib, as it were; it just takes one stab wound into the heart and you’re a dead duck, physically speaking.

Verse 14: “Stand, therefore, having your loins girded about with Truth... [to protect all of your inward parts] ...and **wearing the breastplate of righteousness.**”

Not only that, but to cover that you have your loins gird with Truth, then you have the breastplate of righteousness. What is the righteousness that God gives us? *It is the imputed righteousness of Christ! It is the perfect gift of righteousness that God gives that we live in that.* That we have applied to us, that we ask God to help us to grow and overcome in it.

Verse 15: “And having your feet shod with the preparation of the Gospel of Peace.” (vs. 15). ***Always walking in God’s way! Always living in the gospel of Christ!***

Being able to have that testimony within you that you also give to other people. That’s all a part of growing and overcoming. You’re not to make yourself obnoxious like the Protestants do, but if someone asks you a question give them the answer. There are some who, they were asked, ‘Why do you keep the Sabbath?’ Well they said, ‘It’s a little more

complicated than you think,’ so they gave them the first four tapes on the Holy Sabbath. Some of these people have been called and converted as a result of that. {Note sermon series: *The Holy Sabbath*}

A woman also gave *The Christian Passover* book to someone and now she’s all excited about the Sabbath and the Holy Days. She said, ‘I want to know about the Holy Days.’ Listen, brethren, you can have your own preparation of the Gospel of Peace that you’re walking in to help and serve other people. That’s part of the testimony that you have for Christ, that God is God and Christ is Christ. There’s nothing wrong with that. That’s perfectly right, as a matter of fact. That is right, that is good, and that is proper. That is something that you should do. Sometimes you’re going to be rebuffed. Well that’s just all part of it.

Verse 16: “Besides all *these*, take up **the shield of the faith**, with which you will have the power to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one.”

What you do it’s like being in battle. You’re watching the arrows come, and you’re going BING! BING! BING! turning them away so they don’t get to you. That’s why when you’re seeing things that are evil and wrong on television, you take the remote and you click it out of the way and get it out of your mind so you’re not polluting your mind with it. Keep your mind on Christ, because a lot of the fiery darts of the wicked one for lust and temptation come right through that ‘boob-tube’ in your living room. Now then, you’re stuck with the thought in your mind.

Verse 17: “And put on **the helmet of salvation...**” {Note sermon series: *The Heart/Mind Connection*} ***Guard your heart with all diligence, for out of it are the issue of life!*** That’s why you have **the helmet of salvation** so that you protect your mind and your thoughts. That’s how you do it, by ***always keeping your mind on the goal of being in the Kingdom of God!***

- never wavering
- never giving up
- never backing down on it
- never giving in to discouragement’s or letting down.

“...and the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God” (v 17). *That’s why you are:*

- to know the Word of God
- to understand the Word of God
- to live the Word of God

- to let it be such a part of your heart, mind, soul and being that that's:
  - ✓ how you think
  - ✓ how you live
  - ✓ how you walk

It doesn't make you, as the world would think, as a religious freak, because as we are going to see, ***the best way to overcome is using the love of God!*** That is the ultimate in overcoming.

Verse 18: "Praying at all times... [not just whenever, but always] ...with all prayer and supplication in *the* Spirit, and in this very thing being watchful with all perseverance... [endurance and continuing at it and never letting up] ...and supplication for all the saints."

When that happens brethren, and when we do that, God is going to do what ever He desires to do, but:

- we have to be ***ready***
- we have to be ***willing***
- we have to be ***unleavened***
- we have to ***let Him fight our battles for us*** so that we can see what we need to do and how we need to do it
- we need to stand and have ***all the armor of God***

Here's how we are to overcome our personal problems as we apply the Word of God and live our lives.

Ephesians 4:17: "So then, I declare and testify this in *the* Lord that you are no longer to walk even as the rest of *the* Gentiles are walking, in *the* vanity of their minds... [What happens to them?] ... having *their* understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the hardness of their hearts" (vs 17-18).

