

# The Exodus Series – Matters of Military and Ministry

## Who is Amalek and who are the Amalekites?

- Amalek was the grandson of Essau and a great-grandson of Isaac.

### **Genesis 25:20 - 23**

**20** and Isaac was forty years old when he took Rebekah, the daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan-aram, the sister of Laban the Aramean, to be his wife.

**21** And Isaac prayed to the LORD for his wife, because she was barren. And the LORD granted his prayer, and Rebekah his wife conceived.

**22** The children struggled together within her, and she said, “If it is thus, why is this happening to me?” So she went to inquire of the LORD.

**23** And the LORD said to her, “Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples from within you shall be divided; the one shall be stronger than the other, the older shall serve the younger.”

**Genesis 36:12a** (Timna was a concubine of Eliphaz, Esau's son; she bore Amalek to Eliphaz.)

- They inhabited the northern Sinai Peninsula (**Genesis 14:7; Numbers 13:29**).

**Numbers 24:20** Then he looked on Amalek and took up his discourse and said, “Amalek was the first among the nations, but its end is utter destruction.”

### **Deuteronomy 25:17 – 19**

**17** “Remember what Amalek did to you on the way as you came out of Egypt,

**18** how he attacked you on the way when you were faint and weary, and cut off your tail, those who were lagging behind you, and he did not fear God.

**19** Therefore when the LORD your God has given you rest from all your enemies around you, in the land that the LORD your God is giving you for an inheritance to possess, you shall blot out the memory of Amalek from under heaven; you shall not forget.

- Amalek will attack Israel again a year later (**Numbers 14:43-45**)
  - The struggles with the Amalekites continued after Israel crossed the Jordan against both Saul and David (**1st Samuel 15** and **30**).
  - Infamously the villain Haman of **Esther** was an Amalekite.

## **Raised hands are a prayer posture throughout the Bible:**

**Exodus 9:29** Moses said to him, “As soon as I have gone out of the city, I will stretch out my hands to the LORD. The thunder will cease, and there will be no more hail, so that you may know that the earth is the LORD's.

### **Psalms 63:3 - 4**

**3** Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you.

**4** So I will bless you as long as I live; in your name I will lift up my hands.

**Psalms 141:2** Let my prayer be counted as incense before you, and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice!

**1st Timothy 2:8** I desire then that in every place the men should pray, lifting holy hands without anger or quarreling;

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## Who is Hur?

- Hur will become one of the faithful elders from among the people.

**Exodus 24:14** And he said to the elders, “Wait here for us until we return to you. And behold, Aaron and Hur are with you. Whoever has a dispute, let him go to them.”

- Additionally, Hur has a grandson who will be very important toward the end of **Exodus**.
  - His name is Bezaleel - and he will be the primary craftsman to assemble the tabernacle.

### **Exodus 31:2 - 5**

**2** See, I have called by name Bezaleel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah

**3** and I have filled him with the Spirit of God, with ability and intelligence, with knowledge and all craftsmanship,

**4** to devise artistic designs, to work in gold, silver, and bronze,

**5** in cutting stones for setting, and in carving wood, to work in every craft.

## Christ is the True and Better Intercessor

### **Hebrews 7:25 – 26**

**25** Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.

**26** For it was indeed fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, innocent, unstained, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens.

**Romans 8:34** Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.

**Isaiah 11:10** In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal (banner) for the peoples—of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.

## The Plurality of Eldership in the New Covenant

- The New Testament shows us how we should understand shared ministry as Christians.
  - A healthy church community has a plurality of qualified elders who care for the flock (**Acts 20:17; 1st Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-9; 1st Peter 5:1-4**).
- Elders do not do everything. They oversee the ministry of the church.
  - Their job is to equip God’s people to altogether do the work of the ministry (**Ephesians 4:11-16**).
  - In the church, every member is called to ministry (**1st Peter 4:10-11**)
- Elders are your servants, but Christ is their master. It is to him they will give account. So, they are to be obeyed, and submitted to, and their faith is to be imitated. (**Hebrews 13:7, 17**)