Introduction: About two months after leaving Egypt, Amalek attacks God’ s people. The nation of Israel was tired and weary. This was the first time an opposing army came up against Israel in the wilderness.

**8 Now Amalek came and fought with Israel in Rephidim. 9 And Moses said to Joshua, “Choose us some 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.” 10 So Joshua did as Moses said to him, and fought with Amalek. And Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to the top of the hill. 11 And so it was, when Moses held up his hand, that Israel prevailed; and when he let down his hand, Amalek prevailed. 12 But Moses’ hands became heavy; so they took a stone and put it under him, and he sat on it. And Aaron and Hur supported his hands, one on one side, and the other on the other side; and his hands were steady until the going down of the sun. 13 So Joshua defeated Amalek and his people with the edge of the sword.**

**14 Then the LORD said to Moses, “Write this for a memorial in the book and recount it in the hearing of Joshua, that I will utterly blot out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven.” 15 And Moses built an altar and called its name, The-LORD-Is-My-Banner; 16 for he said, “Because the LORD has sworn: the LORD will have war with Amalek from generation to generation.” Exodus 17:8-16**

**7 “Remember what Amalek did to you on the way as you were coming out of Egypt, 18 how he met you on the way and attacked your rear ranks, all the stragglers at your rear, when you were tired and weary; and he did not fear God. Deuteronomy 25:17-18**

**I) The Event**

**A) Amalek- the most powerful of the Peninsula people.**

**B) This is the first mention of a young man named Joshua.**

**C) Moses went out with Aaron and Hur, and the rod of God.**

1. Aaron was the mouth piece of Moses, and was to be the High Priest.

2. Hur was of the Tribe of JOdah, his son was one of the craftsmen.

**And Moses said to the children of Israel, “See, the LORD has called by name Bezalel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah; 31 and He has filled him with the Spirit of God, in wisdom and understanding, in knowledge and all manner of workmanship, 32 to design artistic works, to work in gold and silver and bronze, 33 in cutting jewels for setting, in carving wood, and to work in all manner of artistic workmanship. Exodus 35:30-33**

3. God used the rod a number of times.

a. It turned into a snake, **Exodus 7.9-12**

b. Used to turn the water in the Nile River into blood in the first plague, **Exodus 7.19-20**.

c. Used as the Red Sea was parted, **Exodus 14.16**

4. Obviously the rod was simply an instrument God was using to accomplish His will.

a. Later on, David spoke of the rod of God as a rod of comfort, **Psalm 23.4**

b. We can speak of the word of God as God’s instrument to teach us, correct us, and protect us.

**17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; Ephesians 6:17**

**II) The Lifting Up of God’s Hands**

**A) Moses had a responsibility which God had placed on Him.**

1. His hands lifted up the rod of God, when his hands were up, Israel prevailed. Otherwise, they would lose.

a. Lives were at stake, this was serious business.

b. The same for us today. Our lives affects the souls of other people; our souls, our children’s souls, love ones, neighbors, friends, etc.

**B) The Bible speaks of Christians lifting up their hands toward God.**

1. Holy hands, 1 Timothy 2.8 (having pure lives, without sin, with faith).

2. We cannot expect God to aid us if we live impure lives.

**C) There are a lot of battles we will face.**

1. Christians are going to be attacked on different sides in different ways.

**For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. 4 For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, 5 casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ, 6 and being ready to punish all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled. 2 Corinthians 10:3-6**

2. Personal (internal battles) – sins of the flesh, discouragement, lack of faith.

**III) Moses God Tired**

**A) The day grew long and his arms got tired, he sat on a rock, then Aaron and Hur lifted up his hands.**

1. People’s hands will get tired, especially if they are by themselves.

a. Elders have to get tired of going to see people in sin, people complaining.

b. Wives – thinking of others, teaching, homemaking, doing without.

c. Husbands – working to provide, time and energy.

d. Young Christians – things they cannot do, being different, being ridiculed.

2. All Christians need encouragement.

**24 And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, Hebrews 10:24**

**IV) Are You and I Helping to Lift Up the Hands of Others?**

**A) Praying for one another.**

**1 Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may run swiftly and be glorified, just as it is with you, 2 Thessalonians 3:1**

**B) To help those who are not faithful.**

**22 And on some have compassion, making a distinction; 23 but others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire, hating even the garment defiled by the flesh. Jude 1:22-23**

**C) Help in times of physical need, Acts 4.36-37**

1. Ever been hungry and no food, sick and needed help with the kids?

2. Help mowing the yard, polishing the shoes, etc.

**D) By standing with those who are standing for the truth.**

1. People like Priscilla and Aquila.

**Greet Priscilla and Aquila, my fellow workers in Christ Jesus, 4 who risked their own necks for my life, to whom not only I give thanks, Romans 16:3-4**

2.Be a Barnabas.

**27 But Barnabas took him and brought him to the apostles. And he declared to them how he had seen the Lord on the road, and that He had spoken to him, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. Acts 9:27**

Conclusion: We need to be lifting up each other’s hands.