***We don't go back and be conformed to the world!*** That's the whole lesson of the Feast of Unleavened Bread. We are ***called out of*** the world. We are ***led out of*** the world. That's why the Exodus took place, started during the Feast of Unleavened Bread, to show that you are coming out of the world, and out of these things.

Verse 19: "They have cast off all feelings, and have given themselves up to licentiousness, to work every uncleanness with insatiable desire. But you have not so learned Christ..." (vs 19-20). *Here is a great, great lesson!*

***You can't take the ways of the world and***

***wrap them into Christian living!*** Too many people have done that with psychology and sociology. They try and make it acceptable, but that is Satan's way ***not God's way!*** You can't crossbreed psychology and the Word of God. The Word of God has it's own method of what people might say is psychology, which is different from the world.

Verse 22: "That concerning your former conduct, you ***put off*** the old man... [just like it is putting out leaven] ...which is corrupt according to deceitful lusts; and that you be renewed..." (vs 22-23).

- that renewal is every year.
- that renewal is every month
- that renewal is every week
- that renewal is every day

***But especially during the Feast of Unleavened Bread; we are to let this to be a renewal, a rededication to God!***

But "...be renewed in the spirit of your mind; and that you put on the new man, which according to God is created in righteousness and Holiness of the Truth" (vs. 23-24).

You let God work in you to create in you that new man in true righteousness and Holiness

- by the Spirit of God
- by the Word of God
- by the love of God

***to do the things that that He wants!*** That's how it's accomplished. We also have some putting off to do; we put off concerning the former the conduct.

Verse 25: "Therefore, let each one put away lies and speak the truth with his neighbor because we are members of one another. *When* you become angry, do not sin.... [don't have the anger of the world to where you sin] ...Do not let the sun go down on your anger" (vs 25-26).

Never go to bed mad, because all you're going to do is toss and turn and writhe in your own self-pity and bitterness. Just like the children of Israel, what did they do when they got the news about the 'promised land,' and how tall the inhabitants were, and how great the cities were walled up. What happened? ***They cried all night!*** Likewise with you, don't let the sun go down on your wrath. It's important to understand, ***do not carry the sin of today into tomorrow!*** And don't go back and re-listen to it and rehash it and relive it. Go repent and forget it and put it aside, because tomorrow is a new day, and tomorrow is a new start.

Verse 27: "Neither give place to the devil."  
How do you give place to the devil?

- by boo-hoing just like the children of Israel
- by accusing God. By accounting God's way as evil

***That's how you give place to the devil!***

Verse 28: "Let the one who stole, steal no more; rather, let him labor with *his* hands, working at what *is* good, so that he may impart *something* to the one who has need. Do not let any corrupt communication come out of your mouth..." (vs 28-29). *That's a constant thing of needing to grow in and overcome!*

"...but that which is good and needful for edification that it may give grace to those who hear" (v 29). In other words:

- to encourage them
- to uplift them
- to inspire them

*That's something that God wants us to do!* God wants us to be inspired to be in the Kingdom of God. To be edified and uplifted that we want to get into it, you see.

Verse 30: "And do not vex... [grieve] ...the Holy Spirit of God..."—*by going out and sinning!* The reason is that ***we are sealed with it until the day of redemption!***

Verse 31: "Let all bitterness, and indignation, and wrath, and clamor, and evil speaking be removed from you, together with all malice."

In other words, if you walk by the Spirit, you will not fulfill the lust of the flesh. All of these things are the lust of the flesh.

Verse 32: "And be kind *and* tenderhearted toward one another, forgiving one another, even as God has also in Christ forgiven you." *It wasn't for your sake* that you were forgiven; it was ***for Christ's sake***, because He died for you. Do you understand and realize that?

In Col. 3 we have the same thing: to put off carnality, to put on righteousness. Colossians 3:8: "But now, you should also put off all *these* things..." *We are to get rid of these behaviors!*

This is the thing that takes time. This is a lifetime of overcoming. We all have to admit that we haven't arrived, yet; because as we are in the flesh, we still have human nature. As long as we have *the*

*law of sin and death* within us, we need to be aware of these things and be working to put them off. We are going to have our triumphs and we're going to have our failures, but ***we never need to give up!***

"...put off all *these* things: wrath, indignation, malice, blasphemy, *and* foul language from your mouth" (v 8). Here is kind of a repetition of what we covered in Eph 4.

