

TUESDAY

October 21

The Lord Is a Warrior

Read Exodus 2:23–25; Exodus 12:12, 13; and Exodus 15:3–11.

What does it mean that God is a warrior?

EXODUS 2:23–25

And it came to pass in process of time, that the king of Egypt died: and the children of Israel sighed by reason of the bondage, and they cried, and their cry came up unto God by reason of the bondage. And God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob. And God looked upon the children of Israel, and God had respect unto them.

EXODUS 12:12, 13–

For I will pass through the land of Egypt this night, and will smite all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I am the LORD. And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye are: and when I see the blood, I

will pass over you, and the plague shall not be upon you to
destroy you, WHEN I SMITE THE LAND OF EGYPT.

EXODUS 15:1-11-

Then sang Moses and the children of Israel this song unto the
LORD, and spake, saying,

I will sing unto the LORD, FOR HE HATH TRIUMPHED GLORIOUSLY:
THE HORSE AND HIS RIDER HATH HE THROWN INTO THE SEA.

The LORD is my strength and song,
and he is become my salvation:

he is my God, and I will prepare him an habitation; my father's
God, and I will exalt him.

THE LORD IS A MAN OF WAR:

THE LORD IS HIS NAME.

PHARAOH'S CHARIOTS AND HIS HOST HATH HE CAST INTO THE SEA:

his chosen captains also are drowned in the Red sea.

The depths have covered them:

they sank into the bottom as a stone.

THY RIGHT HAND, O LORD, IS BECOME GLORIOUS IN POWER:

THY RIGHT HAND, O LORD, HATH DASHED IN PIECES THE ENEMY.

AND IN THE GREATNESS OF THINE EXCELLENCY THOU HAST OVERTHROWN

THEM THAT ROSE UP AGAINST THEE:

THOU SENTEST FORTH THY WRATH, WHICH CONSUMED THEM AS STUBBLE.

AND WITH THE BLAST OF THY NOSTRILS THE WATERS WERE GATHERED
TOGETHER,

the floods stood upright as an heap,

and the depths were congealed in the heart of the sea.

The enemy said, I will pursue, I will overtake,

I will divide the spoil; my lust shall be satisfied upon them;

I WILL DRAW MY SWORD, MY HAND SHALL DESTROY THEM.

THOU DIDST BLOW WITH THY WIND, THE SEA COVERED THEM:

they sank as lead in the mighty waters.

Who is like unto thee, O LORD, among the gods?

Who is like thee, glorious in holiness,

fearful in praises, doing wonders?

During their long sojourn in Egypt, the Israelites have forgotten the true God of their ancestors. As many episodes of their travels through the wilderness demonstrated, their knowledge of the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob faded, and they had mixed pagan elements into their religious practices (*compare with Exod. 32:1-4*). Under the oppression of the Egyptians, they cried to the Lord (*Exod. 2:23-25*), and at the right time, the Lord intervened on their behalf.

However, the conflict described in the first 12 chapters of Exodus was greater than a simple power struggle between Moses

and the pharaoh. According to ancient Near Eastern war ideology, conflicts between peoples were ultimately considered as being conflicts between the respective god or gods. Exodus 12:12 declares that the Lord inflicted judgment, not only on the pharaoh, but also on the gods of Egypt, those powerful demons (Lev. 17:7, Deut. 32:17) that stood behind the oppressive power and unjust social system of Egypt.

WE SEE THIS ALSO ILLUSTRATED IN DANIEL CHAPTERS 1-3 –

1 – GOD GAVE JERUSALEM TO NEBUCHADNEZZAR DUE TO HIS PEOPLES APOSTASY:

DANIEL 1:2–And the Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, with part of the vessels of the house of God: which he carried into the land of Shinar to the house of his god; and he brought the vessels into the treasure house of his god.

2 – GOD OVERTHROWS THE KINGS FALSE SENSE OF MIGHT WITH A DREAM.

NEB ACKNOWLEDGES THE ONE TRUE GOD AFTER EVANGELIST DANIEL

3 –NEB BACKSLIDES MAKING THE IMAGE SHOWN HIM IN A DREAM ALL OF GOLD AND COMMANDING ALL TO WORSHIP THE IMAGE. WHEN DANIEL’S THREE FRIENDS REFUSE THE KING’S REQUEST, NEB SAYS TO THEM:

Now if ye be ready that at what time ye hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, and dulcimer, and all

kinds of musick, ye fall down and worship the image which I have
made; well: but if ye worship not, ye shall be cast the same
hour into the midst of a burning fiery furnace; AND WHO IS THAT
GOD THAT SHALL DELIVER YOU OUT OF MY HANDS?

Ultimately, THE NATIONS OF THIS WORLD ARE AT WAR WITH GOD.
AND God is at war with sin and will not tolerate this conflict
forever (Ps. 24:8, Rev. 19:11, Rev. 20:1-4, 14).

SPEAKING OF THE WORLD WIDE UNITY OF POWER IN THE LAST DAYS THE
BIBLE SAYS IN REV 17:13, 14:

13 THESE HAVE ONE MIND, AND SHALL GIVE THEIR POWER AND STRENGTH
UNTO THE BEAST. **14** THESE SHALL MAKE WAR WITH THE LAMB, AND THE
LAMB SHALL OVERCOME THEM: FOR HE IS LORD OF LORDS, AND KING OF
KINGS: AND THEY THAT ARE WITH HIM ARE CALLED, AND CHOSEN, AND
FAITHFUL.

AGAIN IN REVELATION 19:11-19 THE BIBLE SAYS:

11 And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he
that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in
righteousness he doth judge and make war.

12 His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself.

13 And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called THE WORD OF GOD.

14 And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean.

15 And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.

16 And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.

17 And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God;

18 That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all men, both free and bond, both small and great.

19 And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army.

All the fallen angels, as well as the human beings who have definitely and irrecoverably identified themselves with sin, will be destroyed. In light of this, the battles against the inhabitants of the land have to be perceived as an earlier stage of this conflict, which will reach its apex on the cross, and its consummation at the final judgment, when God's justice and character of love will be vindicated.

The concept of the total destruction of the Canaanites must be understood on the basis of the biblical worldview, in which God is involved in a cosmic conflict with the exponents of evil in the universe. What is ultimately at stake are God's reputation and His character (*Rom. 3:4, Rev. 15:3*).

Since sin has entered human existence, nobody can stand on neutral ground. One must be either on God's side or on the side of evil. Hence, with this background in mind, the eradication of the Canaanites should be viewed as a preview of the final judgment.

The reality of the great controversy allows for only one of two sides. How do you know which side you are really on?

REV 15:2-4

2 And I saw as it were a sea of glass mingled with fire: and them that had gotten the victory over the beast,

and over his image, and over his mark, *and* over the number of his name, stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God.

3 And they sing the song of Moses the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, Great and marvellous *are* thy works, Lord God Almighty; just and true *are* thy ways, thou King of saints.

4 Who shall not fear thee, O Lord, and glorify thy name? for *thou only art* holy: for all nations shall come and worship before thee; for thy judgments are made manifest.