Verse 9: "Do not lie to one another, *seeing that* you have put off the old man together with his deeds, and have put on the new man, who *is* being renewed in knowledge according to *the* image of Him Who created him" (vs 9-10).

Once you get that out all these things that you're to put off is the leaven to get out, and to put in the unleavenedness of righteousness.

Verse 12: "Put on then, as *the* elect of God, Holy and beloved, deep inner affections, kindness, humility, meekness *and* long-suffering... [all fruits of the Holy Spirit] ...forbearing one another... [don't be so quick to judge or condemn] ...and forgiving one another if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so also you *should forgive*. And above all these things *put on* love, which is *the* bond of perfection" (vs 12-14).

We will see when you do that you will be able to overcome greatly because ***it is the love of God***, which is:

- the greatest thing
- the greatest weapon
- the greatest tool

Verse 15: "And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which you were called into one body, and be thankful. Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly..." (vs 15-16). *That is being filled with the unleavenedness of Christ*, and that is what we need to constantly do.

Let's see how we are to do this. There is a process that the Bible reveals on how we grow and overcome and cast out these thoughts, put in the right thoughts, how to recognize them, what we need to do with them, and to put it all together. This is all a part of Christ fighting our battles for us. If we use the Spirit of God within us, and we use the Word of God to fight these battles and do it this way, ***then God is fighting our battles for us because He's leading us with His Spirit!***

2-Corinthians 10:3: "For although we walk in *the* flesh, we do not war according to *the* flesh."

- you can't overcome spiritual things by physical means
- you can't overcome spiritual things by carnal or fleshly means

Verse 4: "For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the overthrowing of strongholds." *That's where it needs to begin!*

Do you have some parts of your mind that you might consider a stronghold that has a hold upon you? That is very difficult to bring under control? *You have to cast it down!*

Verse 5: "Casting down *vain* imaginations... [that's where all sin begins] ...and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought into the obedience of Christ." *That's what it needs to be! That is how you do it!*

Bring every thought into captivity so when something comes along that is a temptation or that is a sin, that is a wrong thought, you just immediately in your own thoughts grab that and cast it down. Ask God:

- to help you
- to strengthen you
- to forgive you
- to get it out of your heart and mind

You have to cast it down, and you bring every thought into the obedience of Christ, which is:

- love
- joy
- peace
- longsuffering
- gentleness
- goodness
- kindness
- meekness
- temperance

***Against such there is no law!***

Verse 6: "And having a readiness to avenge all disobedience, whenever your obedience has been fulfilled." *That's how you do it!*

Let's understand how these things come so you can recognize them, and how you can begin to put these things out.

James 1:13: "Do not let anyone who is tempted say, 'I am being tempted by God,' because God is not tempted by evil, and He Himself tempts

no one *with evil.*" *He sets before you choices: good and evil, righteousness and sin. He says to choose!*

Verse 14: "But each one is tempted when he is drawn away and is enticed by his own lust."

So these things, the fiery darts and missiles of Satan the devil come flying in to tempt you. When you are drawn away with your own lust...it appeals to your lust and you'll just say, 'Well now, that's interesting, let me...' Now your lust is being involved here and enticed, so there's an entrapment. At any point here

- when the temptation comes
- when the lust rises up
- when the enticement is there

***you can bring that into captivity and cast it down!***  
Cast down that imagination, cast down that thought and bring every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ. If you don't here's what happens:

Verse 15: "And after lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin..." Of this whole process that I have described, ***temptation is not a sin!*** An evil thought of lust coming into your mind is not sin ***IF*** you cast it down and get rid of it. It can be sin ***IF*** you are enticed and let it develop and grow and conceive and then it brings forth sin. We are talking about how to overcome ***before*** you sin and all of this is part of the mind of Christ.

Let's see how that love is the perfect way to overcome. That's why we stress the love of God, that Jesus said the first and primary and most important commandment is that you are to ***love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all of your strength,*** because this is how you overcome.

Then that leads to the second love of loving your neighbor as yourself. And then with God's Spirit in you that leads to the third love of loving the brethren as Christ has loved us, and we are to love each other that way.

I think the greatest point of leaven that we have in the Church of God today—all the churches wherever they are—that too many brethren are so busy-bodied in going along with their own carnality and their own doctrines and their own self-willed way that they are hating one another, and squabbling against one another and what is happening? *They are devouring one another* as Paul said (Gal. 5). So, ***love is the perfect way out of this!***

1 Corinthians 13:1: "***If*** I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but do not have love,

**I have become** a sounding brass or a clanging cymbal.”

In other words, when your vanity gets so overwhelming, you become a thing not a person. That’s what it’s talking about. You have no regard for it. But if you have love and that love comes from God then you can overcome being that.

Verse 2: “**If** I have *the gift of prophecy*... [everybody loves prophecy] ...and understand all mysteries... [people want to know mysteries] ...and all knowledge... [all want to have knowledge] ...and **if** I have all faith... [everyone wants to have all faith] ...so as to remove mountains, **but do not have love, I am nothing.**”

You can be guaranteed this: that if you grow and overcome in love then you will have the faith. Then you will have all of these things that is being described here.

Verse 3: “**If** I give away all my goods...” The *King James* adds the words *to the poor*, but it doesn’t mean that. You can give away your goods for all kinds of causes.

“...and **if** I deliver up my body that I may be burned... [a total human sacrifice] ...but do not have love, I have gained nothing.... [because it’s vanity] ...Love is patient *and* is kind...” (vs 3-4). See how you overcome?

- **IF** you have the love of God you will learn patience
- **IF** you have the love of God you will learn kindness
- **IF** you bring all of the thoughts and the captivity to the obedience of Christ
- **THEN** you have the love of God

“...love envies not, does not brag about itself, is not puffed up” (v 4). *You won’t be self-centered; you will be Christ-centered!* You will be happy when other brethren are able to succeed and go ahead and do whatever it may be.

Verse 5: “*Love* does not behave disgracefully...” You will have the right behavior. There won’t be these embarrassments.

“...does not seek its own things...” (v 5). In other words, it doesn’t have a secret hidden agenda. I think that’s the biggest problem within individual brethren and ministers, they have hidden agendas. They have something that is their own. They are not willing to repent of that last vestige of themselves, to give themselves to Christ completely. So, they’re still seeking their own. The love of God helps you to overcome that.

“...is not easily provoked...” (v 5). With the love of God you’re able to control anger, resist the temptation of getting in there to do your own thing, and your own restitution.

“...thinks no evil” (v 5). *That will help you overcome evil thoughts!* And this means *imputing motives* to other people.

Verse 6: “Does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the Truth.” Why? *Because it’s always seeking the Truth, and it knows that iniquity brings sorrow and sin!*

Verse 7: “*Love* bears all things...”—*meaning that you can go through any trial, any difficulty, any problem, and you can bear all things because you know that the Lord will deliver you out of all your troubles!*

“...believes all things... [of God that is right and good and true] ...hopes all things...” (v 7). Always remember one thing: **regardless of how bad the situation is, as long as there is life there is hope!** Go back and look at the example of Abraham, who against hope *hoped in hope*. Why? *Because he had the love of God!*

“...endures all things. Love never fails...” (vs 7-8). So, this is the perfect ingredient for overcoming. **IF**

- you love God
- love the Truth
- love His Word
- love the brethren
- love your husband
- love your wife
- love your children

***you’ll overcome as never before because it never fails!***

“...But whether *there be* prophecies, they shall cease...” (v 8)—*which people strive after!* These are the prophecies of men. ***They fail!***

“...whether *there be* languages, they shall cease...” (v 8). When we’re born into the Kingdom of God we’re going to have a new spirit language.

“...whether *there be* knowledge, it shall vanish away... [and be replaced with the greatest knowledge of God] ...For we know in part, and we prophesy in part; but when that which is Perfect has come, then that which is in part shall be set aside. When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I understood as a child, I reasoned as a child; but when I became a man, I set aside the things of a child” (vs 8-11).

That's what we need to do brethren. *We need to grow up in Christ*, and put away all these childish and carnal and silly and foolish things that we do.

- that's how we overcome
- that's how Christ fights the battle for us
- that's how we do the things that are right before God

What a wonderful thing that God has made that we can overcome and grow like this. What a wonderful thing that there is not a single obstacle or anything to hold us back. *Nothing!* We then are more than conquerors!

Verse 12: "For now we see through a glass darkly, but then *we shall see* face-to-face; now I know in part, but then I shall know exactly as I have been known. And now, these three remain: faith, hope *and* love; but the greatest of these *is* love" (vs 12-13). *That's why it's so important!*

Now let's how this applies in overcoming all our troubles. As this Feast of Unleavened Bread comes to an end and we continue on in the world and continue on in growing and overcoming and living our Christian lives, and go through the trials and difficulties that we do, *we have to understand that God will fight our battles for us and there can be nothing against us!*

Romans 8:28: "And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God... [on a continuous ongoing basis] ...to those who are called according to *His* purpose, because those whom He did foreknow He also predestinated *to be* conformed to the image of His own Son... [if you get discouraged, think on this verse] ...that He might be *the* Firstborn among many brethren. Now, whom He predestinated, these He also called; and whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified" (vs 28-30).

You've been glorified with the Spirit of God now, you will be glorified with the full measure of the Spirit of God at the resurrection.

Verse 31: "What then shall we say to these things? If God *is* for us, who *can be* against us?... [*nothing can be against us*] ...He Who did not spare even His own Son, but gave Him up for us all, how shall He not also grant us all things together with Him? Who shall bring an accusation against *the* elect of God? God *is the One* Who justifies. Who *is* the one that condemns?... [even judgments and accusations against us cannot stand] ...*It is* Christ Who died, but rather, Who is raised again, Who is even *now* at *the* right hand of God, *and* Who is also

making intercession for us" (vs 31-34). *That's why Christ will fight our battles for us!*

Verse 35: "What shall separate us from the love of Christ?... [because you see that's the greatest in overcoming] ...*Shall* tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? Accordingly, it is written, 'For Your sake we are killed all the day long; we are reckoned as sheep for *the* slaughter.' But in all these things we are more than conquerors... [overcomers] ...through Him Who loved us" (vs 35-37). *That's how Christ fights our battles for us, because we love Him and He loves us!*

This is the persuasion that we need, and notice how different this is from the children of Israel who complained and criticized.

Verse 38: "For I am persuaded that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which *is* in Christ Jesus our Lord" (vs 38-39).

*So, brethren, in your life: stand still and see the glory of the Lord! He shall fight for you and deliver you out of all your troubles!*

Scriptures from *The Holy Bible in Its Original Order, A Faithful Version*

#### Scriptural References:

- 1) Exodus 13:17-22
- 2) Exodus 14:1-31
- 3) Numbers 13:28-33
- 4) Numbers 14:1-12
- 5) Deuteronomy 1:41-45
- 6) Psalm 34:4-8, 15-22
- 7) Psalm 18:1-7, 21-35
- 8) Psalm 27:1-7, 11-14
- 9) Ephesians 6:10-18
- 10) Ephesians 4:17-20, 22-32
- 11) Colossians 3:8-16
- 12) 2 Corinthians 10:3-6
- 13) James 1:13-15
- 14) 1 Corinthians 13:1-13
- 15) Romans 8:28-39

#### Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- Deuteronomy 8
- Matthew 25
- Psalm 95
- Galatians 5

Also referenced:

Sermon Series:

- *The Holy Sabbath*
- *The Heart/Mind Connection*

Book: *The Christian Passover* by Fred R. Coulter

FRC:

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